



City of Nashua
Sustainability Department
229 Main Street - Nashua, NH 03060

(603) 589-3265

To: Members of the New Hampshire House Science, Technology and Energy Committee

From: Doria Brown, Energy Manager

Date: January 20th, 2026

Re: Opposition to HB 1002 – Distributed Solar Benefits Communities

I am writing to urge you to oppose HB 1002, which would repeal New Hampshire's solar property tax exemption statute.

Residential solar energy provides important benefits not just to individual homeowners, but to neighbors and the broader community. When energy is generated close to where it is used, it reduces reliance on electricity that must be transmitted long distances, easing strain on the grid and improving overall system reliability. Distributed solar generation can help stabilize local energy supply, especially during periods of high demand, and supports a more resilient energy system for everyone.

The City of Nashua currently has a solar property tax exemption in place, and participation in this program is limited. Of the city's 36,907 households, only 682 are currently taking advantage of the exemption. That is less than 2 percent of households. Because participation is so small, the amount of additional tax revenue that would be generated by repealing the exemption would not be significant.

However, repealing the exemption would raise costs for homeowners considering solar and discourage future adoption, reducing the shared benefits of local energy generation for neighbors and the community as a whole. While municipalities differ in their approaches, the current law simply provides an option that communities may use to support local energy solutions. Eliminating that option would move New Hampshire in the opposite direction—away from resilience, community-level energy benefits, and local control.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to reject HB 1002 and preserve policies that support distributed energy generation and the shared benefits it provides to New Hampshire communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Doria Brown, Energy Manager and Nashua Environment and Energy Committee, Vice Chair

Livable City of Nashua – Sustainability
Nashua

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