

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

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

7 Sec. 1. 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 \* \* \*

4 Sec. 2. STUDY AND REPORT

5 (a) The Department of Public Service shall submit, no later than December  
6 1, 2020, a report to the General Assembly that analyzes different options and  
7 strategies to increase the percentage of distributable renewable generation  
8 required pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005, the costs and benefits of those options  
9 and strategies, and how to improve the location and interconnection of  
10 generation resources. In preparing the report, the Department shall consult  
11 with all relevant stakeholders.

12 (b) The Department shall analyze and make recommendations, including  
13 any potential legislation and regulatory changes, concerning:

14 (1) Potential costs and benefits from increasing the required percentage  
15 of distributed renewable generation, including:

16 (A) economic costs and benefits;

17 (B) impacts upon rate payers and upon businesses; and

18 (C) impacts upon retail electricity providers.

19 (2) Potential costs and benefits of expanding what resources can be used  
20 to satisfy any increase in the percentage of distributable renewable generation  
21 proposed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section including:

1           (A) renewable energy plants with a capacity of greater than 5MW;

2       and

3           (B) out-of-state generation.

4           (3) How to improve the interconnection and location of distributed  
5       renewable generation in order to:

6           (A) improve resiliency;

7           (B) minimize transmission, interconnection, and other costs; and

8           (C) promote increased renewable generation in a cost-effective  
9       manner.

10          (4) The potential impact of increased electric rates on the adoption of  
11       beneficial electrification strategies and the most effective strategies to reduce  
12       greenhouse gas emissions.

13          (5) Any other matter relevant to issues relating to increasing the  
14       percentage of distributable renewable generation.

15       Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

16          This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

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20       (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Senator \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THE COMMITTEE

DRAFT