

January 26, 2026

New Hampshire House of Representatives

107 North Main Street

Concord, NH 03301

Science, Technology and Energy Committee

Chairman: Michael Vose

Vice Chairman: Douglas Thomas

Clerk: JD Bernardy

Committee Members: Jeanine Notter, Michael Harrington, Tom Ploszaj, James Summers, Rita Mattson, John Schneller, Matt Sabourin dit Choinière, Kat McGhee, Lucius Parshall, Tony Caplan, Wendy Thomas, Thomas Cormen, Ned Reynolds, John Laroche and Dale Swanson

**Ref: HB1455 An act relative to the criteria for reliable energy sources**

Bill HB1455 is incomplete as written and will promote fossil fuel and nuclear energy while excluding the future use of renewable energy. The bill serves to mandate fossil fuel and nuclear power plants in New Hampshire which pose existential human health risks and are detrimental to the environment. This mandate will have unexpected consequences on ratepayers' bills as there are no clear safeguards for them. Excluding renewable energy as part of the future energy mix is bad policy.

Renewable energy sources have proven to be economical, generate zero emissions, are faster to build and deploy and have more flexible applications in our communities. Renewable energy also creates good paying jobs for New Hampshire. Renewable energy is the fastest growing market in the energy sector worldwide. Personal income and tax revenue, which results from employment and commerce in the renewables market, is injected back into the local economy. Wind and solar energy is harvested and produced right here in New Hampshire as opposed to fossil fuels like natural gas, propane, gasoline and diesel fuel which must be "imported" from out of state and from overseas. Fossil fuels have inherent price volatility particularly for natural gas which spikes during winter months due to home and commercial heating requirements. The bill would restrict competition. A diversified energy supply benefits consumers and makes energy costs more competitive.

The proposed bill makes use of terms like "affordable", "dispatchable", "reliable" and "foreign adversary" that needs definition and quantification. The proposed legislation requires the New Hampshire Department of Energy (NH-DOE) and New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to prioritize energy sources. Are such directives within those department's/commission's scope and would they have adequate resources to implement prioritization?

I urge the members of the New Hampshire House of Representatives Science, Technology and Energy Committee (STE) to render HB1455 Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) at your earliest convenience.

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