

1 H.54

2 Introduced by Representative Shaw of Pittsford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Energy; public service; siting; solar generation; renewable energy
6 credits

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

15 An act relating to solar generation and renewable energy credits

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

17 Sec. 1. PURPOSE

18 The purpose of this act is to encourage the application of renewable energy
19 credits from solar generation facilities sited in Vermont toward the State's
20 Renewable Energy Standard so that the local impacts of siting solar generation

1 are balanced by the use of that generation to meet the State's renewable energy
2 goals.

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

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

7 * * *

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

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

13 (ii) if the facility's tradeable renewable energy credits will not be
14 applied toward the RES, the facility's other benefits to the State and its
15 residents outweigh the adverse effects of the facility, if any, under the other
16 criteria of this subsection (b).

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

19 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.