

**Vermont School Boards Association ♦ Vermont Association of School Business Officials
Vermont Superintendents Association ♦ Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Dorset Energy Committee ♦ Essex Energy Committee ♦ Hartford Energy Committee
Hartland Energy Committee ♦ Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee
Moretown Energy Committee ♦ Norwich Energy Committee ♦ Peru Energy Committee
Richmond Energy Committee ♦ Sharon Energy Committee ♦ South Burlington Energy
Committee ♦ Thetford Selectboard ♦ Vital Communities ♦ Waitsfield
Warren Energy Committee ♦ Waterbury LEAP**

April 18, 2019

Dear Vermont Officials,

As volunteer community energy committees, school leaders, towns, and non-profits, we write to inform you that many of our communities can no longer access local renewable electricity or generate our own renewable electricity through net metering. Those of us who serve on our local energy committees were appointed by our municipalities to help our town and neighbors reduce energy use and transition to more efficient, renewable resources.

Local renewable energy and customers who generate their own renewable electricity through net metering enable lower property taxes for all Vermonters, create valuable local jobs, and keep more energy dollars in our local economy. As we host projects and rely on more local renewable electricity, it provides us with stable income and cost reductions. Net metering also provides us with electricity choice and is an important climate pollution reduction solution.

We seek to participate as customers, landowner or rooftop hosts, or in other ways support new local renewable energy projects but cannot currently due to regulatory limitations. In order for Vermonters to fully access the benefits of local renewable energy, we ask that you immediately:

- Remove the customer cap limitation on net metering;
- Enable us to participate in more than one net metering group; and
- Reduce permitting costs for projects on preferred locations.

Legislation is necessary to address these barriers for schools, municipalities, and non-profits like us who want to take a lead on helping the public benefit from local renewable energy. By taking action today, you would also unlock more private capital investments to help save taxpayers money.

We are eager to do our part to help meet the Vermont's climate commitments for current and future generations through more local renewable energy, and to improve our communities' resilience and energy independence. We need your support and action for that to be possible.

Sincerely,

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Vermont School Boards Association

Frank Rucker
Vermont Association of School Business Officials

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