

1 * * * Public Utility Commission Proceeding * * *

2 Sec. 2. PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION PROCEEDING

3 (a) The Public Utility Commission shall open a proceeding, or continue an
4 existing proceeding, to consider the following:

5 (1) Creation of an all-fuels energy efficiency program. The Commission
6 shall consider whether to recommend that one or more entities should be
7 appointed to provide for the coordinated development, implementation, and
8 monitoring of efficiency, conservation, and related programs and services as to
9 all regulated fuels, unregulated fuels, and fossil fuels as defined in 30 V.S.A.
10 § 209(e)(3). The Commission shall consider all information it deems
11 appropriate and make recommendations as to:

12 (A) whether the appointment of an all-fuels efficiency entity or
13 entities to deliver the comprehensive and integrated programs and services
14 necessary to establish an all-fuels energy efficiency and conservation program
15 would:

16 (i) help achieve the State goals set forth in 10 V.S.A. §§ 578, 580,
17 and 581;

18 (ii) further the recommendations contained in the State
19 Comprehensive Energy Plan;

20 (iii) further the objectives set forth in 30 V.S.A. §§ 209(d)(3)(B)
21 and 8005(a)(3);

1 (iv) develop and utilize a full cost-benefit, full life cycle
2 accounting method for analyzing energy policy and programs; and

3 (v) employ metrics that assess positive and negative externalities,
4 including health impacts on individuals and the public.

5 (B) the best model to accomplish the goals set forth in
6 subdivision (1)(A) of this subsection (a), including whether to recommend:

7 (i) the appointment of one or more new entities; or

8 (ii) the appointment of one or more entities that are currently
9 providing efficiency and conservation programs pursuant to 30 V.S.A.
10 § 209(d)(2) and distribution utilities that are currently providing programs and
11 services pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(3).

12 (2) Expansion of the programs and services that efficiency utilities may
13 provide. The Commission shall consider whether to recommend that
14 efficiency programs and services, whether provided by entities currently
15 providing efficiency and conservation programs pursuant to 30 V.S.A.
16 § 209(d)(2), distribution utilities currently providing programs and services
17 pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(3), or a new entity or entities recommended
18 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection (a), should incorporate additional
19 technologies, services, and strategies, including:

20 (A) demand response;

21 (B) flexible load management;

1 (C) energy storage;

2 (D) reduction of fossil fuel use through electrification and the use of
3 renewable fuels and energy; and

4 (E) building shell improvement and weatherization.

5 (3) Funding. The Commission shall consider and recommend how best
6 to provide consistent and adequate funding for efficiency, conservation, and
7 related programs and services including:

8 (A) how to use existing or new funding sources to better support
9 existing efficiency and conservation programs and services, including those
10 described in Sec. 1 of this act, during the period the Commission is conducting
11 the proceeding pursuant to this subsection;

12 (B) how to use existing or new funding sources to provide sufficient
13 funds to implement and support the Commission’s recommendations made
14 pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection (a); and

15 (C) whether Thermal Renewable Energy Certificates (T-RECs) can
16 be used to provide for the proper valuation of thermal load reduction
17 investments, to create a revenue stream to support thermal load reduction
18 work, and to evaluate the role of such work within the overall suite of energy
19 programs designed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and generate
20 savings for Vermonters.

1 (b) Process. The Commission shall schedule workshops and seek written
2 filings from all interested stakeholders and ensure that all stakeholders have an
3 opportunity to provide input.

4 (c) Reports. On or before:

5 (1) January 15, 2020, the Commission shall submit a preliminary report
6 to the House Committee on Energy and Technology and the Senate Committee
7 on Natural Resources and Energy concerning its progress and any preliminary
8 findings and recommendations as to subsection (a) of this section, including
9 recommendations as to subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section; and

10 (2) January 15, 2021, the Commission shall submit a final written report
11 to the House Committee on Energy and Technology and the Senate Committee
12 on Natural Resources and Energy with its findings and detailed
13 recommendations as to subsection (a) of this section, including
14 recommendations for legislative action.