

Recommendation of the House Committee on Energy & Technology to the House Committee on Appropriations regarding Governor Scott's proposal for a \$10M budget for community energy projects

There is a \$10M appropriation to the Department of Public Service to be transferred to the Clean Energy Development Fund for the purpose of assisting consumers to share in renewable energy projects, including battery storage of energy. **Recommendation: The Committee supports this appropriation, but believes the plan needs to be better fleshed out, including a plan for how to equitably decide which lower- to middle-income Vermonters will benefit.**

The program would assist Vermont households with income up to 150% of median household income to buy shares in renewable energy projects or enter into "pay-as-you-go" agreements with renewable energy developers. The shareholders would benefit from the sale of the energy generated with a credit on their electric bills. This would allow Vermonters without the ability to host renewable energy generation facilities to participate in renewable energy generation regardless of the location of the project or the consumer.