

January 31, 2025

Honorable members of the Science, Technology, and Energy Committee,

I write to express my opposition to HB219, which seeks to phase out the minimum electric renewable portfolio standard (RPS) for New Hampshire.

Renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and biomass provide some stability against the ever-escalating cost of electricity and delivery services for residential, business, and government consumers of energy. With some of the highest energy costs (electricity plus delivery services) in the nation, New Hampshire electricity consumers deserve encouragement to invest in alternative energy sources.

The generation of RECs (renewable energy certificates) provides an incentive for energy consumers to invest in alternative energy sources to help reduce grid demand by encouraging distributed energy generation and rewarding long-term investment in alternative energy technologies.

Encouraging growth of renewable energy sources isn't the only important reason for opposing HB219. The RPS provides funding for rebate and grant programs that encourage energy conservation through the purchase and installation of energy-efficient technologies such as air source heat pumps and heat pump water heaters, two technologies that deliver considerable savings in both energy use and cost.

I urge you to consider the serious impact that phasing out the RPS would have on our state, and request that you OPPOSE HB219.

Respectfully,

Imre F. Szauter