

My name is William Sipe, I am a mechanical engineering student from Greenway Institute. RES is giving us an opportunity to create an environment that promotes sustainable energy, such as wind and solar. However, it must not be understated how important energy storage is for these energy sources.

Investments in batteries, hydrogen storage, and other storage systems need to be considered. These systems are not inherently separate from renewable generation, but a necessity for them.

When the wind doesn't blow, and the sun is not shining bright in the sky, power must still flow. To keep the lights on in our towns and to provide energy solutions for rural communities, these storage systems must be included in the RES.

Vermont has an opportunity to become a leader in renewable energy through the RES. We must utilize renewable energy to its fullest potential, not only to power homes and businesses but to create jobs and communities. The devastation of climate change is here, it destroyed our homes and businesses. We must act. The future of the environment and generations long after us depends on what we do today.

To promote wind and solar, new energy storage must be built along with them. This storage is essential for renewable energy and for a sustainable energy grid.

I encourage you to see RES as a foundation for our future and a catalyst for bringing renewables back to the market.