

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Finance to which was referred Senate Bill No. 267
3 entitled “An act relating to the Renewable Energy Standard” respectfully
4 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be
5 amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu
6 thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 8002 is amended to read:

8 § 8002. DEFINITIONS

9 As used in this chapter:

10 * * *

11 (17) “New renewable energy” means renewable energy produced by a
12 specific and identifiable plant coming into service after ~~June 30, 2015~~
13 December 31, 2004.

14 (A) Energy from within a system of generating plants that includes
15 renewable energy shall not constitute new renewable energy, regardless of
16 whether the system includes specific plants that came or come into service
17 after ~~June 30, 2015~~ December 31, 2004.

18 (B) “New renewable energy” also may include the additional energy
19 from an existing renewable energy plant retrofitted with advanced technologies
20 or otherwise operated, modified, or expanded to increase the kWh output of the
21 plant in excess of an historical baseline established by calculating the average

1 output of that plant for the 10-year period that ended June 30, 2015 or
2 December 31, 2004. If the production of new renewable energy through
3 changes in operations, modification, or expansion involves combustion of the
4 resource, the system also must result in an incrementally higher level of energy
5 conversion efficiency or significantly reduced emissions.

6 * * *

7 Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 8005 is amended to read:

8 § 8005. RES CATEGORIES

9 (a) Categories. This section specifies three categories of required resources
10 to meet the requirements of the RES established in section 8004 of this title:
11 total renewable energy, distributed renewable generation, and energy
12 transformation.

13 (1) Total renewable energy.

14 * * *

15 (B) Required amounts. The amounts of total renewable energy
16 required by this subsection shall be ~~55~~ 59 percent of each retail electricity
17 provider's annual retail electric sales during the year beginning on January 1,
18 ~~2017~~ 2020, increasing by an additional ~~four~~ 8.2 percent each ~~third~~ second
19 January 1 thereafter, until reaching ~~75~~ 100 percent on and after January 1, ~~2032~~
20 2030.

21 * * *

1 (2) Distributed renewable generation.

2 * * *

3 (B) Definition. As used in this section, “distributed renewable
4 generation” means one of the following:

5 (i) a renewable energy plant that is new renewable energy; has a
6 plant capacity of five MW or less; and

7 (I) is directly connected to the subtransmission or distribution
8 system of a Vermont retail electricity provider; or

9 (II) is directly connected to the transmission system of an
10 electric company required to submit a Transmission System Plan under
11 subsection 218c(d) of this title, if the plant is part of a plan approved by the
12 Commission to avoid or defer a transmission system improvement needed to
13 address a transmission system reliability deficiency identified and analyzed in
14 that Plan; ~~or~~

15 (ii) a net metering system approved under the former section 219a
16 or under section 8010 of this title if the system is new renewable energy and
17 the interconnecting retail electricity provider owns and retires the system’s
18 environmental attributes; or

19 (iii) a hydroelectric renewable energy plant that has a plant
20 capacity of five MW or less and is owned and operated by a retail electricity

1 provider that is a municipal electric utility as of January 1, 2020, including any
2 future modifications.

3 (C) Required amounts. The required amounts of distributed
4 renewable generation shall be one percent of each retail electricity provider's
5 annual retail electric sales during the year beginning on January 1, 2017,
6 increasing by an additional three-fifths of a percent each subsequent January 1
7 until reaching ~~40~~ 3.4 percent on ~~and after~~ January 1, 2021, and increasing by
8 an additional 1.564 percent each subsequent January 1 until reaching 20
9 percent on and after January 1, 2032.

10 (i) The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to a retail
11 electricity provider that meets the requirements of subdivision (b)(1) of this
12 section.

13 (ii) A retail electricity provider and Vermont Electric Power
14 Company shall provide a GIS-based interconnection map depicting the
15 location and capacity of existing substations and circuits and noting any
16 significant impediments to interconnection to the Commission, which shall
17 make them available to municipalities, developers, and other relevant persons
18 as appropriate to assist in determining the appropriate location for new
19 renewable generation. Retail electricity providers shall update the maps not
20 less than quarterly or on a more frequent schedule set by the Commission.

1 (iii) On or before December 15, 2020 and every third year
2 thereafter, the Commission shall, in consultation with the Department
3 concerning the costs of the Renewable Energy Standard, recommend
4 adjustments to legislation, rules, policies, and programs to the General
5 Assembly to support the implementation of this section in a cost-effective
6 manner that takes into account economic benefits, environmental benefits, and
7 greenhouse gas reductions. These recommendations shall include:

8 (I) strategies to ensure that renewable generation is located to
9 maximize benefits to the State’s economy, community resilience, and the
10 reliability and efficiency of the distribution and transmission system and to
11 minimize ratepayer costs and the need for upgrades to the distribution and
12 transmission system; and

13 (II) suggestions to streamline and adjust the permitting process
14 and potential financial incentives to be based on the location of distributed
15 renewable generation on the distribution and transmission system, and the
16 colocation of that generation with energy storage technologies.

17 * * *

18 Sec. 3. RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARDS PURSUANT TO

19 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(1)(B), TOTAL RENEWABLE ENERGY

20 Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(1)(B), the amounts of total renewable
21 energy required shall be 59 percent of each retail electricity provider’s annual

1 retail electric sales during the year beginning on January 1, 2020, increasing by
2 an additional 8.2 percent each second January 1 thereafter until reaching 100
3 percent on and after January 1, 2030:

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Increment</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
4			
5	<u>2020</u>		<u>59.00%</u>
6	<u>2022</u>	<u>8.20%</u>	<u>67.20%</u>
7	<u>2024</u>	<u>8.20%</u>	<u>75.40%</u>
8	<u>2026</u>	<u>8.20%</u>	<u>83.60%</u>
9	<u>2028</u>	<u>8.20%</u>	<u>91.80%</u>
10	<u>2030</u>	<u>8.20%</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

11 Sec. 4. RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARDS PURSUANT TO
12 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(2)(C), DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE
13 GENERATION

14 Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(2)(C), the required amounts of distributed
15 renewable generation shall be one percent of each retail electricity provider's
16 annual retail electric sales during the year beginning on January 1, 2017,
17 increasing by an additional three-fifths of a percent each subsequent January 1
18 until reaching 3.4 percent on January 1, 2021, and increasing by an additional
19 1.564 percent each subsequent January 1 until reaching 20 percent on and after
20 January 1, 2032:

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Increment</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1			
2	<u>2017</u>		<u>1.00%</u>
3	<u>2018</u>	<u>0.600%</u>	<u>1.60%</u>
4	<u>2019</u>	<u>0.600%</u>	<u>2.20%</u>
5	<u>2020</u>	<u>0.600%</u>	<u>2.80%</u>
6	<u>2021</u>	<u>0.600%</u>	<u>3.40%</u>
7	<u>2022</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>4.36%</u>
8	<u>2023</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>5.93%</u>
9	<u>2024</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>7.49%</u>
10	<u>2025</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>9.06%</u>
11	<u>2026</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>10.62%</u>
12	<u>2027</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>12.18%</u>
13	<u>2028</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>13.75%</u>
14	<u>2029</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>15.31%</u>
15	<u>2030</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>16.88%</u>
16	<u>2031</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>18.44%</u>
17	<u>2032</u>	<u>1.564%</u>	<u>20.00%</u>

18 Sec. 5. STUDIES AND REPORTS

19 The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), in conjunction with the
20 Department of Public Service, shall conduct a full life-cycle analysis of the
21 total greenhouse gases emitted during the planning, construction, and operation

1 of hydroelectric renewable energy plants with a capacity of 200 MW or more
2 that are within the supply portfolio of a Vermont retail electricity provider.
3 ANR shall submit a written report on its findings to the General Assembly on
4 or before January 20, 2021.

5 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020, except that Sec. 1 (definitions);
7 Sec. 2, 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(2)(B) and (C)(i) (RES categories, distributed
8 renewable generation); and Sec. 4 (renewable energy standards pursuant to 30
9 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(2)(C), distributed renewable generation) shall take effect on
10 July 1, 2021.

11

12 (Committee vote: _____)

13

14

Senator _____

15

FOR THE COMMITTEE