

Renewable Portfolio Standard

A Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) is a requirement that an electric provider generates or purchases a specific percentage of the power it supplies/sells from renewable energy resources, thereby guaranteeing a market for electricity generated from renewable energy resources.

In Congress, opponents of the RPS argued that regional differences in the availability, amount, and types of renewable energy resources would make a federal RPS unfair. Those states where renewable are more abundant would enjoy an advantage over those with little resources, thus representing a substantial wealth transfer from electric consumers in states with little or no renewable resources to the federal government or states where renewable energy happens to be more abundant. In addition, opponents stated a federal RPS requirement could cost electricity consumers billions of dollars in higher electricity rates.

- NREA opposes federal or state mandates that would impose minimum levels of alternative energy capacity, such as a Renewable Portfolio Standard.