

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Project Review & Regional Plan Committee

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Draft Minutes

Thursday, January 24, 2019

4:00 – 5:15 pm

Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Milne Room, Paine Turnpike No, Berlin, VT 05602

Project Review Committee Members:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Byron Atwood, Barre Town Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Brabant, Calais Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jerry D’Amico, Roxbury Commissioner (Alternate Seat)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Northfield Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Janet Shatney, Barre City Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bob Wernecke, Berlin Commissioner

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Regional Plan Committee Members:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Julie Potter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ron Krauth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dara Torre, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kirby Keeton		

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Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Clare Rock, Jonathan DeLaBruere

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Other: Lee Cattaneo, Peter Carbee

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Guest: Rob Horton, Steve Fitzhugh, William Powell

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Call to Order

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J Shatney called the Project Review Committee Meeting to order at 4pm.

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L Hill-Eubanks called the Regional Plan Committee to order at 4pm.

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Adjustments to the Agenda

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None.

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Public Comments

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None.

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Utility Presentations on Renewable Energy Siting

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Washington Electric Cooperative – William Powell

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See attached presentation.

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Green Mountain Power – Rob Horton

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See attached presentation.

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Northfield City Electric – Steve Fitzhugh

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See attached presentation.

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1 J Brabant videoed the meeting. Discussion included, WEC service area is mostly all residential, no major

1 commercial, Harwood Union is biggest building. Has a goal of 100% renewable. The grid is bi directional
2 but was supposed to be hub and spoke, therefore we have an balance, and SHEI is a problem. Further
3 south (in Vermont) you located PV the less constraints you have. WEC has some “head room” in some of
4 our towns (with in the transformers.) WEC doesn’t need any more solar. Hopes change in SHEI will
5 change the planning landscape. Referenced a recently released report (DG Report) which will be
6 reviewed by the legislature.

7
8 GMP solar maps are showing preferred site for solar from the perspective from the electric engineer.
9 Discussion about energy transformation by transiting transportation to electric with electric batteries.
10 Good opportunity for fixed route busses. Funding Opportunities to help with Energy Transformation

- 11 - VW Settlement Funds
- 12 - Tier II Funds

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14 Northfield City Electric is an Investor type utility. Don’t have a lot of space for solar, does have a
15 brownfield site which could host.

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17 The topic of preferred sites was raised and the question is “Preferred” according to whom? The planner,
18 the utilities, the neighbor the town, the rate payer, the electrical engineer. A gravel pit near 3 phase
19 power good site, as it’s an open site with good aspect but if it’s located at the end of the line, it’s not a
20 great site. Communities should be thinking about resilience so put small projects near small loads. Put
21 the generation near the need, larger generation near large populations. And put the energy storage also
22 near the need. Don’t site at “the end of the road.” Waninger suggested a process to evaluate a
23 preferred site which has been discussed by the Regional Plan Committee. There was agreement from
24 the utilities this is a decent approach. J Brabant asked if we could get a contact at the utilities so we
25 could run a project by the utility for their perspective. Presenters were willing to be a point of connect.

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27 **Adjournment**

28 *Motion by D Torre to adjourn the Regional Plan Committee at 5:55pm, seconded by J Potter, all in favor.*
29 *Motion carried.*

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31 *Motion by _____ to adjourn the Project Review Committee at 5:55pm, seconded by B Wernecke, all in*
32 *favor. Motion carried.*