

Subj: **WECC - WREGIS letter**  
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Good afternoon Senator Beyer,

I was contacted by a party interested in SB 979 which I believe is set to go before your committee on Monday afternoon. The party contacting me mentioned that there appeared to be some confusion as to the use of RECs (renewable energy credits) by multiple parties. Although I will be making no statement as to the bill itself, I thought I could be of some use to you by providing some information about RECs, their use, and their tracking. If you find this information useful, please feel free to share it among your committee members to help inform your discussion.

RECs are an instrument created to account for the "green" attributes associated with the generation of renewable energy. WECC, through its WREGIS program, tracks the generation of renewable energy by tracking RECs. WREGIS is essentially an accounting software that creates one REC for each MWh of renewable energy produced by the generating units registered in our system. The definition of a REC used by the WREGIS program is as follows: "Any and all credits, benefits, emissions reductions, offsets, and allowances-howsoever titled-attributable to the generation from the Generating Unit, and its avoided emission of pollutants." You will notice that the definition is very comprehensive so as to include what could be called a "whole" REC. It would be the policy of WREGIS that if any REC was used for a state RPS, that REC would need to be marked as used in our system (called retirement), and would be unavailable for use by any other party at any time. It would be very similar to money in a bank account; once the dollars have been used to pay one bill, they would be unavailable to pay another. States can pull down reports from WREGIS to ensure that all RECs that are being claimed by a utility or other RPS affected entity are appropriately marked and retired from circulation, ensuring the integrity of their RPS numbers.

I hope that you find the above information useful. I am happy to answer any questions on this or any other WREGIS related issues that you may have.

Best regards,

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