

















STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets</p> <p>26% by 2025 40% by 2030 80% by 2050</p> <p>2025: Relative to 2005 levels</p> <p>2030 and 2050: Relative to 1990 levels</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act 153 - Vermont Global Warming Solutions Act of 2020 (2020) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2020
	<p>Climate Action Plans</p> <p>Vermont Climate Action Plan</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act 153 - Vermont Global Warming Solutions Act of 2020 (2020) Vermont Climate Action Plan (2021) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2021
 Enacted	<p>State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory</p> <p>The 1990-2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory was published in July 2024.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 V.S.A. § 582 (2008) 1990-2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (2024) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2024




STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Climate Bureaucracy				
 Enacted	Vermont Climate Action Office	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	
	Inter-Agency Advisory Board Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vermont Climate Action Office Inter-Agency Advisory Board 			
Climate Advisory Bodies				
 Enacted	Vermont Climate Council Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act 153 - Vermont Global Warming Solutions Act of 2020 (2020) Vermont Climate Council 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2020
Environmental Justice Community Definitions				
 Enacted	<p>“Environmental justice focus populations” are census block groups in which the annual median household income is less than 80% of the State median household income, at least 6% of the population are people of color or Indigenous people, or at least 1% of households have limited English proficiency.</p> Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB 148 (2022) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 In-Progress	<p>Environmental Justice Mapping Tools</p> <p>The Agency of Natural Resources is required to develop an EJ mapping tool by January 2025.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 148 (2022) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2022
 Not Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Community Investment Requirements</p> <p>Environmental justice (EJ) community investment requirements help ensure communities most impacted by environmental burdens are benefitting equitably from public programs by requiring a certain percentage of funds and/or benefits from other policies are allocated to EJ communities.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
 Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Bureaucracy</p> <p>Interagency Environmental Justice Committee</p> <p>ANR – Office of Civil Rights and Environmental Justice</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 148 (2022) • ANR – Office of Civil Rights and Environmental Justice • Interagency Environmental Justice Committee 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Environmental Justice				
Advisory Bodies				
 Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Advisory Council</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 148 (2022) • Environmental Justice Advisory Council 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2022
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
 Not Enacted	<p>Cumulative impact assessments determine the health and environmental impacts of renewing or granting a permit for certain pollution-generating facilities in environmental justice communities. Increased pollution burdens in communities may result in the permit application being denied.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Just Transition Plans				
 Not Enacted	<p>Just transition plans are documents that outline policies and recommendations aimed at supporting communities, workers, and industries affected by the transition away from fossil fuels. The plans often focus on workforce development and retraining, job creation, and economic diversification.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Offices and Staff</p> <p>Just transition offices and staff assist workers and communities transitioning away from fossil fuel extraction and use, typically through retraining programs and support with relocation and economic diversification. Offices and staff also coordinate with other state agencies to effectively design policy to achieve a just transition.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
 Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Advisory Bodies</p> <p>Just transition advisory bodies write or advise on a state's just transition plan or report, and make recommendations on ways to support affected workers, communities, and industries. The bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix of government and non-government members.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
 Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Funds</p> <p>Just transition funds support initiatives and investments aimed at facilitating the equitable transition of workers and communities affected by shifts in industries or policies that transition from fossil fuels.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Green Banks				
 Not Enacted	Green banks are public, quasi-public, or non-profit entities that use innovative financing to invest in climate solutions and attract private capital across various economic sectors.	Cross-Sector	Climate Finance	
Carbon Pollution Pricing				
 Enacted	<p>The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) covers the electricity sector.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vermont CO2 Budget Trading Program Regulations (2018) The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) 	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	2005
Social Cost of Carbon				
 Not Enacted	The social cost of carbon is a monetary estimate of the damage of each ton of greenhouse gases emitted. The social cost of carbon is used to quantify and monetize climate damages, representing the net economic cost of climate pollution to society.	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Clean Energy and Renewable Portfolio Standards</p> <p>63% renewable energy by 2025 100% by 2030 for utilities serving at least 75,000 customers 100% by 2035 for utilities serving less than 75,000 customers</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.289 (2024) 	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	2024
 Not Enacted	<p>Electricity Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets</p> <p>Electricity greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit GHG emissions in the electricity sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by different amounts over time, often expressed as percentage relative to a baseline year.</p>	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	
 Not Enacted	<p>Clean Energy Plans</p> <p>Clean energy plans are documents that outline the policies and strategies states can implement to meet clean energy targets. Draft plans are often published first, and after a period of public comments and revisions, a final plan is released.</p>	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Distributed Generation Carve-out



Enacted

The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.

Electricity

Clean Energy Generation

Establishing Policies

- SPOT – Generation Carve-outs in Vermont

Policy Components



5/5

Net Metering



Partially Enacted

The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.

Electricity

Clean Energy Generation





Establishing Policies





- SPOT - Net Metering in Vermont
- SPOT - Aggregate Net Metering in Vermont




Policy Components



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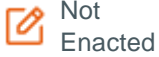
STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Partially Enacted	<p>Shared Renewables</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOT - Shared Renewables in Vermont <p>Policy Components</p>  <p>5/6</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
 Not Enacted	<p>Community Choice Aggregation</p> <p>Community choice aggregation allows local governments to procure power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts from an alternative supplier while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility provider.</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
 Not Enacted	<p>Energy Storage Targets</p> <p>Energy storage targets establish procurement targets for energy storage systems by a certain date, often with interim targets. Targets can vary from broad megawatt (MW) requirements to more specific mandates that focus on the adoption of certain storage technologies.</p>	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Interconnection Standards</p> <p>Vermont received a C grade from Freeing the Grid.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freeing the Grid Vermont Grade (2023) 	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	2023
 Not Enacted	<p>Coal Phaseouts</p> <p>Coal phaseouts establish a target year by which states must end coal-fired power generation.</p>	Electricity	Coal Retirement	
 Not Enacted	<p>Coal Plant Securitization</p> <p>Coal securitization is a financing tool that allows utility companies to refinance debt they issued to build coal plants and close the facilities early without taking a financial hit or passing costs on to ratepayers.</p>	Electricity	Coal Retirement	
 Enacted	<p>Residential Energy Codes</p> <p>The statewide energy code for residential construction is the Vermont 2024 Residential Building Energy Standards.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential Building Energy Standards (2023) Vermont State Energy Code (2019) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Commercial Energy Codes</p> <p>The statewide energy code for commercial building construction is the 2024 Commercial Building Energy Standards, with ASHRAE 90.1-2019 compliance options.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Building Energy Standards (2024) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2024
 Enacted	<p>Stretch Building Energy Codes</p> <p>The Vermont Residential Energy Building Standards (RBES) Stretch Code is a building energy code for residential buildings that achieves greater energy savings than the statewide RBES.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act 89 of 2013 (2013) 30 V.S.A. § 51 (2020) Vermont Residential Energy Building Standards (RBES) Stretch Code (2024) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2024
 Enacted	<p>Appliance Standards</p> <p>The Energy Efficiency Standards for Appliances and Equipment apply to 23 products.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 V.S.A. chapter 74 (2017) Act 139 of 2018 (2018) Vermont Appliance Efficiency and Water Conservation Standards 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	2018

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Building Performance Standards



Not Enacted

Building performance standards establish energy and/or greenhouse gas performance targets for existing buildings in a state. These targets increase in stringency over time, leading to efficiency improvements in buildings to conserve energy and reduce emissions.

Buildings and Efficiency

Building Standards

Clean Heat Standards



In-Progress

The Vermont Public Utility Commission submitted draft rules for a Clean Heat Standard to the Vermont General Assembly in January 2025, which now require approval by the legislature to move forward.

In the report, the PUC noted that, while feasible, a clean heat standard may not be well-suited for Vermont because of its regulatory complexity, and offered possible alternatives to lawmakers, including a fuel tax on heating fuels to subsidize existing thermal efficiency programs.

Buildings and Efficiency

Building Standards

2023

Establishing Policies

- [Act 18 \(2023\)](#)
- [PUC Report to the legislature with proposed rules \(2025\)](#)
- [Clean Heat Standard](#)

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS)

Electric utilities are required to achieve energy savings equivalent to 204,000 megawatt hours (MWh) for 2024-2026.

 Enacted

Gas utilities are required to achieve energy savings equivalent to 381,300 million British thermal units (MMBtu) for 2024-2026.

Buildings and Efficiency

Building Efficiency

2023

Establishing Policies

- [Act 56 \(2015\)](#)
- [22-2954-PET \(2023\)](#)
- [Efficiency Vermont 2024–2026 Triennial Plan](#)

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)

Vermont has enacted residential PACE-enabling legislation, but does not have an active program.

 Enacted





Establishing Policies




- [HB 446 \(2009\)](#)




Buildings and Efficiency




Building Efficiency




2009

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Partially Enacted	<p>Weatherization Funding</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOT - Weatherization Funding in Vermont <p>Policy Components</p>  <p>3/4</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	
 Not Enacted	<p>All-Electric Buildings</p> <p>All-electric buildings policies require new buildings to be constructed with all-electric heating, cooling, and cooking systems to transition away from fossil-fuel use in buildings.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Electrification	
 Enacted	<p>Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Standards</p> <p>Vermont Low Emission Vehicles Program</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 40 (2022) • Vermont Low Emission Vehicles Program 	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates</p> <p>Model Year (MY) 2026: 35% of new passenger vehicle sales are ZEVs MY 2030: 68% of new sales are ZEVs MY 2035: 100% of new sales are ZEVs, with up to 20% being hybrid or hydrogen-powered vehicles.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Clean Cars II (2022) • Advanced Clean Cars II Program 	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	2022
 Not Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle Rebates</p> <p>Electric vehicle rebates offer rebates to make light-duty electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.</p>	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	
 Enacted	<p>Low NOx Omnibus Rules</p> <p>The Low NOx Omnibus Rule applies to Model Year 2026 onwards.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Omnibus Regulation (2022) 	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Medium- and Heavy-Duty (MHD) Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates</p> <p>By 2035: 55% of Class 2b-3 truck sales are zero-emissions 75% of Class 4-8 straight truck sales are zero-emissions 40% of Class 7-8 tractor sales are zero-emissions.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Clean Trucks Rule (2022) 	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	2022
 Not Enacted	<p>Medium- and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle (EV) Rebates</p> <p>Medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) electric vehicle rebates consist of programs and policies that offer rebates to make MHD electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.</p>	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
 Not Enacted	<p>Public Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) Procurement Targets</p> <p>Public fleet electric vehicle (EV) procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of vehicles purchased or leased by the state are zero-emission or electric vehicles. This can apply to passenger cars, light-duty vehicles, and/or medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in a state's public fleet.</p>	Transportation	Lead by Example	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Electric Bus Procurement Targets</p> <p>Electric bus procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of school buses and/or transit buses purchased or leased by the state, transit authorities, and/or school districts must be electric or zero-emissions.</p>	Transportation	Lead by Example	
 Not Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Requirements</p> <p>Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure requirements establish mandates for the installation of EV charging infrastructure in new construction or developments, such as residential or commercial buildings, and public parking lots.</p>	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	
 Not Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Rebates</p> <p>Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure rebates offer rebates to make the purchase and/or installation costs of EV charging infrastructure more affordable.</p>	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) and EV Charging Infrastructure Plans</p> <p>Electric vehicle (EV) and EV charging infrastructure plans are documents that provide a framework to guide the development, coordination, and adoption of EVs and EV charging infrastructure.</p>	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	
 Not Enacted	<p>Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets</p> <p>Transportation greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit emissions in the transportation sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by specific amounts over time, often expressed as a percentage reduction from a baseline year.</p>	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	
 Not Enacted	<p>Low Carbon Fuel Standards</p> <p>A low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) is a market-based mechanism to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels and account for the fuel's life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Bicycle Friendly States

Vermont is ranked 22nd out of 50 in the 2024 Bicycle Friendly State rankings by the League of American Bicyclists.



Partially Enacted

Establishing Policies

- [Vermont Bicycle Friendly State Scorecard](#)

Policy Components



4/5

Transportation

Public and Active Transportation

Buy Clean Requirements

Buy clean requirements mandate or incentivize the use of low-carbon construction materials, such as concrete and steel, in public projects to address embodied carbon.



Not Enacted

Industry, Materials, and Waste Management

Industrial Decarbonization

Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Regulations

This act establishes a schedule for when certain products must be manufactured without HFCs.



Enacted





Establishing Policies

- [S.30 \(2019\)](#)
- [H.523 \(2022\)](#)

Industry, Materials, and Waste Management

F-gas Regulations

2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) Regulations</p> <p>Sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, bans, or other measures that reduce SF6 usage and emissions.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	
 Not Enacted	<p>Oil and Gas Methane Regulations</p> <p>Oil and gas methane regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, leak detection and repair, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from oil and gas production.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	
 Enacted	<p>Fracking Bans</p> <p>Hydraulic fracking for the exploration and production of natural gas is banned.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 V.S.A. § 571 (2012) 	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	2012
 Not Enacted	<p>Landfill Methane Regulations</p> <p>Landfill methane regulations include rulemakings, emissions monitoring, emissions control, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from decaying organic waste in landfills.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Food Waste Bans and Targets

 Enacted

Food waste ban – The state has banned the disposal of food scraps and yard waste at landfills, established separate trash collection processes for organic waste, and requires all food scraps to be diverted to certified recycling facilities, including from both residential and commercial sources.

Industry,
 Materials, and
 Waste
 Management

**Waste
 Management**

2012

Establishing Policies

- [Act 148 \(2012\)](#)

Agriculture Financial Incentives

 Enacted

Vermont established a Soil Conservation Practice and Payment for Ecosystem Services Working Group to recommend financial incentives for farmers to implement practices to improve soil health, enhance crop resilience, and reduce runoff.

Natural and
 Working Lands

Agriculture

2019

The Environmental Stewardship Program is a voluntary program that encourages agricultural producers to meet high environmental standards including soil health, greenhouse gas emissions, and carbon sequestration.

Establishing Policies

- [S.160 \(2019\)](#)
- [H.525 \(2019\)](#)

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Agriculture Technical Assistance Programs

 Not Enacted

Agriculture technical assistance programs provide state-driven technical assistance, apprenticeship and mentorship programs, and support securing additional funding for farmers to increase uptake of soil health practices.

Natural and Working Lands

Agriculture