

# Reauthorizing Standard Offer

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Image Credit: Renewable Energy Vermont



# Who We Are and Why We're Here

- 60 years of land protection
- 300,000 acres protected in VT
- 58 natural areas
- Act 59
- Flood Safety Act
- Renewable Energy



# Supporting the State's Renewable Goals

"Go Smart to Go Fast"

Affordable, reliable deployment of renewable energy

- Vast majority of awarded projects get built
- On a shorter timeline than average solar installations
- Only 4-10 projects per year
- Limited to solar, wind, and hydro
- Community solar that empowers outside of net metering
- Conservation benefit to the 5MW cap

# Maintaining an Ecologically Functional Landscape

- Vermont Conservation Design, forest blocks, etc.
- Potential Impacts from solar arrays
- Integrating blocks into state programs
- Minimal/insignificant harm to ability to fulfill SO awards
- Vermont can protect forests/key areas and rapidly expand solar
- 20 MW a year of new solar is 80-200 acres
- Standard Offer is a small but meaningful pairing of new renewables and the ecologically functional landscape

**(s) Solar only allocations.**

**(5) To maintain the State's ecologically functional landscape into the future, new standard offer awards to new solar, wind, and hydroelectric power plants shall be sited outside High Priority and Priority Blocks as defined by Vermont Conservation Design.**

**A. If new awards are sited within either High Priority or Priority VCD Blocks, they will not have an undue adverse effect on the block. The applicant shall demonstrate that a project will not result in an undue adverse impact.**