

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Taylor Newton
Northwest Regional Planning Commission
(802) 524-5958
tnewton@nrpcvt.com
www.nrpcvt.com

Draft Regional Energy Plan Released

Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) is seeking public comment on the draft Northwest Regional Energy Plan. According to Taylor Newton, Regional Planner at NRPC, “the plan focuses on accomplishing Vermont’s energy goals, including the goal of having renewable energy sources provide 90% of the state’s total energy demand by 2050.” The Regional Energy Plan includes:

- A regional energy model to identify targets for energy conservation and renewable energy generation.
- Specific strategies to help the region achieve state energy goals.
- Regional maps prioritizing locations for the development of future renewable generation facilities.

NRPC will hold three meetings to provide the municipal officials and the general public with an opportunity to learn about how the plan was developed and to contribute to the conversation about the region’s energy future:

Monday, October 24th – 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM - North Hero Elementary School – 6441 US Route 2, North Hero, VT

Thursday, October 27th – 8 AM to 10 AM – St. Albans City Hall – 100 North Main Street, St. Albans, VT

Tuesday, November 1st – 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM – Enosburg Falls High School Library – 65 Dickinson Avenue, Enosburg Falls, VT

Bob Buermann, NRPC Chair, states “we’ve developed a regional energy plan that shows our region’s contribution toward achieving Vermont’s energy goals. We encourage people to review the plan and let us know what you think.” The NRPC Board will review comments and develop a final plan for adoption by the Board of Commissioners in 2017.

The project is funded by the Vermont Department of Public Service. NRPC is one of three regional planning commissions selected to complete a pilot project to develop detailed energy plans. Catherine Dimitruk, Executive Director notes that “upon adoption of this plan, NRPC expects to comply with Act 174, the energy bill passed last year. Under the legislation, regional planning commissions and municipalities that adopt detailed energy plans are given additional consideration in energy project permitting decisions.”

A full draft of the Regional Energy Plan may be found here:
<http://www.nrpcvt.com/EnergyPlanning.html>. Comments or questions about the Regional Energy Plan may be sent to Taylor Newton (tnewton@nrpcvt.com) by Monday, November 14, 2016.

Submitted to following media outlets:

St. Albans Messenger
County Currier
The Islander