

Environment & Energy

# Rhode Island Advances Bill for 100% Renewable Electric by 2033

By Zach Bright

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The smallest state is on track to adopt the country's strongest renewable standard, supporters say, following a Tuesday vote in Rhode Island's state House of Representatives.

S2274/H7277 would require Rhode Island to meet 100% of its electricity demand through renewable energy sources by 2033. After the Senate's passage in May and Tuesday's 56-13 House vote, the bill will head to Gov. Daniel McKee (D), who is expected to sign it.

"We're hoping that by demonstrating that the labor movement and the environmental movement can work together, that other states—my sister and brother labor organizations across the country—can look at this as an example for how to get things done in a big way," said Patrick Crowley, secretary-treasurer of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO.

1. The Rhode Island bill exceeds President Joe Biden's goals released last year to create a "carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035."
2. The bill as initially drafted would have accelerated the timeline to 2030, but advocates said was adjusted after concerns from the energy industry that the goal couldn't be met so soon.
3. It builds on legislation passed last year with mandatory goals to become 100% net-zero greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide by 2050.

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## Topics

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