

# Senate Bill 267 Testimony – January 31, 2020



## Overview:

- Located in White River Junction and Windsor
- 27 full-time, livable wage jobs
- Generated Approx \$20M of local economy activity in 2019
- Focused primarily on Net-metered projects for schools, municipalities, businesses, farms, and non-profits
- Active R&D component focused on renewable energy advancements with private and public federal funds
- Indirectly employ dozens of local contractors and their employees



# WHY SB267?

## LOCAL DISTRIBUTED GENERATION HELPS VERMONTERS



### LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Jobs
- Retention
- Local investment
- Direct public benefits



### EVENT RESILIENCE

- Distributed Generation uniquely benefits Vermonters as storms and disruption increase in frequency and intensity



### ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION & RESILIENCE

- VT only get's 1% of energy from in-state generation
- Distributed Generation is the lowest carbon emitting generation

## Economic Development – 2019 Portfolio Example *Reclaimed Abandoned Sandpit Supports Local Farm*



**Lifetime Farm Savings:**  
\$136,250.00

**Lifetime Property / School  
Benefit:**  
\$44,100.00

**Reclamation Benefits:**  
\$35,000.00



# Economic Development – 2019 Portfolio Example

## *Reclaimed Industrial Site Supports Local School*



**Lifetime School Savings:**  
\$123,750.00

**Lifetime Property /  
School Tax Benefit:**  
\$57,750.00

**Reclamation Benefit:**  
\$25,000.00



## Economic Development – 2019 Portfolio Example *Community Owned Solar Supports Local Contractors*



**# of VT Owners:** 16

**Annual Savings divided  
by Owners:**

\$41,500.00

**Contractors Employed:**

- CED (Panel Supply)
- MT3 (Array Build)
- Brightlite (Electrical)
- RSD (Warehousing)
- Horizons  
(Environmental)
- HB Logging (Site  
Work)

## Economic Development –Norwich Solar’s 2019 Portfolio Example *Annual Direct Economic Benefits Exceed Costs*

UNIQUE TO DG or NET METERING	DIRECT ECONOMIC BENEFITS	ANNUAL \$
Y	Annual Tax Revenue Generated	\$ 217,824
Y	Annual Savings to Towns & Schools	\$ 96,563
Y	Annual Savings to Businesses, Farms, & Vermonters	\$ 350,099
Y	Annual Public Benefits (ammortized over 20 years)	\$ 73,498
N	Annual Value of Avoided Energy Purchase	\$ 670,699
	<b>Annual Total Direct Value of Solar Generation</b>	<b>\$ 1,408,683</b>
	<b>Cost of Solar Energy Purchased</b>	<b>\$ (1,379,747)</b>

Using all of Norwich Solar’s 2019 Vermont Projects as a proxy to compare benefits to costs, **the direct measurable economic value of DG/Net Metering to Vermonters EXCEEDS Costs** – even before considering indirect economic benefits, health savings, and environmental savings associated with Distributed Generation.

## Economic Development – R&D Opportunities *DG Helps Drive Innovation*



Local Generation provides great opportunity for R&D and innovation that benefits Vermont.

Norwich Solar is currently pursuing:

- DOE microgrid funding opportunities
- DOE innovative EV financing proposal

BOTH examples directly benefit from Distributed Generation



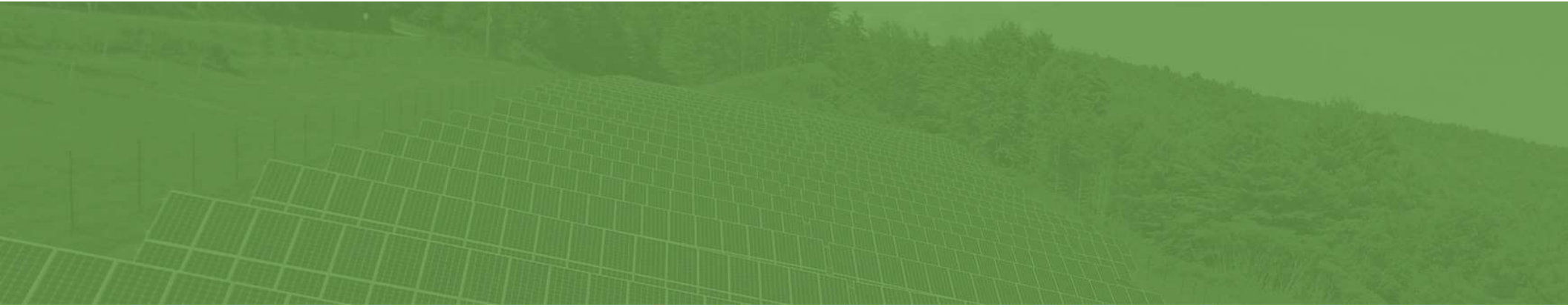
# Event Resiliency- Distributed Generation *DG Protects Vermonters from Increasing Threats*



As we justifiably encourage Vermonters to increasingly utilize electricity to heat our homes and power transportation, we paradoxically expose Vermonters to greater risk from prolonged power outages. **DG uniquely protects Vermonters in that transition**







## Thank You



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