



Submitted via email

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon Jr.  
Chair, House Committee on Corporations  
State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: H-7876 – Affordable Clean Energy Security Act – Excluding Nuclear Energy from Energy Procurement Opportunities**

Dear Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee:

The Office of Energy Resources (OER) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on H-7876. OER respectfully opposes this legislation. Nuclear generation is a firm, dispatchable, zero-emission baseload resource that operates independent of weather and on-site fuel constraints, making it uniquely valuable in ISO-NE's winter reliability paradigm. The McKee administration, alongside our regional neighbors, views nuclear as essential to diversifying the winter fuel mix and lowering marginal clearing prices during winter peak periods by introducing stable, carbon-free supply into the system.

The Governor was proud to sign the legislation passed by the General Assembly in 2025 that expanded nuclear energy as an eligible resource under the state's Affordable Clean Energy Security Act (ACES). With the update to the ACES law, Rhode Island is currently participating in a multi-state nuclear energy procurement solicitation with Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine and Vermont for existing nuclear facilities in New England and will be evaluating those results over the next several months with the other states. The procurement may provide an opportunity to secure a new resource that diversifies the state's energy mix, delivers firm winter reliability, and supports ongoing emissions reduction goals.

Passing this legislation would significantly limit the state's ability to support the regional strategy to expand baseload, zero-emission resources. For these reasons, OER respectfully urges the Committee not to pass this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

**OFFICE OF  
ENERGY RESOURCES**

*One Capitol Hill, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Providence, RI 02908  
[www.energy.ri.gov](http://www.energy.ri.gov)*

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Sincerely,

Chris Kearns  
Acting Commissioner  
Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

CC:

The Honorable Jennifer Stewart  
Members of the House Committee on Corporations  
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House  
Lynne Urbani, House Policy Director