

From: Springer, Darren [Darren.Springer@state.vt.us]
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2015 8:48 PM
To: Tim Ashe
Subject: Re: H40 unnecessarily harms net metering and community owned solar

Yes no problem. Kevin Jones has raised his concern previously and I am familiar with it.
Thanks
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On May 10, 2015, at 8:15 PM, Tim Ashe <timashe@burlingtontelecom.net> wrote:

can you plan to come in to speak to this specific issue tomorrow which came up last year?

Tim Ashe
State Senator
Chittenden County
Chair, Senate Finance Committee

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <tashe@leg.state.vt.us>
From: Kevin Jones <kbjphd@icloud.com>
Date: May 10, 2015 4:11:44 PM EDT (CA)
To: <dzuckerman@leg.state.vt.us>, <tashe@leg.state.vt.us>, <apollina@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: H40 unnecessarily harms net metering and community owned solar

Gentlemen,

As Senators whom I greatly respect and from past interaction know that you share my values for a renewable energy future that enhances community ownership, I want to make you aware of a deeply flawed provision of H.40 that should be fixed or should result in delaying Senate approval until next session.

H.40 will result in a significant change from current net metering policy and will be in conflict with net metering policy in most other states. H.40 will either require solar net metering customers to turn the renewable energy credits (RECs) from their systems over to their utility or receive a reduction in the net metering credit they receive from their utility. This will require business, university, and residential customers that want to keep (but not sell) their RECs to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions (become net zero) to receive a smaller net metering incentive or alternatively give their RECs to the utility and not be able to make individual green claims. It makes no public policy sense to pay a smaller incentive to business, university, or individual customers who want to green their

carbon footprint. Equally troubling is the businesses that are today selling RECs out of state for net metered projects will receive more income than those that do the right thing and keep the greenhouse gas reductions instate — financing entities will be able to replace the smaller state credit with significant revenues from selling our local solar energy into the MA and CT RPS programs. Unfortunately while, and others (including the Sustainability Coordinator for Green Mtn. College and a number of smaller installers) have raised this concern in the House and Senate, the Shumlin administration has again been looking out for GMP not the small business person or individual solar customer. If this change is allowed to stand, there will be little reason for those interested in community solar or owning solar to green your own carbon footprint to participate in net metering since all you will be able to financially do is borrow your own money to help your utility meet its mandate not reduce your own carbon footprint.

I have attached a copy of my testimony which more eloquently explains the problem. I would appreciate your support in standing up for those of us interested in promoting more community ownership of solar.

My best,

Kevin