



H.159

REPEALING THE RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD (RES)

FEB 28, 2025

REPRESENTATIVE ROB NORTH

HOUSE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

WHY REPEAL THE RES?

- AFFORDABILITY

- Vermonters pay 50% above median US electric rates

- RELIABILITY

- “Renewable” energy is NOT reliable energy

- PROSPERITY

- Affordable & Reliable energy brings equitable Prosperity

“RENEWABLE” ENERGY DRIVES HIGH COST

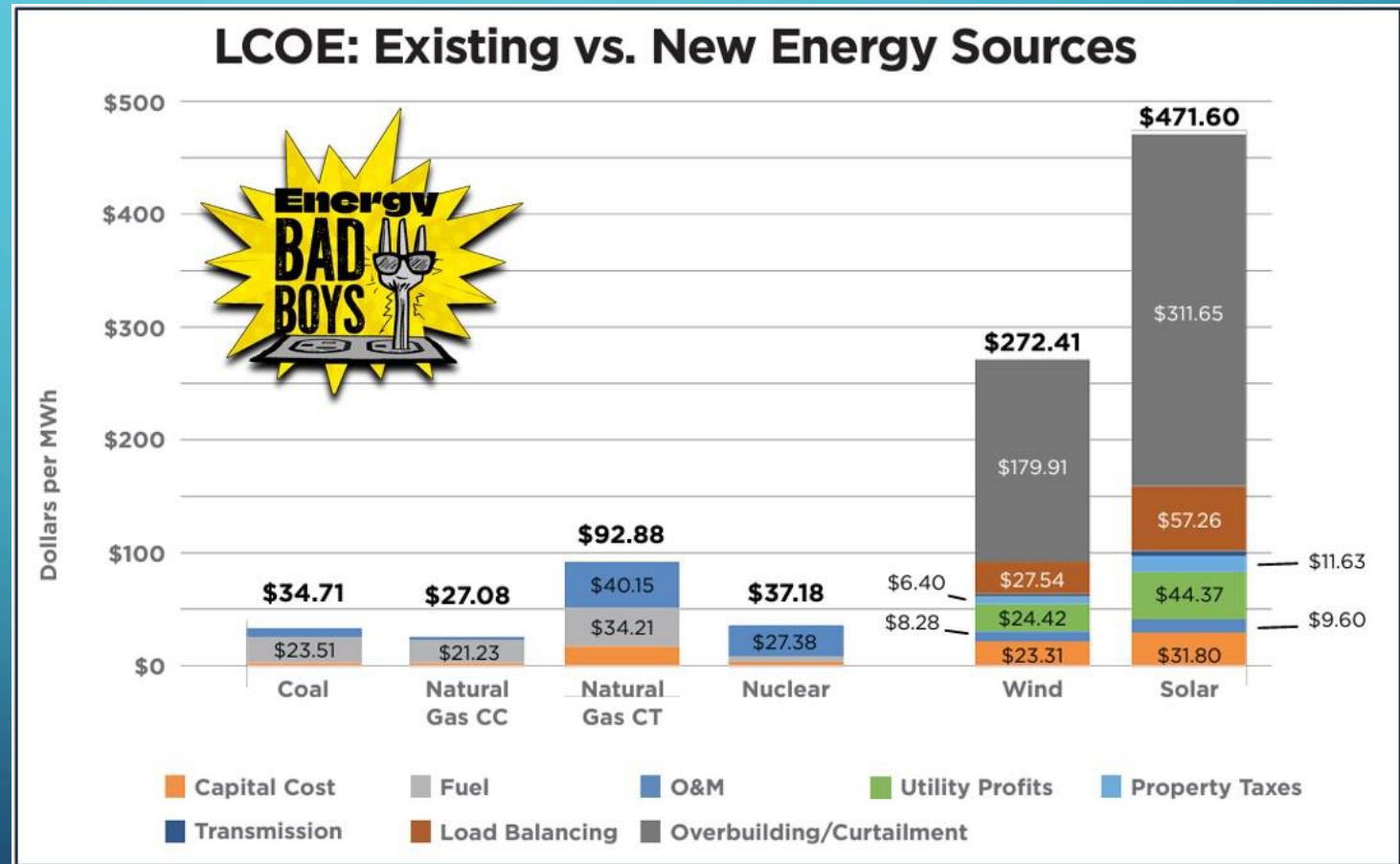
- All NE states had RES laws
- All NE states are in top 10 most expensive electric rates
- Vermonters pay 50% more than median US rate
- NH repealed its RES last week!

Median	12.4	12.7	from:	
Mean	13.9	13.9	https://www.electricchoice.com/electricity-p	
Std Dev	4.2	3.7		
Vermont	18.5	18.02		
Vermont % above Median	49%	42%		
Vermont z-score	1.09	1.12		
STATE	Jan 2025 (¢/kWh)	Dec 2024 (¢/kWh)	MOVEMENT	CHANGE (%)
Hawaii	32.76	30.45	UP	7.59%
Alaska	22.54	22.14	UP	1.81%
Connecticut	21.62	20.47	UP	5.62%
Massachusetts	21.11	18.56	UP	13.73%
California	19.9	19.39	UP	2.63%
New Hampshire	19.63	19.3	UP	1.71%
New York	19.3	18.76	UP	2.88%
Rhode Island	18.64	16.65	UP	11.95%
Vermont	18.5	18.02	UP	2.66%
Maine	16.16	16.17	DOWN	-0.06%
Michigan	16.07	15.86	UP	1.32%
New Jersey	15.64	15.96	DOWN	-2.01%
Pennsylvania	14.38	14.52	DOWN	-0.96%
Wisconsin	14.28	15.05	DOWN	-5.12%
Minnesota	14.09	13.96	UP	0.93%
Maryland	13.92	14.22	DOWN	-2.11%
Iowa	13.81	13.92	DOWN	-0.79%
New Mexico	13.37	13.41	DOWN	-0.30%
Missouri	13.23	13.25	DOWN	-0.15%
DC	13.21	13.4	DOWN	-1.42%
Arizona	13.16	12.65	UP	4.03%
South Carolina	12.91	13.07	DOWN	-1.22%
Ohio (Median Dec'24)	12.64	12.67	DOWN	-0.24%
Illinois	12.56	12.95	DOWN	-3.01%
Alabama	12.41	12.79	DOWN	-2.97%
Virginia (Median Jan'25)	12.4	11.91	UP	4.11%
South Dakota	12.39	12.57	DOWN	-1.43%
Wyoming	12.3	12.21	UP	0.74%
Colorado	12.28	12.75	DOWN	-3.69%
Georgia	12.26	12.53	DOWN	-2.15%
North Dakota	12.07	12.34	DOWN	-2.19%
Delaware	12.05	12.59	DOWN	-4.29%
Indiana	12.02	12.05	DOWN	-0.25%
Montana	11.85	11.73	UP	1.02%
Nevada	11.67	11.64	UP	0.26%
West Virginia	11.57	11.69	DOWN	-1.03%
Kansas	11.56	13.56	DOWN	-14.74%
Mississippi	11.55	11.4	UP	1.32%
Florida	11.37	12.02	DOWN	-5.41%
Texas	11.36	11.15	UP	1.88%
Nebraska	11.31	12.06	DOWN	-6.22%
North Carolina	11.24	11.07	UP	1.54%
Oregon	11.02	10.97	UP	0.46%
Tennessee	10.79	10.93	DOWN	-1.28%
Oklahoma	10.72	10.53	UP	1.80%
Utah	10.63	11.48	DOWN	-7.40%
Idaho	10.58	11.42	DOWN	-7.36%
Kentucky	10.56	10.68	DOWN	-1.12%
Arkansas	9.99	10.73	DOWN	-6.90%
Washington	9.79	9.95	DOWN	-1.61%
Louisiana	9.37	10.19	DOWN	-8.05%

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RES definition of
“RENEWABLE” is

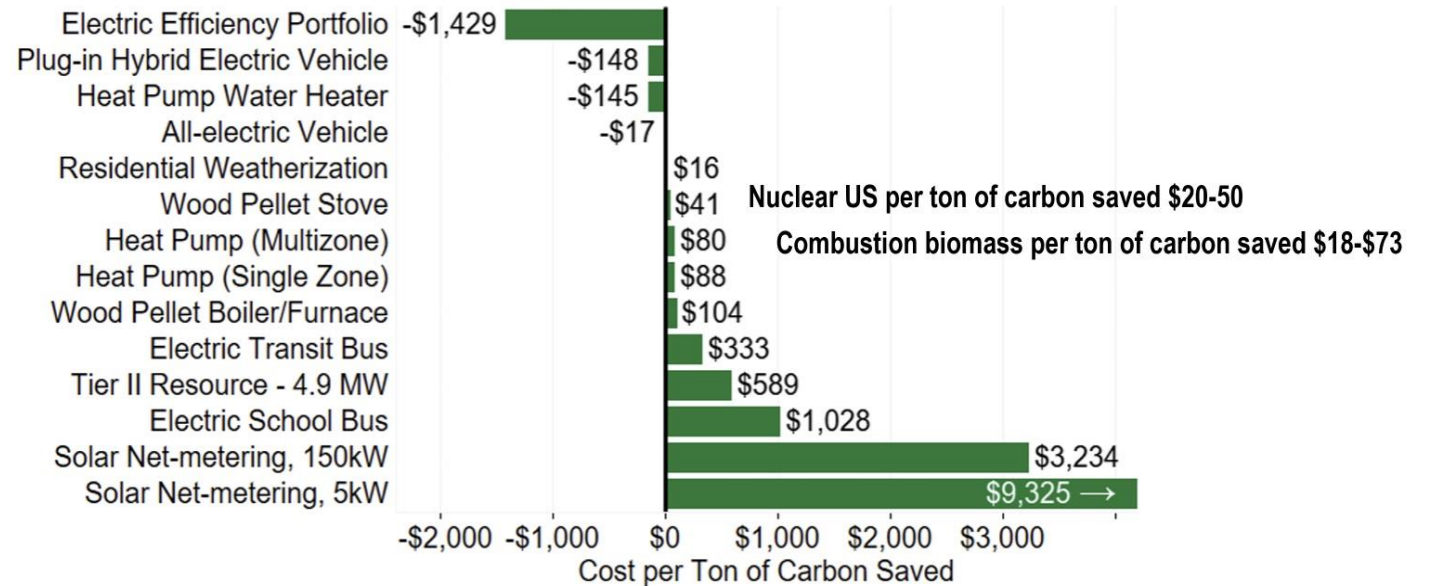
- Wind
- Solar
- Hydro
- Biomass



SOLAR NET-METERING IS MOST EXPENSIVE

- RES Tier 2 drives net-metering
- “Net-metering remains one of the highest cost renewable resources” (PUC)

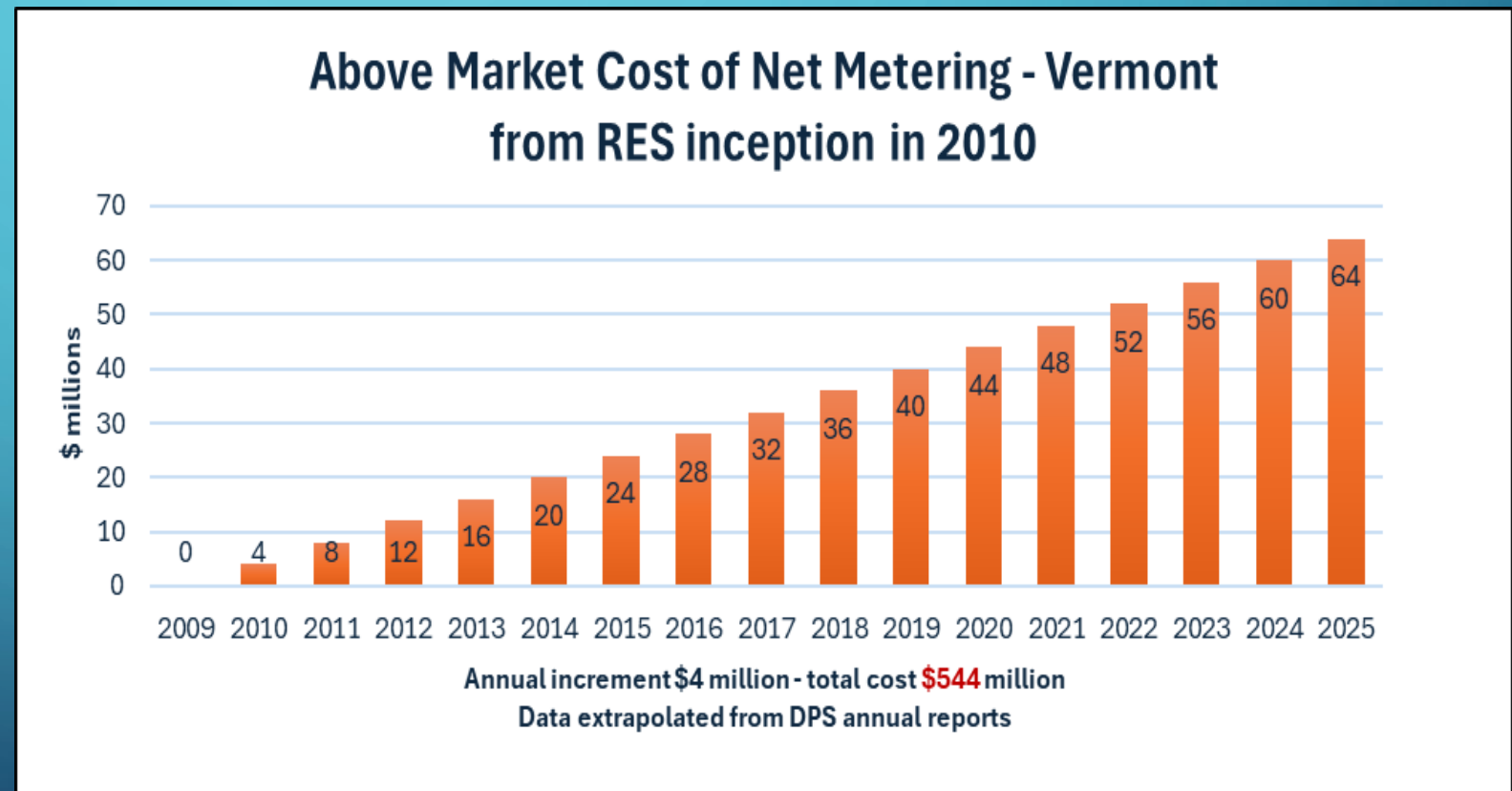
Figure 1 - Relative Cost of Carbon Reduction Policies



Ed McNamara, PUC 2021 RES Report to Legislature

SOLAR NET-METERING HAS COST VERMONTERS \$544M SINCE INCEPTION

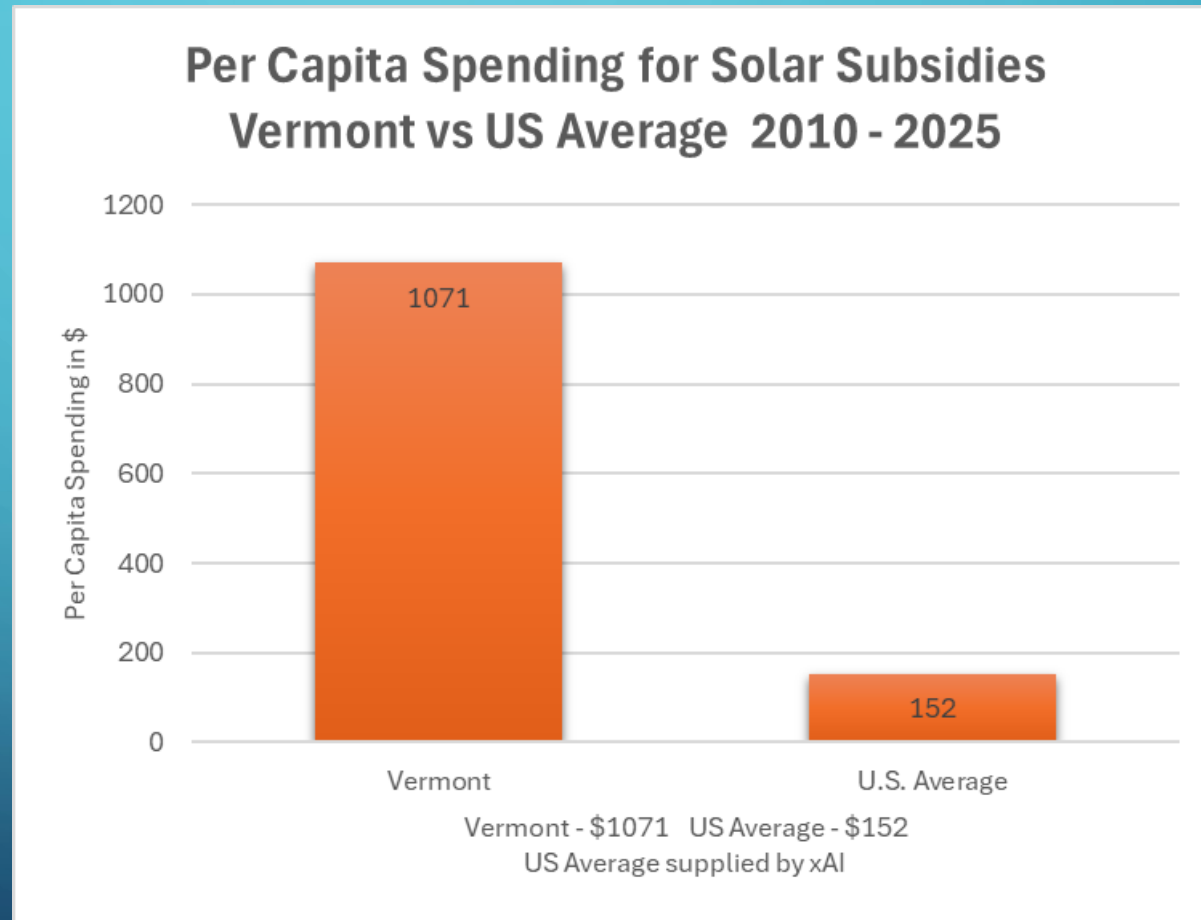
- RES demands above market price paid to solar producers
- In addition to REC purchased to meet RES goals



TJ Poor, DPS, 2023 data extrapolated to 2025

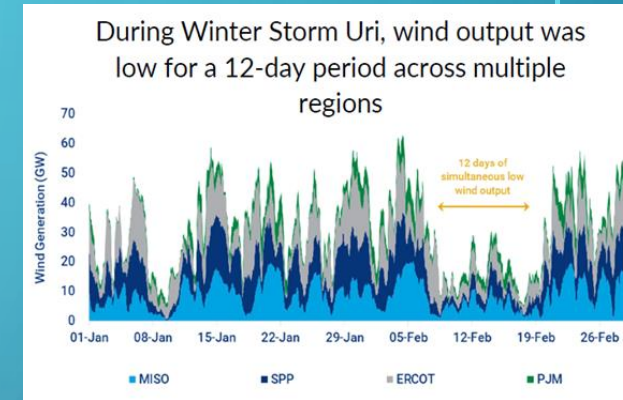
“BUT DON'T WE NEED TO DO OUR PART?”

- Vermonters already do 7x more than our part!



WIND AND SOLAR ARE UNRELIABLE

- No Wind, No Sun, No Electricity!
- Requires overbuilding: Wind 3x and Solar 6x
 - 100% Renewable in VT would require over 30,000 acres of solar arrays and 220 miles of ridge top wind turbines
- Requires battery storage
 - 1 day of battery storage in VT would cost over \$2B
 - CCGT to supply 100% of VT 24/7/365 would cost ~\$1 B



RENEWABLE ENERGY IS DUPLICATE ENERGY

- Wind & Solar are UNRELIABLE (calm, cloudy, night)
- Requires 100% duplicate standby reliable energy system
- Right now, ISO-NE is paying fossil fuel power plants to sit idle to ensure we have necessary reliable backup power
 - These are called “capacity” or “out-of-market” payments
- We’re paying for electricity that ISN’T being generated!

CONCLUSION: VERMONTERS NEED YOU TO REPEAL THE RES

- AFFORDABILITY
- RELIABILITY
- PROSPERITY
- Take H.159 Off The Wall – Repeal the RES
- Support the Governor's Energy bill, H.289

