

Chair Sheldon:

I attached an informational packet for the Committee based on Stowe Electric's current portfolio and other information. My intent tomorrow is to refer to page 1 and take any questions from members on the rest of the packet.

Stowe Electric reviewed the draft legislation with our power supply consultant and we have the following questions for the Committee.

Questions to the Committee:

1. Page 4, lines 1-5, this expands the definition of new renewable energy to include any ISO-NE resource, but Tier 2 is currently only to include Vermont based resources. Does Tier 2 now include any ISO-NE new renewable resource?
2. Page 5, lines 17-20, what does the new definition for load include: only retail sales or the ISO-NE real time load obligation?
3. Page 16, New Renewable Energy, how does the committee intend for the utilities to qualify these RECs? With a new category in ISO-NE GIS? Similarly, what does the committee intend for REC banking restrictions, 3-years (current rule) or something else?
4. Page 18, lines 18-21 - p.19 lines 1-3, SED requests that the Committee amend the language to include any municipal utility, not just a VPPSA municipality. The current language appears to exclude Hyde Park Electric and Stowe Electric.
5. Page 23, lines 18-21 - p. 24 lines 1-5, SED asks the Committee to exempt hydro facilities that are municipally owned and less than 500kW in name plate capacity. There are currently no LIHI certified hydros in Vermont that are municipally owned and less than 500kW in size. There are 5 merchant operator facilities and 2 GMP facilities less than 500kW and LIHI certified. This change would encourage municipalities and municipal utilities to take advantage of federal funding and other incentives to repower existing dams and increase hydro capacity in Vermont.
6. It would help Stowe Electric for clarity on how the Committee foresees the role of battery storage, either as an eligible resource in certain circumstances and/or to promote the buildout of storage as a tool to manage and compliment increasing amounts of renewable energy.

Thank you.



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