

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Joshua Schauer 271-3077

HB 1535, relative to clarifying eligible renewable energy classes under the renewable portfolio standard.

Hearing Date: March 24, 2026

Time Opened: 10:58 a.m.

Time Closed: 11:06 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Avard, Pearl, Watters and Rosenwald

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator McConkey

Bill Analysis: This bill clarifies eligibility criteria for certain thermal energy sources within class I renewable energy.

Sponsors:

Rep. Corman

Sen. Prentiss

Who supports the bill: 36 Individuals signed in Support of the legislation. Please contact Joshua.Schauer@gc.nh.gov for more information.

Who opposes the bill: None

Who is neutral on the bill: 1 Individual signed Neutral on the legislation. Please contact Joshua.Schauer@gc.nh.gov for more information.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Representative Thomas Corman

- Representative Corman introduced the bill and provided a hand-out of the current statute and his recommendations so that the Senators could clearly see the punctuation issues.
- He explained that due to the inconsistent and incorrect punctuation after “methane gas” it was interpreted by the Department of Energy that methane gas that is used for energy generation would not be eligible for renewable energy credits. This was not the original intent of the bill.
- He explained that as a result of this punctuation mistake the city of Lebanon, which he represents, was unable to get renewable energy credits for use of

methane gas produced in the cities landfill. This was the motivation for fixing the bill.

Senator Rosenwald asked what the significance of the date January 1st 2013 in the original statute was.

Representative Corman stated he did not know as he was not in the legislature at that time.

Josh Elliot, Department of Energy

- Mr. Elliot spoke about the overview of the legislation. He stated that he appreciates legislative clarity. He stated that Mr. Corman was correct that the department assumed that the changes made were purposefully crafted to exclude methane from renewable energy credits.

Senator Rosenwald asked about the date, January 1st 2013 and its significance.

Mr. Elliot stated that other items were added to the renewable portfolio standard at that time in 2013 and believed that the date reflects those changes.

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Date Hearing Report completed: March 25, 2026