

1 S.289

2 Introduced by Committee on Finance

3 Date:

4 Subject: Energy; public service; nuclear power; Vermont Yankee

5 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to determine that the continued  
6 operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station beyond its scheduled  
7 closure on March 21, 2012 will promote the general welfare and to approve for  
8 an additional 20 years the continued operation of the station and the storage of  
9 spent fuel at the station.

10 An act relating to approval for continued operation of the Vermont Yankee  
11 nuclear power station

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

13 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

14 (a) Under a certificate of public good issued by the Vermont Public Service  
15 Board in 2002 under Docket No. 6545, the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power  
16 Station (VYNPS) is scheduled to cease generating electricity on March 21,  
17 2012.

18 (b) Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(e)(2), in order to continue operation  
19 beyond March 21, 2012, the VYNPS must obtain the general assembly's

1 approval and determination that continued operation of the station will  
2 promote the general welfare.

3 (c) Pursuant to Sec. 1(f) of No. 160 of the Acts of the 2005 Adj. Sess.  
4 (2006) and chapter 157 of Title 10, the general assembly is to consider,  
5 concurrently with the question of continued operation, whether to approve the  
6 storage of spent nuclear fuel derived from the operation of the VYNPS after  
7 March 21, 2012.

8 (d) The general assembly has a responsibility to provide the state's electric  
9 utilities with sufficient time to plan for the future delivery of electric energy to  
10 the state's residents.

11 (e) If the VYNPS were to cease operation as scheduled on March 21, 2012,  
12 the electric utilities would benefit from prior lead time to develop and obtain  
13 renewable or other alternative electric energy resources.

14 (f) The general assembly has engaged in full, open, and informed public  
15 deliberation and discussion with respect to the factors pertinent to continued  
16 operation of and storage of spent nuclear fuel at the VYNPS after its currently  
17 scheduled closure date.

18 Sec. 2. VERMONT YANKEE; CONTINUED OPERATION; APPROVAL

19 (a) The general assembly determines that continued operation of the  
20 Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS) for 20 years following its

1 currently scheduled closure date of March 21, 2012 will promote the general  
2 welfare of this state.

3 (b) The general assembly finds that storage of spent nuclear fuel derived  
4 from the operation of the VYNPS for 20 years following the currently  
5 scheduled closure date of March 21, 2012 will promote the general good of  
6 this state.

7 (c) The general assembly approves until March 21, 2032 the continued  
8 operation of the VYNPS and the storage of spent nuclear fuel derived from the  
9 operation of the VYNPS, provided that the VYNPS obtains from the public  
10 service board and any other agencies such certificates, permits, and approvals  
11 related to continued operation of the VYNPS and storage of spent fuel at the  
12 VYNPS as are required by law.

13 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

14 This act shall take effect on passage.