Renewable Energy Standard Reform - Legislative Working Group
This document collates the In-Meeting Notes from September 20, 2023.

- All original inputs from the in-meeting poll by Working Group Members on 9/20/23 are included in this table.
- Original poll entries were organized / drafted into distinct groups by facilitator, to identify distinct barriers. Reviewed by Legislative Members of the Working Group 9/21/23 – 9/25/23.
- Purpose: To inform topics of discussion at RESRWG Meetings, by mapping out barriers that participants are paying attention to.
- INVITATION TO ALL RESRWG WORKING GROUP MEMBERS: Review this document. Confirm that you see your comments represented here. Make your own notes to reference during discussion, as needed. The October 4th RESRWG Meeting has time on the agenda to review this document, and discuss / suggest adjustments to categories in order to clarify identification of barriers to moving to 100% by 2030.

Task (2): Barriers to moving to 100% by 2030.

Per Act 33 of 2023: "Identifying any barriers to moving to a 100 percent renewable standard for all electrical utilities by 2030."

Considerations That Could Support Change	Barriers	Factors Complicating Change
	The permitting process for new renewables. Solar permitting process	Alignment of new generation requirements with schedule for siting, permitting, constructing
	Generation vs Load. Inadequate Infrastructure. Reliability. The electrical grid is not ready for a future based distributed generation.	Reliability of (in state) renewable production to meet demand especially when peak loads occur at times of day and times of the year when renewables are not producing adequately or reliably. Barriers to deploying solar, impossibility of deploying wind.

	Transmission grid stability	
~~Not factoring~~ [Factor] in externalities in identifying costs of new renewables No barriers if you chose the right technology, with a diverse portfolio of both in-state and out-of-state resources.	**Cost.** Timing of availability of renewable resources in VT and the region. Cost and Reliability will be driven by such factors as whether we move forward with RES or CES, and what constraints on location, technology, scale, etc. are placed on utilities.	Is 2030 too soon and does it provide enough flexibility to cost-effectively procure? Cost is the biggest barrier. Although prices for Tier 1 RECs have dropped. Our largest concern is some discussion of disallowing hydro and/or large hydro. We also feel that nuclear should be included.
RES or CES? The more flexible the definition and/or using clean energy the more successful and quickly this transition can happen. And impact climate thru carbon reduction.	**The definition of renewable** **RES, or CES?** The definition of renewable and squaring w CAP goal Competing visions of RES, that is, to procure RE versus to generate (or cause the generation of) new RE	Limits placed on types of resources that qualify, esp if it moves us out of sync in the region and not alternatives out there. Storage, clean hydrogen and small nuclear are likely an important part of an affordable clean energy future and still so much is unknown about technology, cost, how they work
	Availability of new regional renewables	
	Differences utility size, current portfolios, ownership	Existing contracts and investments by utilities must be considered against any standards.

	The question of whether we allow energy arbitrage to continue Considering the unique resource and a stage VT has being connected to Hydro Quebec	
	Entries in Poll but currently uncategorized: • A push by some to rely on existing energy sources rather than new energy sources • Not restricting resources but instead ensuring all renewable resources count, both new and existing, large and small, in-state and regional, and including solar, wind, hydro, and biomass. • Interest by some in moving to 100% w/o any more additional renewables than required today.	