

Comments on the draft RETI report  
From Ron Fein  
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The commonly held belief that renewable energy transmission must involve long distance energy transmission is an approach that is becoming impractical and obsolete. Renewable energy, unlike non-renewable energy can now readily be produced locally. This capability, if it becomes the focus of state, federal, utility and corporate structures, will eliminate the need for long distance transmission completely.

The reasons for establishing renewable energy sources are obvious, in that they eliminate pollution and dependence on non-renewable fuels. But the reasons for establishing renewable energy that is locally produced create compelling and profound effects on the concept of renewable energy production:

1. **Elimination of sacrificing wilderness.** The construction of long distance primary utility towers through pristine areas would be eliminated. Large tracts of land for power plants, big solar, geothermal and other destructive installations would become unnecessary.
2. **Conservation.** When energy is produced locally, both by the citizenry and by local distributed generation, community awareness is developed that encourages conservation, not just of the energy itself, but on every level.
3. **Reliability and safety.** The 10% loss in long distance energy transmission, outages cause by natural disasters, human and mechanical error in the long distance power control system would all be eliminated.
4. **Rural life and health.** Utility-scale energy production affects everyone, but rural communities are often compromised by it. When energy production is localized, every community becomes responsible for its own power.

I encourage CRETI to completely refocus its goals and plans. Through re-organizing the energy paradigm to include solar roofs, local energy innovation, and community responsibility, CRETI can become a leader throughout the country and the world. All of the human and technical resources are ready to be utilized.

Sincerely,

Ron Fein  
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