

1 H.634

2 Introduced by Representatives Masland of Thetford, Briglin of Thetford,
3 McCullough of Williston, Mrowicki of Putney, and Walz of
4 Barre City

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: Energy; public service; siting; solar generation; renewable energy
8 credits

9 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to support
10 Vermont's goal to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by requiring that, in
11 siting determinations, the Public Service Board find that an in-state solar
12 facility will sell its renewable energy credits to a Vermont utility that will
13 apply these credits toward the Renewable Energy Standard (RES). The bill
14 also provides the facility the option to demonstrate that it will avoid
15 greenhouse gas emissions within the New England region and the facility's
16 other benefits outweigh its adverse impacts.

17 An act relating to solar generation and renewable energy credits

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 248(b) is amended to read:

3 (b) Before the Public Service Board issues a certificate of public good as
4 required under subsection (a) of this section, it shall find that the purchase,
5 investment, or construction:

6 * * *

7 (12)(A) With respect to an in-state facility exceeding 15 kilowatts that
8 generates electricity from solar energy:

9 (i) will sell its tradeable renewable energy credits to a distribution
10 company that will apply the credits toward compliance with the Renewable
11 Energy Standards (RES); or

12 (ii) if those credits will not be applied toward the RES, will avoid
13 greenhouse gas emissions from other facilities supplying electricity to the area
14 overseen by the Independent System Operator of New England and the
15 facility's other benefits to the State and its residents outweigh the adverse
16 impacts of the facility, if any, under the other criteria of this subsection (b).

17 (B) In this subdivision (12), "tradeable renewable energy credits" and
18 "RES" shall have the same meaning as in section 8002 of this title.

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.