

1 H.410

2 Senator MacDonald moves that the report of the Committee on Natural
3 Resources and Energy be amended by striking out Sec. 13 (reports; electric
4 generation constraints) and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 13 to read:

5 Sec. 13. REPORTS; ELECTRIC GENERATION CONSTRAINTS

6 (a) The General Assembly finds that deployment of new electric generation
7 in the area served by the Sheffield-Highgate Export Interface (SHEI)
8 exacerbates utility system constraints that can result in curtailment of existing
9 generation in the area, causing significant costs to Vermont ratepayers or the
10 owners and operators of electric generation in the area, or both.

11 (b) This section requires two written submissions on constraints relating to
12 electric generation, one from the Public Utility Commission (PUC or
13 Commission) and one from the Department of Public Service (DPS or
14 Department). Each submission shall be made on or before January 15, 2019 to
15 the House Committee on Energy and Technology and the Senate Committees
16 on Finance and on Natural Resources and Energy.

17 (c) The Commission has pending before it several contested cases raising
18 issues pertaining to electric generation and the SHEI area and a noncontested
19 case proceeding related to the Standard Offer Program under 30 V.S.A.
20 § 8005a in which the Commission may examine issues related to ensuring that
21 standard offer projects are proposed in areas that do not result in additional

1 costs to the electric transmission or distribution system or that provide the
2 greatest benefit to the system. The Commission’s written submission under
3 this section shall include all of the following:

4 (1) For each of those contested cases, a summary of its findings and
5 conclusions on the merits of the issue or issues in the case related to the SHEI
6 area. This subdivision (1) does not require the Commission to provide a
7 summary for a contested case in which it has not issued a final order on the
8 merits.

9 (2) For the proceeding related to the Standard Offer Program, a
10 summary of its decisions to date of the submission on issues related to siting
11 standard offer projects in areas that do not result in additional costs to the
12 electric transmission or distribution system or that provide the greatest benefit
13 to the system.

14 (3) As attachments, a copy of each decision summarized.

15 (d) The Department shall submit a written report to assist the General
16 Assembly, renewable energy developers, and electric utilities to plan for the
17 deployment of renewable electric generation in a manner that is consistent with
18 the goals, requirements, and programs related to renewable energy set forth or
19 established in 30 V.S.A. chapter 89, the statutory goals for greenhouse gas
20 reduction at 10 V.S.A. § 578, and the goals and recommendations of the 2016
21 Comprehensive Energy Plan.

1 (1) On each of the following, the report shall include analysis and
2 recommendations that are consistent with those goals, requirements, and
3 programs:

4 (A) How to manage demands on the State’s electric transmission and
5 distribution system that relate to or affect the deployment of renewable electric
6 generation. The Department shall identify and review areas of the State, such
7 as the SHEI area, in which generation that is interconnected to the electric
8 transmission and distribution system faces constraints due to system capacity
9 and conditions, including the relationship of interconnected generation to
10 existing load (the identified constrained areas).

11 (B) How to encourage the deployment of all types of renewable
12 electric generation while minimizing curtailment of such generation.

13 (C) How to facilitate meeting the distributed renewable generation
14 and energy transformation requirements of the Renewable Energy Standard at
15 30 V.S.A. §§ 8004–8005 in light of the identified constrained areas.

16 (D) Whether, until resolution of the constraints in the identified
17 constrained areas, to allocate among all electric distribution utilities in the
18 State the incremental costs to utilities caused by siting in those areas renewable
19 electric generation that was or is encouraged by or used to meet a current or
20 former program under 30 V.S.A. chapter 89 or that is designed or proposed to

1 achieve a goal or recommendation of the 2016 Comprehensive Energy Plan
2 and, if so, to propose a method for such allocation.

3 (E) The role of energy storage in the deployment of renewable
4 electric generation.

5 (F) Recommended methods to guide where renewable electric
6 generation should be located in the State.

7 (G) Recommended methods to guide the location in the State of end
8 users that consume significant amounts of electric energy.

9 (H) Other relevant issues as determined by the Department.

10 (2) Prior to submitting this report, the Department shall provide an
11 opportunity for written submission of relevant comments and information by
12 the public and shall conduct one or more meetings at which the public may
13 provide comments and information. The Department shall provide prior notice
14 of the opportunity to submit comments and information and of each meeting to
15 each Vermont electric transmission and distribution utility, Renewable Energy
16 Vermont, each holder of a certificate of public good for an electric generation
17 facility within the SHEI area with a capacity greater than 500 kilowatts, each
18 entity appointed to deliver energy efficiency programs and measures under
19 30 V.S.A. § 209(d), and any other person who requests such notice or whom
20 the Department may determine to notify.

1 (3) With respect to the recommendations in the report, the Department
2 shall identify those recommendations that require passage of enabling
3 legislation and those recommendations that may be carried out under existing
4 law. The report shall propose a timetable for implementation of the
5 recommendations that may be carried out under existing law.