

Dear Ms. Michalka,

Please include this email in the public record as testimony in support of H.716.

I'm writing as a longtime advocate for renewable energy in Vermont. I served as the former chair of both the Shaftsbury Energy Committee and the NorShaft Energy Committee, and I'm currently building a virtual energy committee and email campaign to help Vermont homeowners stay informed and engaged on energy initiatives across the state. Affordable solar is at the heart of that work.

Over the past several years, I've watched net metering compensation rates get chipped away, and with each reduction it becomes harder for everyday Vermonters to say yes to solar. The interest is there. The commitment to clean energy is there. What's missing is a financial structure that actually makes sense for regular households.

Now, with the federal tax credit gone, the stakes are even higher. If compensation rates keep declining, solar stops being a realistic option for most people — and that's a problem for our grid, our climate goals, and Vermont's commitment to reaching 90% renewable energy by 2050.

H.716 would help change that. It would restore stability and confidence for homeowners and small businesses who want to do the right thing but need the numbers to work. Solar shouldn't be a luxury for people with deep pockets. It should be accessible to regular Vermonters — and supporting this bill is one of the most direct ways to make that happen.

Please vote yes on H.716. Thank you for your time and for keeping the public record open for testimony like this.

Sincerely,



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