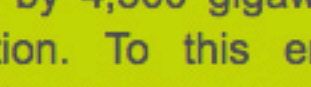


WINTER 2017

THE CURRENT serves Hawaii's businesses and policy makers in making informed decisions about clean energy investments and policy. Hawaii's clean energy sector is a significant driver for economic development to replace fossil fuel expenditures with home-grown industries that stimulates smart economic growth for future generations of Hawaii.

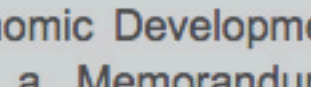
CLEAN ENERGY VISION



The Hawaii State Energy Office's (HSEO) mission is to maximize Hawaii's energy self-sufficiency and security by developing and utilizing local energy resources in a balanced way.

In doing so, HSEO will guide our state toward the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative goals to achieve 100 percent renewable energy in the electricity sector by 2045, reduce electricity consumption by 4,300 gigawatt-hours by 2030, and reduce petroleum use in transportation. To this end, HSEO works toward the deployment of clean energy infrastructure and serves as a catalyst for energy innovation and test bed investments. By achieving these goals, HSEO will grow the clean energy sector and transform Hawaii's economy.

LEADING THE CHARGE



The Path to Progress: HCEI Policy Page Launches

A new policy page has launched on the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) website that details the framework of policies guiding the state's bold course towards energy independence and security. Collaboration among Hawaii's energy stakeholders is the key factor of HCEI's *Progress Through Policy*

Clean Transportation Efforts Speeding Up

In December 2016, Hawaii achieved the milestone of 5,000 registered electric vehicles and with it came the launch of the Drive Electric Hawaii Initiative. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) is a founding participant to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and will collaborate on the electrification of ground transportation in Hawaii.

Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credit Forms Available

DBEDT's Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) is accepting notifications from renewable fuels producers planning to pursue Hawaii's new renewable fuels tax credit. In July 2016, Gov. David Ige signed into law Act 202, establishing a renewable fuels production tax credit that allows producers of renewable fuels from a variety of feedstocks to claim the credit for a period of up to five consecutive years. Notification forms and instructions are available on the HSEO site at <http://energy.hawaii.gov/developer-investor>.



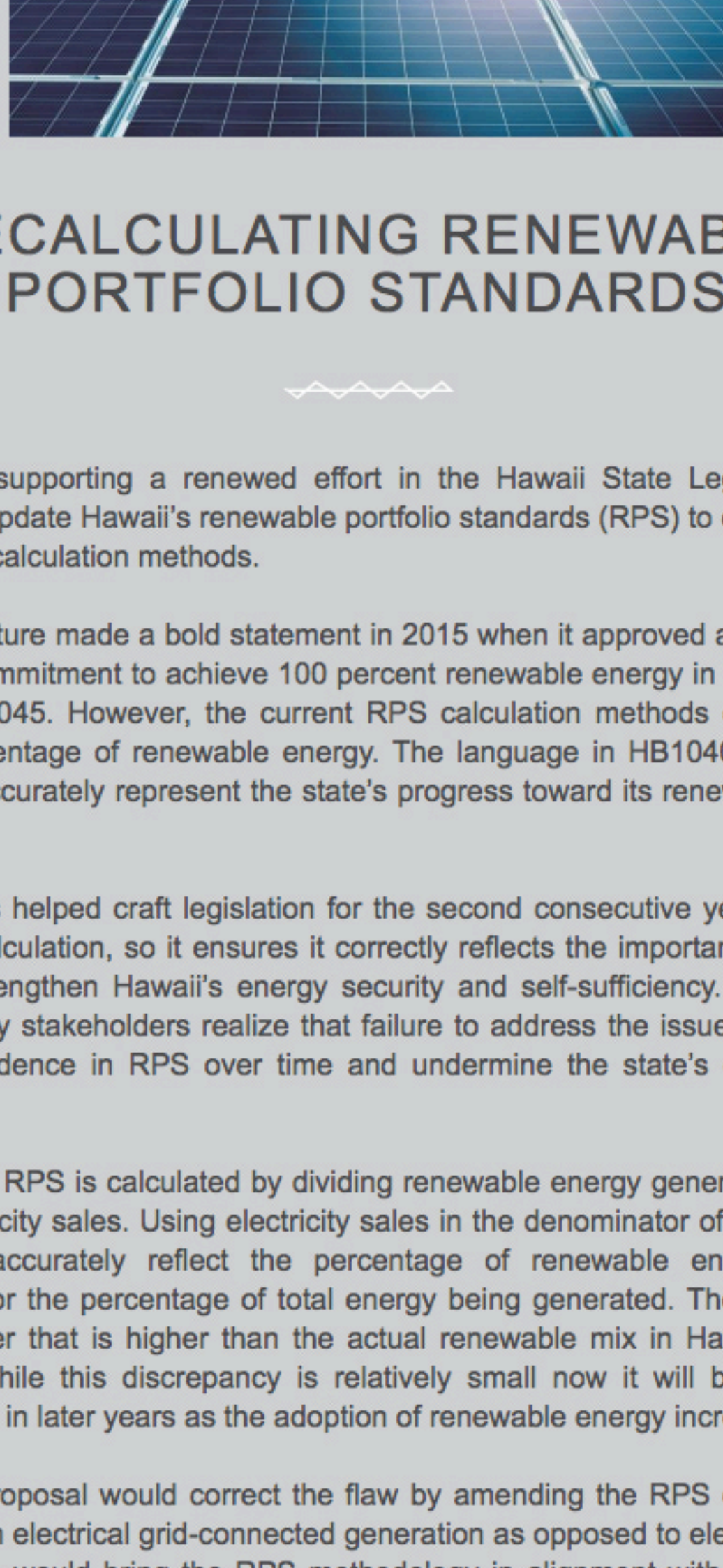
[The Path to Progress: HCEI Policy Page Launches](#)



[Clean Transportation Efforts Speeding Up](#)



[Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credit Forms Available](#)



RECALCULATING RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARDS



DBEDT is supporting a renewed effort in the Hawaii State Legislature this session to update Hawaii's renewable portfolio standards (RPS) to correct a flaw in the RPS calculation methods.

The Legislature made a bold statement in 2015 when it approved a bill boosting Hawaii's commitment to achieve 100 percent renewable energy in the electricity sector by 2045. However, the current RPS calculation methods overstate the actual percentage of renewable energy. The language in HB1040 and SB906 will more accurately represent the state's progress toward its renewable energy goals.

DBEDT has helped craft legislation for the second consecutive year to amend the RPS calculation, so it ensures it correctly reflects the important work being done to strengthen Hawaii's energy security and self-sufficiency. DBEDT and other energy stakeholders realize that failure to address the issue could erode public confidence in RPS over time and undermine the state's clean energy efforts.

The current RPS is calculated by dividing renewable energy generation by total utility electricity sales. Using electricity sales in the denominator of the equation does not accurately reflect the percentage of renewable energy serving customers or the percentage of total energy being generated. The result is an RPS number that is higher than the actual renewable mix in Hawaii's energy portfolio. While this discrepancy is relatively small now it will become more pronounced in later years as the adoption of renewable energy increases.

DBEDT's proposal would correct the flaw by amending the RPS calculation to be based on electrical grid-connected generation as opposed to electricity sales. The change would bring the RPS methodology in alignment with state energy policy and provide a more accurate yardstick to measure the success of Hawaii's clean energy transformation.

This year's bills take a comprehensive approach to the issue, including a proposal to expand the RPS to cover non-electric utility companies that sell or provides fuel used for grid-connected electrical generation in the state, in addition to electric utility companies.

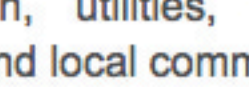
Review the measures

[HB1040: Relating to Renewable Portfolio Standard](#)

[SB906: Relating to Renewable Portfolio Standard](#)



ON THE VERGE OF ANOTHER CLEAN ENERGY SUMMIT



A diverse group of Hawaii's clean energy leaders recently met with HSEO and GreenBiz Group to identify important topics, trends and challenges to be addressed at the second annual [VERGE Hawaii: Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit](#), scheduled for June 20-22, 2017. The nearly 20-member VERGE Hawaii Advisory Board represents a unique mix of key stakeholder groups from government, military, education, utilities, service providers, landowners, commercial energy consumers and local communities.

During the day-long meeting, board members provided strategic direction on conference program content, themes and framework. As a result of the insights generated during the meeting, the second annual VERGE Hawaii conference is well-positioned to provide a powerful, collaborative and uniquely honest environment, where leaders from Hawaii and beyond will roll up their sleeves, be transparent, take risks and drive the concrete action necessary for the state to fulfill its ambitious mandate — reaching 100 percent renewable energy in the electricity sector by 2045.

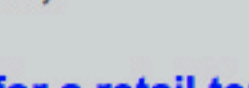
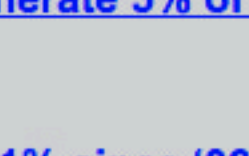
VERGE Hawaii is a one-of-a-kind conference that brings together 1,000 key energy stakeholders and decision-makers in more than 70 sessions focused on honest conversations and actionable solutions. Additionally, VERGE Hawaii builds a 100 percent renewable energy microgrid to power the conference and demonstrate the power and potential of interconnecting a diversity of technologies to help Hawaii achieve its clean energy transformation.

[View highlights](#) from last year's conference and [register today](#) to save your spot early for VERGE Hawaii 2017 at the lowest possible rate.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Energy Services Coalition awarded Hawaii with its 2016 Energy Stewardship Champions award in recognition of the state's outstanding accomplishments in leveraging Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contracting to achieve energy savings, infrastructure modernization, environmental stewardship, and economic development.



ENLIGHTENING NEWS & UPDATES

[Hawaii's largest solar park now online](#)

(PV Tech, 1/27/17)

[Individuals key for renewable-energy goals](#)

(Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 1/16/17)

[New solar farm expected to generate 5% of island's power](#)

(The Garden Island, 1/02/17)

[Hawaii has cut oil imports by 41% since '06](#)

(Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 12/28/16)

[Hawaii energy park looking to for a retail tenant](#)

(Pacific Business News, 12/15/16)

[State is urged to tweak building codes](#)

(Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 12/09/16)

[University of Hawaii plans major energy savings project](#)

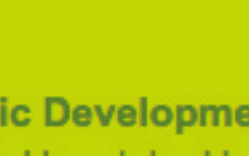
(Pacific Business News, 11/21/16)

[Ige wants to cash in on ocean energy](#)

(Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 11/05/16)

[2 classrooms inch UH toward its energy goals](#)

(Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 11/04/16)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- HSEO is a proud sponsor the Maui Energy Conference + Exhibition happening March 22-24, 2017, at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center. This year's theme, *All Things Energy: Pursuing New Opportunities for Electricity and Beyond*, will explore new and innovative pathways to a vibrant and clean energy future. To register, visit mauienergyconference.com.

- VERGE Hawaii returns in 2017 with a focus on the state's transformation to a clean energy future. This unparalleled event brings together key government officials, military, corporate leaders, utilities and innovators for three days of inspirational main-stage sessions, hands-on breakouts and valuable networking opportunities. The summit will be held June 20-22, 2017 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. To register, visit greenbiz.com/events/verge/Honolulu/2017.

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