

# Act 179 Report: Connecting Vermont Communities with Renewables

## Recommendations for a Successor Program To Group Net Metering

A Summary of the report by the Vermont Department of Public Service (PSD)

### Goal of the Report

Act 179 of 2024 sunset the group net metering program. Group net metering has provided a way to develop community solar in Vermont. Act 179 directed the PSD to “Discuss and prioritize recommendations for replacement programs based on how they would impact Vermont’s impacted and frontline communities...” with a focus on affordable housing and manufactured home communities, among other requirements.

The report suggests four

### Guiding Principles

for future community renewables programs in Vermont. They are:

Transparency, Simplicity, Flexibility, & Minimization of Costs

The report makes four

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Create a **Renewable Energy for Communities (“RE4C”)** program.
- 2 **Implement policies that reduce costs** associated with renewable energy.
- 3 **Initiate a process** to review and modernize the net metering program.
- 4 **Consider different ways** to help with the costs of decarbonizing new and existing housing and other building types.

### The Process

To develop the report, the PSD:



Held a three-part meeting series with a diverse set of partners who help connect communities with renewable energy.



Asked utilities and housing developers about current programs.



Reviewed past efforts to engage communities on renewable energy and climate.



Published a draft of the report for the public to review. Revised the report based on feedback.

### Want to learn more?

Read the full report: Act 179 Report 

Available at

[publicservice.vermont.gov/renewables](https://publicservice.vermont.gov/renewables)

### Questions?

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