From: Springer, Darren [Darren.Springer@state.vt.us]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 6:04 PM
To: Kevin Jones
Subject: Re: Energy Bill

Would it be helpful to meet and chat about this? If so let me know some days you would be free to meet in Montpelier.
Thanks Kevin,
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 21, 2015, at 4:58 PM, Kevin Jones <KBJONES@vermontlaw.edu> wrote:

> Hi Darren,
> Thanks for the email. I did a quick read of the bill. Not finding another state that does what is right for the customer to me is no reason to take the RECs or right to make the green claim from the customer. How many states have a RESET program as you have developed rather than an RPS program based on retirement of class 1 RECS? I assume you had reasons to deviate from what everyone else is doing.
> I will surely do some more research on the issue but my guess is that many states are not claiming the net metered energy toward the utility goal and taking the REC from the customer. If the utilities have to meet a set goal what environmental incentive is there for homeowners or community groups to invest in rooftop or community solar when they will not be technically reducing their own carbon footprint but rather only contributing to an average utility wide mandate?
> Don't get me wrong, I see some positive aspects to the bill but to quote some REV members who reached out to me recently the Dept. seems to be headed down a road to once again do something different than an RPS but not necessarily better. You may have met the utilities needs with this bill but I am not sure that you have created something that will make Vermont a leader in renewable energy or be based on Vermont values. I would like to be convinced that this is superior to doing a more straightforward RPS and solar carve out but as of yet other than seeing how this will appease some well connected interests I don't get the public policy logic for some of the key provisions.
> I look forward to learning more about the impact of this approach and participating in the discussion. Hopefully there will be a full debate in the legislature and opportunities to develop something that those of us that supported the Governor in the last election can enthusiastically embrace.
> Kevin
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> **From:** Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us]
> **Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2015 4:04 PM
> **To:** Kevin Jones
> **Subject:** Energy Bill
> Hi Kevin,

Attached is a 2 page summary of the Department's proposal, and here is a link to the introduced legislation:
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2016/Docs/BILLS/H-0040/H-0040%20As%20Introduced.pdf.
I want you to know that we did look into the question you raised about net metering RECs, and have found no other state that uses the system you suggested. With that in mind, we believe our proposal strikes the right balance in leaving the customer with the option as to whether to retain RECs or transfer them to the utility to be retired to meet our state DG target. For customers who want to keep the RECs for some marketing purpose or environmental claim, they will have the right to do so, and the process will recognize that the utility and its ratepayers are not receiving the regulatory value of the REC as part of that net metering system, and compensate accordingly.
If you have further thoughts you'd like to share with us please let me know.

Thanks,
Darren

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