

Testimony in support of H8519: Renewable Energy Standard

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

Date of Hearing: April 12, 2026

To Chair Solomon and the honorable Members of the House Corporations Committee:

I support the bill because it will allow to meet the current Renewable Energy Standard by 2033, by counting nuclear energy resources and large-scale hydroelectric facilities as zero-emissions resources for meeting the compliance requirements of the Standard.

Most importantly, the bill does not extend the timeline of the Standard, as other bills in this year's legislature and the Governor's budget propose to do.

With continuation of the current global reality¹ and trend^{2,3} that solar, wind and battery storage have become the least expensive technologies to generate electricity, extending the timeline of the Standard is unnecessary and counterproductive, and it would lock Rhode Islanders for much longer into polluting and more and more unaffordable "natural" methane gas and oil as energy sources.

The Standard per H8519 gives us almost eight years to reach 100% electricity from renewable and non-emitting resources and to steadily increase the share of renewables in the mix. With focused and diligent leadership and implementation of our Rhode Island 2025 Climate Action Strategy we will be able to get there on time.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2026.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Representative Carson and Speaker Shekarchi for introducing this important bill.



Dr. Hans Scholl

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¹ Euan Graham, Nicolas Fulghum, Katye Altieri. 2026. "[Global Electricity Review 2025](#)". *EMBER* (April)

² Walter, Daan; Butler-Sloss, Sam; Bond, Kingsmill. 2025. Slide deck "[The Electrotech Revolution](#)". *EMBER* (Sep)

³ Volts podcast interview with EMBER's Kingsmill Bond from November 21, 2025, "[Clean Electrification is Inevitable](#)":