

Public Comment
4-23-15
H. 40



480 Hercules Drive Colchester VT 05446
P 802.448.5860
F 802.655.8804
www.cpsgrp.com

April 22, 2015

Vermont - Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee
Vermont - Senate Finance Committee

Dear Senators,

Fab-Tech, Inc. of Colchester, VT, and NEHP, Inc. of Williston, VT strongly support the House-passed version of H.40 - with its creation of a new renewable portfolio standard for Vermont utilities and its provisions to freeze the Energy Efficiency Charge at 2015 levels until 2018. The bill would also require the Legislature's Joint Energy Committee to report by February 2016 on whether to extend or alter the cap or make other related changes. It is impossible for us to come close to recovering our annual efficiency charge. Removing the cap would be detrimental to our attempts to stay located in VT

Vermont businesses have been impacted by increased cost in many areas over the last few years. Our competitors are located in states with a much more favorable cost structure than Vermont. As a result, it has been extremely difficult competing for customer contracts. We believe that it makes sense to freeze or cap the EEC charges through 2018. This will help relieve some of the cost burden facing Fab-Tech, NEHP, and other business organizations throughout Vermont.

We spent close to \$210,000 in electricity cost during the past 12-month period. This is a substantial expense and impacts our business operations -- and we work hard to take advantage of efficiency opportunities to keep costs down. Energy conservation is crucial to us all but it is also important that actions taken toward that goal make sense and are as effective and efficient as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please do not hesitate to contact myself, or Dave Rogerson, Director of Organization Development (802.338.4441 / drogerson@cpsgrp.com), if you are in need of additional information.

Sincerely,

Paul Frascopa
Chief Executive Officer
Critical Process Systems Group, Inc.
802.338.4404 / paulf@cpsgrp.com