



April 9, 2025

Dear Members of the House Energy and Digital Infrastructure Committee,

For over 60 years, in partnership with members across the state, the Vermont Natural Resources Council has worked to protect the very foundation upon which Vermont's economy thrives – our unparalleled natural resources and a clean and healthy environment. We strongly support S.50, an act relating to increasing the size of solar net metering projects that qualify for expedited registration. We also support – and would ask your committee to include – the provision currently in H.394 that would amend the "single plant" statute to foster the ability to further develop solar on already disturbed sites, such as brownfields and gravel pits, places where distribution infrastructure already exists and locations closer to existing loads.

When it comes to energy siting, VNRC has a long history of supporting appropriate renewable energy deployment coupled with sensible land use practices. Amending the "single plant" provision currently in statute is a way to get more renewables deployed in already developed locations, very likely resulting in modest cost savings to ratepayers by enabling greater solar deployment on sites that already host or are near other solar arrays. In short, it's good land use policy and makes good economic sense.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this input and for your ongoing and important work in service of Vermont and all Vermonters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Miller", written in a cursive style.

Energy and Climate Program Director
Vermont Natural Resources Council
Email: jmiller@vnrc.org