



April 4, 2019

Honorable Timothy Briglin, Chair  
House Energy and Technology Committee  
State House  
115 State St.  
Montpelier VT 05633-5301

Dear Chairperson Briglin:

I am writing on behalf of the 246 VLCT member cities and towns regarding net metering as it affects municipalities and H. 423. Many local governments can no longer access local renewable electricity or generate renewable electricity through net metering.

Local renewable energy and customers who generate their own renewable electricity through net metering provide opportunities to lower property taxes for residents, assure valuable local jobs, and keep more energy dollars in our economy. As we host projects and rely on more local renewable electricity, it provides us with stable income and cost reductions. Net metering also provides us with an energy choice and is an important climate pollution reduction solution. As well, net metering is a tool that municipalities could use to implement the provisions of their enhanced energy plans.

We seek to participate as customers, as landowner or rooftop hosts, or in other ways to support new local renewable energy projects, but cannot currently do so due to regulatory limitations. In order for Vermonters to fully access the benefits of local renewable energy we urge you to:

- Remove the customer cap limitation on net metering for public institutions as they are defined in H. 423 as it is introduced;
- Enable us to participate in more than one net metering group; and
- Reduce permitting costs for projects on priority/preferred locations.

Legislation is necessary to address these barriers for municipalities who want to take a lead on helping the public to benefit from local renewable energy. By taking action on H. 423, you would also unlock private capital investments to help save taxpayers money.

We are eager to do our part to help meet the Vermont's climate commitments for current and future generations through more local renewable energy, and to improve our communities' resilience and energy independence.

*Sponsor of:*

VLCT Employment  
Resource and Benefits  
Trust, Inc.

VLCT Municipal  
Assistance Center

VLCT Property and  
Casualty Intermunicipal  
Fund, Inc.

Sincerely,

Karen B. Horn, Director,  
Public Policy & Advocacy