

# Analyzing Renewable Portfolio Standards in the US

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## Abstracts

A renewable portfolio standard (RPS) is a regulatory policy that requires the increased production of energy from renewable resources, such as wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal.

The RPS mechanism generally places an obligation on electricity supply companies to produce a specified fraction of their electricity from renewable energy sources. Certified renewable energy generators earn certificates for every unit of electricity they produce and can sell these along with their electricity to supply companies. Supply companies then pass the certificates to some form of regulatory body to demonstrate their compliance with their regulatory obligations. Because it is a market standard, the RPS relies almost entirely on the private market for its implementation. Those supporting the adoption of RPS mechanisms claim that market implementation will result in competition, efficiency and innovation that will deliver renewable energy at the lowest possible cost, allowing renewable energy to compete with cheaper fossil fuel energy sources.

Aruvian's R'search presents an analysis of the Renewable Portfolio Standards in the United States in its research report *Analyzing Renewable Portfolio Standards in the US*. The report talks about the importance of the RPS in today's energy hungry world. The report gives basic information about RPS, the mechanism on which RPS is based on, the various RPS policies being implemented in states across the US, and also takes a look at the federal RPS policy.

The report further analyzes the importance of the RPS as a macroeconomic, foreign, and technological policy. Case studies of various states, and the RPS policies in many states across the US is given in the report. The role of renewable energy certificates in the entire system is also touched upon.

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