

Alex,

I am writing to express my strong support for H.716 and to provide expanded context on why I believe this legislation is so important for our energy future. Ensuring that more residents have access to affordable solar energy is not only a matter of equity but also a practical step toward lowering energy costs, strengthening grid reliability, and promoting long-term environmental and public-health benefits.

In addition to concerns about recent developments that could weaken long-standing clean-air protections, it is essential to highlight the broader implications of reducing environmental safeguards. Clean-air standards have historically played a critical role in limiting harmful emissions, improving public health outcomes, and driving innovation in cleaner technologies. Any ruling that diminishes these protections risks reversing decades of progress and placing communities—especially vulnerable ones—at greater risk from pollution and climate-related impacts. Maintaining strong clean-air frameworks is foundational to responsible energy and environmental policy.

At the same time, there is compelling evidence from around the world that demonstrates the tangible economic benefits of investing in clean energy. One of the clearest examples comes from South Australia. After adopting a mix of renewable technologies—primarily wind and solar supported by grid-scale battery storage—the region saw wholesale electricity prices fall significantly. Independent analyses frequently cite reductions of roughly 20 percent, tied directly to increased renewable-energy penetration and improved grid stability. This real-world case shows how clean-energy deployment can reduce dependence on high-volatility fossil-fuel markets, lower operational costs, and ultimately deliver savings to consumers.

South Australia's experience also illustrates how strategic investments in renewables can strengthen energy security. By pairing solar and wind with advanced storage systems, the region has been able to maintain grid stability even during extreme weather events. This combination of resilience, cost savings, and emissions reduction provides a practical blueprint for what can be achieved when clean-energy policy is approached proactively. Isn't this what we want to promote, not hinder, in Vermont?

Making solar more affordable and accessible is not just an environmental goal—it is an economic one. It empowers households, reduces long-term energy costs, creates local jobs, and positions our communities to benefit from the global shift toward cleaner, more efficient technologies.

For all of these reasons, I urge strong consideration of the benefits this legislation can bring. Please include this email in the public record as a statement in support of H.716.

Thank you for your time and review.



NICHOLAS LASKOVSKI (HE/ HIM)
SENIOR MANAGER - WIND
GREENBACKER
O: 802-391-8246
nick.laskovski@greenbackercapital.com

www.greenbackercapital.com

