

Please revise the draft of H289 to support, not eliminate, offsite group net metering.

I'm working hard to reduce the carbon footprint of my house here in Brattleboro. I've put significant time and money into insulation, heat pumps, etc. Since I don't have enough sun exposure to generate my electricity from solar panels, I've been planning to invest in a community solar project so that my electricity can be consistently clean and affordable.

The latest Renewable Energy Standard revisions in H289 would effectively block me from investing in community solar, locking in my dependence on utilities that I don't trust to put planet over profits.

There is so much good in the current H289 draft. But removing offsite group net metering would mean actively working against the goals of the rest of the bill. We need to increase solar production in every way we can. For homeowners like me, community solar is by far the best option for getting reliably clean and affordable electricity.

The provision to remove offsite group net metering looks to me like an example of industry lobbyists sneaking in their own agenda, hoping it will get lost in the shuffle of dedicated house members who have limited bandwidth to review all the details.

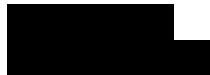
This detail matters.

I strongly encourage you to either take out this provision entirely, or convert it to some sort of study group to propose a better solution to offsite group net metering for the next session.

Thanks for all you do, and especially for your work to address our accelerating climate crisis.

Writing this on another 40 degree day in early February.

Tim Kieschnick



Brattleboro