



CLEAN AIR
TASK FORCE

RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD

Vermont



Policy type

Renewable Portfolio Standard

Form of the standard

Energy-based

% of renewable energy required

Targets

- **Interim:** 63% by 2025, increasing by an additional at least 4% every 3 years until final target is reached
- **Final:** 100% by 2035 for certain municipal and single-customer retail electricity providers, and by 2030 for all other providers

Economy-wide requirement: 26% below 2005 levels, 40% below 1990 levels, 80% below 1990 levels by 2050

Point of regulation: Retail sales

Regulated entities: All retail suppliers

Percent of retail sales covered by RPS: 100%

Implementing agency: Vermont Public Utility Commission

Enforcement mechanisms: Based on the Retail Electricity Provider's annual compliance report, the Commission determines whether the Provider met its obligations, and if not, assesses an Alternative Compliance Payment.

Compliance flexibility and cost containment: Alternative Compliance Payments of \$.01/kWh for the total renewable energy requirement and \$.06/kWh for distributed generation and energy transformation requirements. Utilities may petition the Commission to reduce Tier II requirements or avoid payments if they fail to reach the requirement. Municipal providers serving fewer than 6000 customers may petition to lower requirements. If annual load surpasses 135% compared to 2022 annual load, the minimum new renewables energy requirements are lower.

Carve-outs and incentives: There is a distributed generation minimum and energy transformation projects minimum. Target for "new renewable energy": 20% by 2035 for providers with at least 75,000 customers and 10% for providers with fewer than 75,000 customers. 100% of load growth is new renewables or distributed generation by 2028; 75% new renewable by 2035.

Compliance tracking: [NEPOOL-GIS](#)

Notable features: The Commission has flexibility to add new technologies to the RPS, provided the technologies do not use the following fuels: coal, oil, propane, and natural gas.

Links to agency website and statutes/rules: [30 V.S.A. § 8005](#); [Vermont Public Utility Commission: Renewable Energy Standard](#); [Renewable Energy Standard Rule](#); [Retail Electricity Sales](#); [EPA's REC Tracking Systems](#)

Eligible sources

Biogas

Biomass

Distributed Generation

Energy Efficiency

Geothermal

Hydrogen

Hydropower

Solar

Wave/Tidal

Wind

See [30 V.S.A. § 8002\(21\)](#) for definitions of eligible resources; [30 V.S.A. § 8005\(a\)\(2\) to \(3\)](#) and [30 V.S.A. § 4.401\(b\)\(2-3\)](#) for distributed generation; [30 V.S.A. § 8002\(28\)](#) (definition of Energy Transformation Project), [30 V.S.A. § 8005\(3\)](#) (General Provisions). Certain limits may apply.