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**State of Vermont
Public Utility Commission**

MEMORANDUM

To: Participants in Renewable Energy Standard Rulemaking
From: Elizabeth Schilling, Staff Attorney 
Re: 18-3810-INV: Renewable Energy Standard Rulemaking
Date: November 2, 2018

The Vermont General Assembly has directed the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) to adopt a rule to implement the renewable energy standard (“RES”).¹ The Commission must commence the formal rulemaking process by July 1, 2019.² Prior to commencing formal rulemaking, the Commission wishes to get input from stakeholders and interested persons.

Presently, the RES is implemented through two Commission orders – *Investigation re: establishment of the Renewable Energy Standard Program*, Docket 8550, Order of 3/15/2016 and Order of 6/28/2016 (available on ePUC). These two orders will serve as the basis for rulemaking. Therefore, the Commission is seeking comments from stakeholders and interested persons regarding changes and improvements that may be made to the current processes and provisions, established under the Docket 8550 Orders, to implement the RES.

Commission staff will convene a workshop on December 10, 2018 at 1:30 P.M. in the Commission’s Susan M. Hudson Hearing Room, Third Floor, People’s United Bank Building, 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont. The purpose of the workshop is to hear from stakeholders and interested persons about the RES implementation processes and provisions, established under the Docket 8550 Orders, that are working as well as the processes that may need changes or improvements.

Participants are encouraged to pre-file comments in writing, including any recommendations for the pre-formal rulemaking process. Commission staff anticipate multiple opportunities for input and feedback prior to filing a rule next summer pursuant to the Vermont Administrative Procedures Act process.

¹ The RES requires electric distribution utilities to acquire specified amounts of renewable energy, including specified amounts in the form of distributed generation. Additionally, the RES requires the electric distribution utilities to implement what are known as “energy transformation projects” to reduce the fossil fuel consumption of the utilities’ customers. 30 V.S.A. Chp. 89.

² Public Act 139, § 14 (2018 Vt., Adj. Sess.) (amending Public Act 56, § 8 (2015 Vt., Bien. Sess.)).

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