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SENATOR ANNE WATSON
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JEFFREY CRAM
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STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD REFORM
WORKING GROUP

REPRESENTATIVE AMY SHELDON
REPRESENTATIVE LAURA SIBILIA
LOUIS PORTER
BRIAN SHUPE
DARREN SPRINGER
PETER STERLING
REBECCA TOWNE
BEN EDGERLY WALSH
MIA WATSON
CHASE WHITING

Agenda

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Virtual Meeting [Livestream Link](#)

For questions, or to provide public comment, please email Sorsha at sanderson@leg.state.vt.us

8:30 A.M. Opening Comments

Senator Bray & Representative Sheldon, Co-Chairs

Agenda Review

Jennifer Knauer, Facilitator

Announcements

Senator Bray & Representative Sheldon, Co-Chairs

8:40 A.M. Follow-up on requests from the RESRWG Meeting of November 15th regarding Technical / Macroeconomic Analysis

Jennifer Knauer, Facilitator

All Working Group Members Participate

- **TJ Poor**, Director of Regulated Utility Planning, VT Department of Public Service, was asked to **explore the order of magnitude that an adjustment in the cost of solar would have on estimated rate impacts. If it is significant**, outline possibilities for running another case study through the modeling using a different estimate for the cost of solar.
- **Ben Edgerly Walsh** of the Vermont Public Interest Research Group, and **Louis Porter** of the Washington Electric Cooperative, volunteered at the RESRWG Meeting of November 15th work with TJ on establishing a workable and widely accepted figure for the future cost of solar.

8:50 A.M. Straw Polling and Discussion of Proposed Amendments, as currently drafted by the Legislative Team of the RESRWG

Jennifer Knauer, Facilitator

All Working Group Members Participate

Ellen Czajkowski, Legislative Counsel (*Available as needed*)

TJ Poor, Director of Regulated Utility Planning (*Available as needed*)

Dean Murphy & Wonjun Chang, Brattle Group Consultants (*May be available as needed – awaiting availability details at time of publishing agenda.*)

Anticipated Straw Polls and Discussion Prompts have been outlined below and will be considered in the order in which they appear in the list, generally: Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3, RES Goals. Pages 2-4 of the agenda list anticipated polls and prompts.

Straw Polls will be taken via a show of hands, followed by brief opportunities to comment – in some cases, limiting explanations to 20-30 seconds per speaker.

9:50 A.M. 10 Minute Break

10:00 A.M. *Straw Polling and Discussion of Proposed Amendments, continued*

10:50 A.M. 10 Minute Break

11:00 A.M. *Straw Polling and Discussion of Proposed Amendments, continued*

11:45 A.M. Public Comment

Senator Bray & Representative Sheldon, Co-Chairs

11:55 A.M. Next Steps

- Minutes and Summaries from this meeting will be posted on or before December 1st.
- Next (and last) RESRWG meeting is scheduled for December 6th, 8:30 -Noon. This will be a hybrid format – onsite at the State House, as well as on Zoom. Working Group Members: If there are things you were hoping to cover / see on the agenda, please be in touch with Co-Chairs directly after we adjourn.

12:00 P.M. Adjourn

Renewable Energy Standard Reform Working Group

Proposed Amendments (in Bold)

Anticipated Straw Polls & Discussion Prompts for November 29, 2023

This list summarizes what legislative members of the working group are currently considering for proposed amendments to the Renewable Energy Standard, as of November 17, 2023.

Tier 1- 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(1)(B)- Total Renewable Energy

- Increase 75% in 2032 to 100% in 2030

- This will require an increase in the rate of increase
 - Currently, this requirement increases 4% every 3rd year- would need to change to 10.6% every other year or something similar

Anticipated Straw Polls & Discussion Prompts Related to Tier 1 Reform(s):

1. Straw Poll, followed by brief discussion as needed: Should the increase in Total Renewable Energy (Tier 1) to 100%?
2. Straw Poll if applicable at this time, Straw Poll, followed by brief discussion as needed: Should the increase in Total Renewable Energy (Tier 1) take place in 2030?
3. Discussion, followed by straw poll if appropriate: How should be the rate of increase be structured?
4. Discussion: Regarding an option to create a Tier 1a (differentiating New Regional Renewables), let's take a moment to understand what is meant by "Tier 1a" and then hear participants' reasoning for exploring it (or not exploring it).
 - Those in favor of this option – raise your hand (opportunity to give a 20 second explanation of why).
 - Those opposed to this option – raise your hand (opportunity to give a 20 second explanation of why).
 - Those who are neither in favor nor opposed – raise your hand (opportunity to give a 20 second response to, “What would you need to know in order to decide whether you support a regional Tier 1 or not?”)
 - If there was to be Tier 1a requirement, what percentage would you propose?
5. Show of hands: Who wishes to consider changes to the definition of resources that qualify for Tier 1?

Tier 2-30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(2)(C)- Distributed Renewable Energy

- **Increase 10% in 2032 to 20% in 2032**
 - This will require an increase in the rate of increase
 - Currently, the requirement increases 0.6% every year- would need to increase to 1.5% every year or something similar
- **No change to definitions**

Anticipated Straw Polls & Discussion Prompts Related to Tier 2 Reform(s):

1. Straw Poll, followed by brief discussion as needed: Should the Distributed Renewable Energy (Tier 2) requirement increase to 20%?
2. Straw Poll, followed by brief discussion as needed: Should the increase take place in 2032?

3. Discussion, followed by straw poll if appropriate: How should be the rate of increase be structured?
4. Discussion: What specific changes should be made to the net metering program? *See RESRWG Member Poll Results from November 9-1. Several members suggested changes, and legislative team would like to hear specifics now:*
<https://lifo.vermont.gov/assets/Meetings/Renewable-Energy-Standard-Reform-Working-Group/2023-11-15/637a4e813f/RESRWG-Member-Pre-Mtg-Survey-November-9-13-2023-RESPONSES.pdf>
 - Let's gather specific proposals first. Please raise your hand if you have a specific change to the net metering program to offer (30 second opportunity to outline the gist of it).
 - Discuss proposals – may not have time to do so in depth. *Looking for overall rationale for / against, so participants will be encouraged to keep comments brief.*

Tier 3-30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(3)(B)- Energy Transformation

- **No changes**

Anticipated Straw Poll Related to Tier 3 Reform(s):

1. Straw Poll, followed by brief discussion as needed: Do you agree with the assessment that Tier 3 Reform(s) are not necessary at this time?

RES goals- 30 V.S.A. § 8001

- Amendments to existing goals to reference climate change, reduction of greenhouse gases, resiliency, and anything else the Working Group wants to update.

Anticipated Straw Poll & Discussion Prompts Related to Tier 3 Reform(s):

1. Straw Poll, followed by brief discussion as needed: Should the goals of the RES established in 30 V.S.A. § 8001 be amended?