



CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC

Communities Planning Together

Planning Advisory Committee

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

2:30pm to 4:30pm

CCRPC Main Conference Room, 110 West Canal Street, Winooski

WIFI Info: Network = CCRPC-Guest; Password = ccrpc\$guest

Agenda

2:30 Welcome and Introductions, *Joss Besse*

2:35 Approval of November 7, 2018 Minutes*

2:40 State Parcel Mapping Project, *John Adams*

John Adams will provide us with an update on this project to create and regularly update parcel data to meet state standards. Project information can be found here: <http://vcgi.vermont.gov/parcels>.

3:00 2018 Richmond Town Plan – Energy Review,* *Emily Nosse-Leirer and Melanie Needle*

This document was last reviewed by the PAC at the June meeting. The plan was adopted on November 6, and post-adoption, the town is seeking a Determination of Energy Compliance.

- a. Open the Hearing*
- b. Accept Public Comment*
- c. Close the Hearing*
- d. Review Staff Summary*
- e. Questions and Comments*
- f. Recommendation to the CCRPC Board*

3:30 2019 Winooski Master Plan*, *Emily Nosse-Leirer*

- a. Open the Hearing*
- b. Accept Public Comment*
- c. Close the Hearing*
- d. Review Staff Summary*
- e. Questions and Comments*
- f. Recommendation to the CCRPC Board*

4:00 Regional Act 250/Section 248 Projects on the Horizon, *Committee Members*

4:15 Other Business

- a. Williston 2018 Amendment to 2016 Comprehensive Plan – letter indicating that previous approval and confirmation are not affected by the adopted amendments*

4:30 Adjourn

* = Attachment

NEXT MEETING: January 9, 2019 at 2:30pm to 4:30pm – *if needed.*

In accordance with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the CCRPC will ensure public meeting sites are accessible to all people. Requests for free interpretive or translation services, assistive devices, or other requested accommodations, should be made to Emma Vaughn, CCRPC Title VI Coordinator, at 802-846-4490 ext *21 or evaughn@ccrpcvt.org, no later than 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.

Staff Review of the 2018 Richmond Town Plan (Enhanced Energy Plan Review)

Emily Nosse-Leirer, Senior Planner

November 30, 2018

The Town of Richmond has requested that the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) issue a determination of energy compliance with the enhanced energy planning standards set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352 for the 2018 Richmond Town Plan. The 2018 Richmond Town Plan was adopted on November 6, 2018. The Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the draft plan on June 13, 2018 and recommended it to the CCRPC board for confirmation and approval. The Planning Advisory Committee did not review the plan against the enhanced energy planning standards at that time. This review does not affect the PAC motion from June 13, 2018.

Following the statutory requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4352 and Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans, I have reviewed the 2018 plan to determine whether:

1. The Plan includes an energy element that has the same components as described in 24 V.S.A. §4348a(a)(3) for a regional plan and is confirmed under the requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4350.
2. The Plan is consistent with following State goals:
 - a. Vermont's greenhouse gas reduction goals under 10 V.S.A. § 578(a);
 - b. Vermont's 25 by 25 goal for renewable energy under 10 V.S.A. § 580;
 - c. Vermont's building efficiency goals under 10 V.S.A. § 581;
 - d. State energy policy under 30 V.S.A. § 202a and the recommendations for regional and municipal energy planning pertaining to the efficient use of energy and the siting and development of renewable energy resources contained in the State energy plans adopted pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 202 and 202b (State energy plans); and
 - e. The distributed renewable generation and energy transformation categories of resources to meet the requirements of the Renewable Energy Standard under 30 V.S.A. §§ 8004 and 8005.
3. The Plan meets the standards for issuing a determination of energy compliance included in the State energy plans as developed by the Vermont Department of Public Service.

Staff Review Findings and Comments

Consistency with the requirements above is evaluated through the Vermont Department of Public Service's Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans, which is attached to this document and briefly summarized below.

Standard	Met	Not Met	N/A Yet
1. Plan duly adopted and approved			X – CCRPC approval and confirmation planned in January

Standard	Met	Not Met	N/A Yet
2. Submit a copy of the adopted plan	X		
3. Plan contains an energy element	X		
4. Analysis of resources, needs, scarcities, costs and problems in the municipality across all energy sectors	X		
5.a. Report Current energy use for heating, electricity, and transportation	X		
5.b. Report 2025, 2035 and 2050 targets for energy use	X		
5.c. Evaluation of thermal-sector energy use changes	X		
5.d. Evaluation of transportation-sector energy use changes	X		
5.e. Evaluation of electric-sector energy use changes	X		
6.a. Encourage conservation by individuals and organizations	X		
6.b. Promote efficient buildings	X		
6.c. Promote decreased use of fossil fuels for heat	X		
6.d. Demonstrate municipal leadership re: efficiency of municipal buildings?	X		
7.a. Encourage increased public transit use	X		
7.b. Promote shift away from single-occupancy vehicle trips	X		
7.d. Promote shift from gas/diesel to non-fossil fuel vehicles?	X		
7.e. Demonstrate municipal leadership re: efficiency of municipal transportation?	X		
8.a. Promote Smart growth land use policies	X		
8.b. Strongly prioritize development in compact, mixed use centers	X		
9.a. Report existing renewable energy generation	X		
9.B. Analyze generation potential	X		
9.c. Identify sufficient land to meet the 2050 generation targets	X		
9.d. Ensure that local constraints do not prevent the generation targets from being met	X		
9.e. Include policy statements on siting energy generation	X		
9.f. Maximize potential for generation on preferred sites	X		
9.g. Demonstrate municipal leadership re: deploying renewable energy	X		
10.-13. Include maps provided by CCRPC	X		

Proposed Motion & Next Steps:

PROPOSED MOTION: The PAC finds that the 2018 Richmond Town Plan meets the requirements of the enhanced energy planning standards set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352.

Upon notification that the Plan has been adopted by the municipality, CCRPC staff will review the plan amendment. If staff determines that substantive changes have been made, the materials will be forwarded to the PAC for review. Otherwise the PAC recommends that the Plan should be forwarded to the CCRPC Board for an affirmative determination of energy compliance.

Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans

Instructions

Before proceeding, please review the requirements of Parts I and II below, as well as the Overview document. Submitting a Municipal Plan for review under the standards below is entirely voluntary, as enabled under [Act 174](#), the Energy Development Improvement Act of 2016. If a Municipal Plan meets the standards, it will be given an affirmative “determination of energy compliance,” and will be given “substantial deference” in the Public Service Board’s review of whether an energy project meets the orderly development criterion in the Section 248 process. Specifically, with respect to an in-state electric generation facility, the Board:

[S]hall give substantial deference to the land conservation measures and specific policies contained in a duly adopted regional and municipal plan that has received an affirmative determination of energy compliance under 24 V.S.A. § 4352. In this subdivision (C), “substantial deference” means that a land conservation measure or specific policy shall be applied in accordance with its terms unless there is a clear and convincing demonstration that other factors affecting the general good of the State outweigh the application of the measure or policy. The term shall not include consideration of whether the determination of energy compliance should or should not have been affirmative under 24 V.S.A. § 4352.

Municipal Plans should be submitted by the municipality’s legislative body to the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) if the Regional Plan has received an affirmative determination of energy compliance. If a Regional Plan has not received such a determination, until July 1, 2018¹, a municipality may submit its adopted and approved Municipal Plan to the Department of Public Service (DPS) for a determination of energy compliance (determination), along with the completed checklist below. After a Municipal Plan and completed checklist have been submitted to the RPC (or DPS), the RPC or DPS will schedule a public hearing noticed at least 15 days in advance by direct mail to the requesting municipal legislative body, on the RPC or DPS website, and in a newspaper of general publication in the municipality. The RPC or DPS shall issue a determination in writing within two months of the receipt of a request. If the determination is negative, the RPC or DPS shall state the reasons for the denial in writing and, if appropriate, suggest acceptable modifications. Submissions for a new determination following a negative determination shall receive a new determination within 45 days.

The plans that Municipalities submit must:

- Be adopted
- Be confirmed under 24 V.S.A. § 4350
- Include an energy element that has the same components as described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3)
- Be consistent with state energy policy (described below), in the manner described in 24 V.S.A. § 4302(f)(1)
- Meet all standards for issuing a determination of energy compliance (see below)

¹ These standards will be revised after July 1, 2018 to reflect that Municipal Plans should be submitted only to the Regional Planning Commissions – which will all have had an opportunity to seek a determination of energy compliance – from that point forward.

Municipalities are encouraged to consult with their reviewer (either their RPC or DPS) before undertaking the process of plan adoption, which may help in identifying any deficiencies or inconsistencies with the standards or other requirements that would be more difficult to remedy after a plan has gone through the formal adoption process.

The state's Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) is revised on a 6-year basis. When the next CEP is published in 2022, it will include a revised set of standards, as well as Recommendations that are customized to regions and municipalities. The Recommendations that accompany this initial set of Standards represent a subset of recommendations from the 2016 CEP, which were not written with regions and municipalities specifically in mind. A Guidance document – which is expected to evolve as best practices from regions and municipalities emerge – will be published shortly after the Standards are issued. It will serve as the warehouse for relevant recommendations from the 2016 CEP, links to data sources, instructions on conducting analysis and mapping, and sample language/best practices. Once issued and until the 2022 CEP is published, this Guidance document will supplant the Recommendations document.

Affirmative determinations last for the life cycle of a revision of the Municipal Plan, and Municipal Plans that are submitted after the 2022 CEP is issued will be expected to meet the Standards that are issued at that time. Municipalities are encouraged to consult with their RPC or DPS regarding interim amendments that might affect any of the standards below, to discuss whether a new review is triggered.

If you wish to submit your Municipal Plan to your RPC or to DPS for a determination, please read closely the specific instructions at the start of each section below, and attach your Municipal Plan to this checklist.

Determination requests to an RPC (and any other questions) should be submitted to your RPC's designated contact. Determination requests to DPS until July 1, 2018 – and only for municipalities whose Regions' plans have not received an affirmative determination – should be submitted to:

PSD.PlanningStandards@vermont.gov.

Part I: Applicant Information		
The plan being submitted for review is a:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal Plan in a region whose regional plan has received an affirmative determination of energy compliance from the Commissioner of Public Service Please submit these plans to your RPC	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Plan in a region whose regional plan has <u>not</u> received a determination of energy compliance Until July 1, 2018, please submit these to the DPS. After July 1, 2018, this option ceases to exist.
Applicant:	Town of Richmond	
Contact person:	Jessica Draper	
Contact information:	jdraper@richmondvt.gov	
Received by: Emily Nosse-Leirer, CCRPC	Date: 11/19/2018	

Part II: Determination Standards Checklist

The checklist below will be used to evaluate your plan's consistency with statutory requirements under Act 174, including the requirement to be adopted and approved, contain an enhanced energy element, be consistent with state energy policy, and meet a set of standards designed to ensure consistency with state energy goals and policies.

Please review and attach your plan (or adopted energy element/plan, along with supporting documentation) and self-evaluate whether it contains the following components. Use the Notes column to briefly describe how your plan is consistent with the standard, including relevant page references (you may include additional pages to expand upon Notes). If you feel a standard is not relevant or attainable, please check N/A where it is available and use the Notes column to describe the situation, explaining why the standard is not relevant or attainable, and indicate what measures your municipality is taking instead to mitigate any adverse effects of not making substantial progress toward this standard. If N/A is not made available, the standard must be met (unless the instructions for that standard indicate otherwise) and checked "Yes" in order to receive an affirmative determination. There is no penalty for checking (or limit on the number of times you may check) N/A where it is available, as long as a reasonable justification is provided in the Notes column.

Plan Adoption Requirement

[Act 174](#) requires that municipal plans be adopted and approved in order to qualify for a determination of energy compliance. In the near term, it is likely municipalities will revise and submit isolated energy plans or elements, particularly due to long planning cycles. Therefore, the plan adoption requirement can be met through an amendment to an existing plan in the form of an energy element or energy plan, as long as the amendment or plan itself is duly adopted as part of the municipal plan and incorporated by reference or appended to the underlying, full plan (i.e., is officially "in" the municipal plan), as well as approved for confirmation with the region. If this route is chosen, the municipality should also attach the planning commission report required for plan amendments under 24 V.S.A. § 4384, which should address the internal consistency of the energy plan/element with other related elements of the underlying plan (particularly Transportation and Land Use), and/or whether the energy plan/element supersedes language in those other elements. Standards 1 and 2 below must be answered in the affirmative in order for a plan to receive an affirmative determination of energy compliance.

<p>1. Has your plan been duly adopted and approved for confirmation according to 24 V.S.A. § 4350?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Adoption date: 11-6-18 Confirmation date: Click here to enter text.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>The plan has been adopted by the Town of Richmond, but CCRPC approval and confirmation is pending. The PAC reviewed the draft Town Plan on 6/13/2018 and recommended it to the CCRPC board for approval and confirmation. That review did not include the enhanced energy planning standards.</p>
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2. Is a copy of the plan (or adopted energy element/plan, along with underlying plan and planning commission report addressing consistency of energy element/plan with other elements of underlying plan) attached to this checklist?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Notes: http://www.richmondvt.gov/documents/2018-town-plan/
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Energy Element Requirement

To obtain a determination of energy compliance, Act 174 requires municipalities to include an “energy element” that contains the same components described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3), which was revised through Act 174 to explicitly address energy across all sectors and to identify potential and unsuitable areas for siting renewable energy resources:

An energy element, which may include an analysis of resources, needs, scarcities, costs, and problems within the region across all energy sectors, including electric, thermal, and transportation; a statement of policy on the conservation and efficient use of energy and the development and siting of renewable energy resources; a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy; and an identification of potential areas for the development and siting of renewable energy resources and areas that are unsuitable for siting those resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources.

The standards below are generally organized to integrate each component of the enhanced energy element with related determination standards that evaluate the plan’s consistency with state goals and policies. **Energy element components are identified in bolded text.**

While municipalities may choose to primarily address energy used for heating, transportation, and electricity in the required energy element, they may also choose to address some of these components in related plan elements (e.g., Transportation and Land Use) and should indicate as much in the Notes column. To the extent an energy element is designed to comprehensively address energy, it should be complementary to and reference other relevant plan elements.

3. Does the plan contain an energy element, that contains the same components described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3)? <i>Individual components of the energy element will be evaluated through the standards below.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 17-20 and Almanac 63-68 Notes: 17-20 is the Energy Technical Plan, 63-68 provides data not included in the Technical Plan.
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Consistency with State Goals and Policies Requirement

Act 174 states that regional and municipal plans must be consistent with the following state goals and policies:

- Greenhouse gas reduction goals under [10 V.S.A. § 578\(a\)](#) (50% from 1990 levels by 2028; 75% by 2050)
- The 25 x 25 goal for renewable energy under [10 V.S.A. § 580](#) (25% in-state renewables supply for all energy uses by 2025)
- Building efficiency goals under [10 V.S.A. § 581](#) (25% of homes – or 80,000 units – made efficient by 2020)
- State energy policy under [30 V.S.A. § 202a](#) and the recommendations for regional and municipal planning pertaining to the efficient use of energy and the siting and development of renewable energy resources contained in the [State energy plans](#) adopted pursuant to [30 V.S.A. §§ 202](#) and [202b](#)

- The distributed renewable generation and energy transformation categories of resources to meet the requirements of the Renewable Energy Standard under [30 V.S.A. §§ 8004](#) and [8005](#)

The standards in the checklist below will be used to determine whether a plan is consistent with these goals and policies. The standards are broken out by category. *Analysis and Targets* standards address how energy analyses are done within plans, and whether targets are established for energy conservation, efficiency, fuel switching, and use of renewable energy across sectors. *Pathways (Implementation Actions)* standards address the identification of actions to achieve the targets. *Mapping* standards address the identification of suitable and unsuitable areas for the development of renewable energy.

Municipalities may choose to incorporate the information necessary to meet the standards in their energy elements, and/or in other sections of their plans (many transportation items may fit best in the Transportation chapters of plans, for instance). However, plans must be internally consistent, and applicants should cross-reference wherever possible.

Analysis and Targets Standards

For the *Analysis & Targets* determination standards below, municipalities will be provided with analyses and targets derived from regional analyses and targets no later than April 30, 2017 (and likely much sooner). Municipalities may choose to rely on these “municipalized” analyses and targets to meet the standards in this section. Municipalities which elect to use the analysis and targets provided by a region will be presumed to have met the standards in this section. Alternatively, municipalities may develop their own custom analyses and targets or supplement the analyses and targets provided by the regions with specific local data; if this option is chosen, the analysis and targets must include all of the same components and meet the standards required of regions, as described below.

For municipalities that choose to undertake their own analysis and target-setting (and for regions), DPS is providing a guidance document to explain the expected level of detail in and data sources and methodologies available for meeting the standards (including areas where it is understood data at the municipal level is unavailable, and therefore not expected). Note that standards 5A-4E are all derived directly from requirements in Act 174 (with minor modifications to make them feasible) and must be met affirmatively in order for a municipal plan to receive an affirmative determination of energy compliance.

Targets set by regions and municipalities should be aligned with state energy policy (see the goals and policies listed above). Where targets (and efforts to reach them) depart significantly from state energy goals and policies, an explanation for how the plan otherwise achieves the intent of the state goal or policy should be provided. The guidance document also offers additional clarification on alignment with state goals and policies.

The analysis items below are intended to provide regions and municipalities with an overview of their current energy use, and with a sense of the trajectories and pace of change needed to meet targets, which can be translated into concrete actions in the *Pathways* standards below. Targets provide regions and municipalities with milestones or checkpoints along the way toward a path of meeting 90% of their total energy needs with renewable energy, and can be compared with the potential renewable energy generation from areas identified as potentially suitable in the *Mapping* standards exercise below to give regions and municipalities a sense of their ability to accommodate renewable energy that would meet their needs.

4. Does your plan's energy element contain an analysis of resources, needs, scarcities, costs, and problems within the municipality across all energy sectors (electric, thermal, transportation)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 17-20, 63-68 Notes: Click here to enter text.
5. Does your plan contain an analysis that addresses A-E below, either as provided by your Regional Planning Commission or as developed by your municipality? <i>Municipalities may meet this standard by using the analysis and targets provided by their regions, or by developing their own analyses and targets. If using the analysis & targets provided by your region, please answer "Yes-Region" and skip ahead to #6. If developing a custom analysis, please answer "Yes-Custom" and address 5A-5E separately, below.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes-Region <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Custom	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 17-20, 63-68 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Data and targets were created through enhanced energy planning assistance from CCRPC.
A. Does the plan estimate current energy use across transportation, heating, and electric sectors?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 64, Paragraph #: section A Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Does the plan establish 2025, 2035, and 2050 targets for thermal and electric efficiency improvements, and use of renewable energy for transportation, heating, and electricity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 65 Paragraph #: Section B Notes: Click here to enter text.
C. Does the plan evaluate the amount of thermal-sector conservation, efficiency, and conversion to alternative heating fuels needed to achieve these targets?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 65 Paragraph #: Section B Notes: Click here to enter text.
D. Does the plan evaluate transportation system changes and land use strategies needed to achieve these targets?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 17-20 Paragraph #: Goals & Actions Notes: Goal 1, Goal 2, Goal 3: Assoc. Actions
E. Does the plan evaluate electric-sector conservation and efficiency needed to achieve these targets?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 66 Paragraph #: Section B Notes: Click here to enter text.

Pathways (Implementation Actions) Standards

This section examines whether plans meet the Act 174 expectation that they include pathways and recommended actions to achieve the targets identified through the *Analysis and Targets* section of the Standards (above). Plans are expected to include or otherwise address all of the pathways (implementation actions) below; some actions may not be applicable or equally relevant to all applicants (small vs. large municipalities, for instance), in which case N/A may be checked (if available) and the justification provided in the Notes column. There is no penalty for choosing N/A one or more times, as long as a reasonable justification is provided in the Notes column, preferably including an explanation of how the plan alternatively achieves attainment of the targets should be included. If N/A is not provided as an option, the standard must be met, and "Yes" must be checked, in order for the plan to meet the requirements for a determination (unless the instructions particular to that standard indicate otherwise).

DPS will be issuing a guidance document in the near term providing potential implementation actions derived from the Comprehensive Energy Plan (relevant formal Recommendations as well as opportunities not specifically called out as Recommendations), from recent regional and municipal plans, and from other sources. The guidance document will be revised after the regions have compiled best practices from early municipalities pursuing energy planning to seek a determination of energy compliance, in the summer of 2017.

For the time being, we offer potential implementation action options for consideration as italicized text under each standard. Plans are encouraged to promote as diverse a portfolio of approaches as possible in each sector, or if not, to explain why they take a more targeted approach. Implementation actions may fit best in a holistic discussion contained within a plan's energy element, though cross-referencing to other relevant plan elements is also acceptable.

Municipalities must demonstrate a commitment to achieving each standard in both policies and implementation measures in clear, action-oriented language.

6. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on the conservation and efficient use of energy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 17-20 Paragraph #: Goal 1 and Goal 2 Notes: Click here to enter text.
A. Does the plan encourage conservation by individuals and organizations? <i>(Actions could include educational activities and events such as convening or sponsoring weatherization workshops, establishing local energy committees, encouraging the use of existing utility and other efficiency and conservation programs and funding sources, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 19-20 Paragraph #: Actions associated with Goal 1 and Goal 2 Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Does the plan promote efficient buildings? <i>(Actions could include promoting compliance with residential and commercial building energy standards for new construction and existing buildings, including additions, alterations, renovations and repairs; promoting the implementation of residential and commercial building efficiency ratings and labeling; considering adoption of stretch codes, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 19-20 Paragraph #: Goal 2, Action 1, 2, 3, 7; Goal 4 and all associated actions Notes: Click here to enter text.
C. Does the plan promote decreased use of fossil fuels for heating? <i>(Actions and policies could promote switching to wood, liquid biofuels, biogas, geothermal, and/or electricity. Suitable devices include advanced wood heating systems and cold-climate heat pumps, as well as use of more energy efficient heating systems; and identifying potential locations for, and barriers to, deployment of biomass district heating and/or thermal-led combined heat and power systems in the municipality)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 19 Paragraph #: Goal 2, Actions 2, 4, 5, 6 Notes: Click here to enter text.
D. Does the plan demonstrate the municipality's leadership by example with respect to the efficiency of municipal buildings? <i>(Actions could include building audits and weatherization projects in schools and town offices, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Goal 4 Paragraph #: Goal 4 and all associated actions Notes: Click here to enter text.
E. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: 20 Paragraph #: Goal 4

			Notes: Having a Town Energy Coordinator
7. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on reducing transportation energy demand and single-occupancy vehicle use, and encouraging use of renewable or lower-emission energy sources for transportation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 19 Paragraph #: Goal 1 Notes: Click here to enter text.
A. Does the plan encourage increased use of public transit? <i>(Actions could include participation in efforts to identify and develop new public transit routes, promote full utilization of existing routes, integrate park-and-rides with transit routes, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: 19, 37 Paragraph #: Energy Goal 1, Action 2; Transportation Goal 4, all actions Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Does the plan promote a shift away from single-occupancy vehicle trips, through strategies appropriate to the municipality? <i>(Actions could include rideshare, vanpool, car-sharing initiatives; efforts to develop or increase park-and-rides; enhancement of options such as rail and telecommuting; education; intergovernmental cooperation; etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 19, 37 Paragraph #: Energy Goal 1, actions 1, 2, 4, 5, 12, 13; Transportation Goal 1 and Goal 4 with associated actions Notes: Click here to enter text.
C. Does the plan promote a shift away from gas/diesel vehicles to electric or other non-fossil fuel transportation options through strategies appropriate to the municipality? <i>(Actions could include promoting the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, providing education and outreach to potential users, supporting non-fossil fuel vehicle availability through outreach to vehicle dealers, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 19 Paragraph #: goal 1, Actions 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Notes: Click here to enter text.
D. Does the plan facilitate the development of walking and biking infrastructure through strategies appropriate to the municipality? <i>(Actions could include studying, planning for, seeking funding for, or implementing improvements that encourage safe and convenient walking and biking; adopting a "Complete Streets" policy, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: 19, 36 Paragraph #: Energy Goal 1, actions 12 and 13; Transportation Goal 1 and all associated actions Notes: Click here to enter text.
E. Does the plan demonstrate the municipality's leadership by example with respect to the efficiency of municipal transportation? <i>(Actions could include purchasing energy efficient municipal and fleet vehicles when practicable, installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: 19 Paragraph #: Goal 1, Actions 3 and 4 Notes: Click here to enter text.
F. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
8. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 37, 25, Paragraph #: Transportation Goals 1 and 4, Land Use Goal 1

			Notes: Click here to enter text.
<p>A. Does the plan include land use policies (and descriptions of current and future land use categories) that demonstrate a commitment to reducing sprawl and minimizing low-density development? <i>(Actions could include adopting limited sewer service areas, maximum building sizes along highways, policies or zoning that require design features that minimize the characteristics of strip development [multiple stories, parking lot to the side or back of the store], and requirements that development in those areas be connected by means other than roads and cars; adopting a capital budget and program that furthers land use and transportation policies; etc.)</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: 21-25 Paragraph #: All future land use district descriptions Notes: Also, limited water and sewer infrastructure concentrating development. See also natural resources policies investigating larger lot sizes for rural areas.</p>
<p>B. Does the plan strongly prioritize development in compact, mixed-use centers when physically feasible and appropriate to the use of the development, or identify steps to make such compact development more feasible? <i>(Actions could include participating in the state designation program, such as obtaining state designated village centers, downtowns, neighborhoods, new town centers, or growth centers; exploration of water or sewage solutions that enable compact development; etc.)</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: 11 Paragraph #: Goal 3 Notes: See also future land use district descriptions, as well as maps of designated village center</p>
<p>C. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>9. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on the development and siting of renewable energy resources?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Notes: Siting policies, pg 18
<p>A. Does the plan evaluate (estimates of or actual) generation from existing renewable energy generation in the municipality? <i>Municipalities should be able to obtain this information from their regions.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: 64 Paragraph #: S Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>B. Does the plan analyze generation potential, through the mapping exercise (see <i>Mapping</i> standards, below), to determine potential from preferred and potentially suitable areas in the municipality? <i>Municipalities should be able to obtain this information from their regions.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: 67 Paragraph #: Section D Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>C. Does the plan identify sufficient land in the municipality for renewable energy development to reasonably reach 2050 targets for renewable electric generation, based on population and energy resource potential (from potential resources identified in the <i>Mapping</i> exercise, below), accounting for the fact that land may not be available due to private property constraints, site-specific constraints, or grid-related constraints?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Pg 67 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: See also Potential Solar and Potential Wind Maps</p>

<i>If N/A, please describe how you are working with your regional planning commission to ensure overall regional objectives are achieved.</i>			
D. Does the plan ensure that any local constraints (locally designated resources or critical resources, from 12B and 12C under <i>Mapping</i> , below) do not prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the provision of sufficient renewable energy to meet state, regional, or municipal targets? <i>If N/A, please describe how you are working with your regional planning commission to ensure overall regional objectives are achieved.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: pg 67 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Generation potential estimates exclude constrained land
E. Does the plan include statements of policy to accompany maps (could include general siting guidelines), including statements of policy to accompany any preferred, potential, and unsuitable areas for siting generation (see 12 and 13 under <i>Mapping</i> , below)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 18 Paragraph #: Siting Policies and constraints associated table Notes: Click here to enter text.
F. Does the plan maximize the potential for renewable generation on preferred locations (such as the categories outlined under 12E in the <i>Mapping</i> standards, below)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: 18 Paragraph #: Siting policies and list of encouraged characteristics for generation projects Notes: Click here to enter text.
G. Does the plan demonstrate the municipality's leadership by example with respect to the deployment of renewable energy? (Actions could include deploying renewable energy to offset municipal electric use, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: 20 Paragraph #: Goal 3, Action 3 Notes: Click here to enter text.
H. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

Mapping Standards

Act 174 requires plans to identify potential areas for the development and siting of renewable energy resources and areas that are unsuitable for siting those resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources. It furthermore requires that the standards address the potential generation from the potential siting areas.

The *Mapping* standards lay out a sequence of steps for planners to examine existing renewable resources and to identify potential (and preferred) areas for renewable energy development, and to identify likely unsuitable areas for development, by layering constraint map layers on to raw energy resource potential map layers. The maps should help municipalities visualize and calculate the potential generation from potential areas, and compare it with the 2025, 2035, and 2050 targets from the *Analysis and Targets* standards to get a sense of the scale and scope of generation that could be produced within the region to meet the municipality's needs. DPS will provide additional guidance to accompany the standards that fleshes out the steps, layers, and standards more fully.

Plans must include maps that address all of the standards below, unless N/A is provided as an option, in which case a compelling reason why the standard is not applicable or relevant should be provided in the Notes column. Regions must develop their own maps (already underway through support being provided to regions by DPS), and to then break out the maps for their municipalities, who can use their region-provided maps to meet the municipal *Mapping* standards (such “municipalization” work is being supported through a training & technical assistance contract between DPS and regions, and all regions must supply completed maps to their municipalities by April 30, 2017, though many are expected to do so much sooner).

Municipalities may choose to rely on the maps provided by the regions to meet the standards in this section. Those maps should be somewhat familiar to municipalities, who are expected to be consulted as regions develop their maps. Alternatively, municipalities may choose to undertake their own mapping, according to the same set of standards as regions. Additionally, municipalities are expected to work collaboratively with their regions and with neighboring municipalities to ensure compatibility between the final products.

The map and the text describing the policies or rules used to construct the map, as well as the text describing specific policies applicable to map features, should be complementary. That should help ensure that any “land conservation measures and specific policies” that might be given substantial deference in the context of a particular project review under 30 V.S.A. § 248 are clearly identifiable in the text, should a map lack sufficient clarity or granularity regarding the area in which a project is proposed.

<p>10. Does your plan contain one or more maps that address 11-13 below, as provided by your Regional Planning Commission or as developed by your municipality?</p> <p><i>Municipalities may meet this standard by using the maps provided by their regions, or by developing their own maps. If using the maps provided by your region, please answer “Yes-Region” and skip ahead to #14. If developing custom maps, please answer “Yes-Custom” and address 11-13 separately, below.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes-Region <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Custom	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Potential Solar and Potential Wind Maps</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Maps are included in a separate PDF file to the plan, but is on the same webpage</p>
<p>11. Does the plan identify and map existing electric generation sources?</p> <p><i>Maps may depict generators of all sizes or just those larger than 15 kW, as long as information on generators smaller than 15 kW is summarized and provided or referenced elsewhere. It is expected that the best available information at the time of plan creation will be used. This information is available from the DPS.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>12. Does the plan identify potential areas for the development and siting of renewable energy resources and the potential generation from such generators in the identified areas, taking into account factors including resource availability, environmental constraints, and the location and capacity of electric grid infrastructure?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>

Maps should include the following (available from VCGI and ANR), and the resulting Prime and Secondary Resource Maps will together comprise "potential areas":			
A. Raw renewable energy potential analysis (wind and solar), using best available data layers (including LiDAR as appropriate)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Known constraints (signals likely, though not absolute, unsuitability for development based on statewide or local regulations or designated critical resources) to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vernal Pools (confirmed and unconfirmed layers) • DEC River Corridors • FEMA Floodways • State-significant Natural Communities and Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species • National Wilderness Areas • Class 1 and Class 2 Wetlands (VSWI and advisory layers) • Regionally or Locally Identified Critical Resources <i>If areas are constrained for the development of renewable energy due to the desire to protect a locally designated critical resource (whether a natural resource or a community-identified resource), then the land use policies applicable to other forms of development in this area must be similarly restrictive; for this category, policies must prohibit all permanent development (and should be listed in the Notes column).</i> <i>These areas should be subtracted from raw renewable energy resource potential maps to form Secondary Resource Maps</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
C. Possible constraints (signals conditions that would likely require mitigation, and which may prove a site unsuitable after site-specific study, based on statewide or regional/local policies that are currently adopted or in effect), including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Soils • FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas • Protected Lands (State fee lands and private conservation lands) • Act 250 Agricultural Soil Mitigation areas 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deer Wintering Areas • ANR's Vermont Conservation Design Highest Priority Forest Blocks (or Habitat Blocks 9 & 10, for plans using regional maps in regions whose plans will be submitted for adoption at the regional level by March 1, 2017) • Hydric Soils • Regionally or Locally Identified Resources <p><i>If locations are constrained for the development of renewable energy due to the desire to protect a locally designated resource (whether a natural resource or community-identified resource, like a view), then the land use policies applicable to other forms of development must be similarly restrictive (and should be listed in the Notes column).</i></p> <p><i>These areas should be subtracted from Secondary Resource Maps to form Prime Resource Maps.</i></p>			
<p>D. Transmission and distribution resources and constraints, as well as transportation infrastructure.</p> <p><i>(Including three-phase distribution lines, known constraints from resources such as Green Mountain Power's solar map, known areas of high electric load, etc.)</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>E. Preferred locations (specific areas or parcels) for siting a generator or a specific size or type of generator, accompanied by any specific siting criteria for these locations</p> <p><i>Narrative descriptions of the types of preferred areas in accompanying plan text are acceptable, though mapping of areas and especially specific parcels (to the extent they are known) is highly encouraged, to signal preferences to developers, particularly for locally preferred areas and specific parcels that do not qualify as a statewide preferred location under i. below.</i></p> <p><i>The locations identified as preferred must not be impractical for developing a technology with regard to the presence of the renewable resource and access to transmission/distribution infrastructure.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>i. Statewide preferred locations such as rooftops (and other structures), parking lots, previously developed sites, brownfields, gravel pits, quarries, and Superfund sites</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>

<p>ii. Other potential locally preferred locations <i>For example, customer on- or near-site generation, economic development areas, unranked and not currently farmed agricultural soils, unused land near already developed infrastructure, locations suitable for large-scale biomass district heat or thermal-led cogeneration, potential locations for biogas heating and digesters, etc.</i> <i>These are particularly important to map if possible, as “a specific location in a duly adopted municipal plan” is one way for a net metering project to qualify as being on a preferred site.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
<p>13. Does the plan identify areas that are unsuitable for siting renewable energy resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources? <i>Either Yes or No (“No” if the plan chooses not to designate any areas as unsuitable) is an acceptable answer here. “Resources” is synonymous with “generators.”</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (“Yes” for A and B must also be selected below)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
<p>A. Are areas identified as unsuitable for particular categories or sizes of generators consistent with resource availability and/or land use policies in the regional or municipal plan applicable to other types of land development (answer only required if “Yes” selected above, indicating unsuitable areas have been identified)? <i>If areas are considered unsuitable for energy generation, then the land use policies applicable to other forms of development in this area should similarly prohibit other types of development. Please note these policies in the Notes column.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A (if no unsuitable areas are identified)	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
<p>B. Does the plan ensure that any regional or local constraints (regionally or locally designated resources or critical resources, from 12b-12c above) identified are supported through data or studies, are consistent with the remainder of the plan, and do not include an arbitrary prohibition or interference with the intended function of any particular renewable resource size or type? <i>Please explain in the Notes column.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
<p>14. Municipalities seeking a determination of energy compliance from the Department and not using their region’s maps only: Does the plan ensure that its approach, if applied regionally, would not have the effect</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (also check Yes if seeking	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

of prohibiting any type of renewable generation technology in all locations?	determination from region, or from DPS but using region-provided maps)		
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Staff Review of Draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan, Including Enhanced Energy Plan Review
Emily Nosse-Leirer, Senior Planner
December 5, 2018

The City of Winooski has requested, per 24 V.S.A §4350, that the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (1) approve its draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan; and (2) confirm its planning process.

Additionally, the City of Winooski has requested that the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission issue a determination of compliance with the enhanced energy planning standards set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352 for the draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan.

This draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan is an update and re-adoption of Winooski's 2014 Municipal Development Plan, which was a re-adoption of the 2009 plan. In accordance with statute, re-adoption means that this is a fully compliant plan that will expire eight years after adoption by the City Council. CCRPC reviewed the 2014 plan and met with City of Winooski staff to discuss it on June 1, 2016, as part of an informal review and consultation process. The draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan is a complete reworking of the 2014 Municipal Development Plan. I have completed this formal review of the plan against the statutory requirements of 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 and the Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans in advance of the Planning Commission upcoming public hearing on December 13th.

Confirming and Approving the Municipal Plan

Following the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's (CCRPC's) *Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes and Approval of Municipal Plans (2018)* and the statutory requirements of 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117, I have reviewed the draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan to determine whether it is:

- Consistent with the general goals of §4302;
- Consistent with the specific goals of §4302;
- Contains the required elements of §4382;
- Compatible with the 2018 Chittenden County Regional Plan, entitled the *2018 Chittenden County ECOS Plan* (per §4350); and
- Compatible with approved plans of other municipalities (per §4350).

Additionally, I have reviewed the planning process requirements of §4350.

Staff Review Findings and Comments

1. The draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan is consistent with the general goals of §4302. See the attached Appendix A submittal that describes how the Plan is consistent with these goals.
2. The draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan is consistent with the specific goals of §4302, except for goal 10. See the attached Appendix A submittal that describes how the Plan is consistent with these goals.
 - a. See note below about Goal 10.

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3. The draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan contains the required elements of §4382. See the attached Appendix A submittal that describes how the Plan is consistent with these goals.
4. The draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan is generally compatible with the planning areas, goals and strategies of the 2018 Chittenden County Regional Plan, entitled the *2018 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*.
5. The draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan is compatible with the municipal plans for South Burlington, Colchester and Burlington (both existing plans and upcoming drafts).
6. Winooski has a planning process in place that is sufficient for an approved plan. In addition, Winooski has provided information about their planning budget and CCRPC finds that Winooski is maintaining its efforts to provide local funds for municipal and regional planning.

Necessary Changes to Meet Statutory Requirements

- To address state goal 10 (Use of Resources), the plan should include information about why the goal isn't relevant for Winooski. The plan's section on adjoining municipalities does mention that there is an existing quarry operation just over the northern border with Colchester. However, compliance with the goal would be improved by including a table showing where each statutory requirement is met and indicating that this goal is not relevant to Winooski. (The City of Burlington included a similar table in their latest draft of planBTV.)

Additional Comments/Questions:

- This plan does a great job discussing the City of Winooski in a positive, visionary way. Past plans have suffered from negative statements about changing demographics and blight or inconsistent tones between different sections. This plan incorporates the city's new brand very nicely and focuses on the city's vision for the future by arranging the content under each vision area.
- This plan addresses the forest block requirement differently than most of our towns, but given the extremely limited natural space left in Winooski, the approach is appropriate. The plan maps the limited forest block coverage in Winooski (forest blocks in Casavant Natural Area and Memorial Park and riparian connectivity areas along the Winooski River) and calls for continued protection of these areas through maintaining them as parks and continuing to limit development in floodplains. In addition, the plan includes river corridors per statutory requirements, and indicates that the City will review the river corridor boundary in the future.
- Though not required for approval and confirmation, the plan could be improved by including Vermont Gas service lines on the map showing existing energy facilities.

Enhanced Energy Plan Review

Following the statutory requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4352 and Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans, I have reviewed the draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan to determine whether:

7. The plan includes an energy element that has the same components as described in 24 V.S.A. §4348a(a)(3) for a regional plan and is confirmed under the requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4350.
8. The plan is consistent with the following State goals:

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- a. Vermont's greenhouse gas reduction goals under 10 V.S.A. § 578(a);
- b. Vermont's 25 by 25 goal for renewable energy under 10 V.S.A. § 580;
- c. Vermont's building efficiency goals under 10 V.S.A. § 581;
- d. State energy policy under 30 V.S.A. § 202a and the recommendations for regional and municipal energy planning pertaining to the efficient use of energy and the siting and development of renewable energy resources contained in the State energy plans adopted pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 202 and 202b (State energy plans); and
- e. The distributed renewable generation and energy transformation categories of resources to meet the requirements of the Renewable Energy Standard under 30 V.S.A. §§ 8004 and 8005.

9. The plan meets the standards for issuing a determination of energy compliance included in the State energy plans as developed by the Vermont Department of Public Service.

Staff Review Findings and Comments

Consistency with the requirements above is evaluated through the Vermont Department of Public Service's Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans, which is attached to this document and briefly summarized below.

Standard	Met	Not Met	N/A
1. Plan duly adopted and approved			Necessary for final determination
2. Submit a copy of the adopted plan			Necessary for final determination
3. Plan contains an energy element	X		
4. Analysis of resources, needs, scarcities, costs and problems in the municipality across all energy sectors	X		
5.a. Report Current energy use for heating, electricity, and transportation	X		
5.b. Report 2025, 2035 and 2050 targets for energy use	X		
5.c. Evaluation of thermal-sector energy use changes	X		
5.d. Evaluation of transportation-sector energy use changes	X		
5.e. Evaluation of electric-sector energy use changes	X		
6.a. Encourage conservation by individuals and organizations	X		
6.b. Promote efficient buildings	X		
6.c. Promote decreased use of fossil fuels for heat	X		
6.d. Demonstrate municipal leadership re: efficiency of municipal buildings	X		
7.a. Encourage increased public transit use	X		
7.b. Promote shift away from single-occupancy vehicle trips	X		
7.d. Promote shift from gas/diesel to non-fossil fuel vehicles?	X		
7.e. Demonstrate municipal leadership re: efficiency of municipal transportation?	X		
8.a. Promote Smart growth land use policies	X		
8.b. Strongly prioritize development in compact, mixed use centers	X		
9.a. Report existing renewable energy generation	X		

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9.b. Analyze generation potential	X		
9.c. Identify sufficient land to meet the 2050 generation targets			X – see note 10 below
9.d. Ensure that local constraints do not prevent the generation targets from being met			X – no local constraints
9.e. Include policy statements on siting energy generation	X – see note 11 below		
9.f. Maximize potential for generation on preferred sites	X		
9.g. Demonstrate municipal leadership re: deploying renewable energy	X		
10. Include maps provided by CCRPC	X		

As drafted, the draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan meets the requirements above, however Staff has some recommendations for improvement.

Notes and Comments:

10. One of the standards for enhanced energy planning is identifying sufficient land area in the municipality to meet the 2050 generation targets. Winooski has only one square mile of land, almost all of which is already developed or designated as a park. Therefore, of the generation potential estimated by CCRPC, only rooftop generation is feasible. With current technology, rooftop generation is not estimated to be sufficient to meet the 2050 targets. However, the Plan identifies other technologies that may help meet the target, such as rooftop technology improvements, allowing a higher proportion of roofs to be developed; hydroelectricity capacity increases on the existing dam; and/or methane digestors added at the wastewater treatment plant. Therefore, not having enough “land area” should not prevent Winooski from gaining a determination of energy compliance.
11. There are policies in the plan that seem to be contradictory. On page 23, the plan describes Winooski’s urban density and says that it is not the intent of the plan to protect primary agricultural soils. On page 22, the plan states that the City will need to work with DEC to determine whether the mapped river corridor is accurate and figure out how to best protect those areas. However, the energy planning supplement contains a policy protecting state-defined constraints, including river corridors and agricultural soils, during all development, not just energy. To gain a determination of energy compliance, the plan needs to identify constraints, map them and take these areas into account when determining the amount of generation potential in the municipality. The standards do not state the municipality is responsible for enforcing these state constraints. For the sake of clarity in the plan, I suggest the following:
 - a. The plan’s statement about Winooski’s agricultural soils no longer holding any value for mitigation is tucked into the text of the plan and is not included in the Goals/Objectives section at the end of the chapter. To make sure the policy stands out to the reader, consider moving it or repeating it there. Additionally, this paragraph also discusses forest blocks and wildlife habitat. Consider clarifying which resources are being discussed with different headings and/or paragraphs.
 - b. The statements about known and possible constraints should be edited to reflect the City’s attitude towards these development restrictions. Currently, the energy supplement includes statements that “known constraints are areas in which development, including renewable energy generation, is not appropriate,” and that “possible constraints are areas in which the effects of development, including renewable energy generation, may need to be mitigated,” as well as

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policy 11, “site renewable energy generation to avoid state known constraints and to minimize impacts to state possible constraints.” Consider explaining in the constraint section that known and possible constraints have been defined by the state and will be monitored and protected during the PUC process (and in many cases, during Act 250 review) by relevant state agencies, but not by the City of Winooski. This will alert residents and developers to constraints that may be in place from outside forces, furthering Winooski’s “get to yes” development review culture. Further, policy 11 in the Supplement might be replaced with a statement such as “Encourage renewable energy generation facilities in areas that have reached their full development potential and educate potential developers on development constraints that may be applied by the State of Vermont.”

Proposed Motion & Next Steps:

PROPOSED MOTION: The PAC finds that the draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan will meet all statutory requirements for CCRPC approval with the addition of a statement about earth resource extraction, and that the municipality's planning process meets all statutory requirements for CCRPC confirmation.

The PAC also finds that the draft 2019 Winooski Master Plan meets the requirements of the enhanced energy planning standards (“determination”) set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352.

Upon notification that the Plan has been adopted by the municipality, CCRPC staff will review the plan, and any information relevant to the confirmation process. If staff determines that substantive changes have been made, the materials will be forwarded to the PAC for review. Otherwise the PAC recommends that the Plan, and the municipal planning process, should be forwarded to the CCRPC Board for approval, confirmation, and an affirmative determination of energy compliance.

Appendix A – Municipal Plan Review Tool

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes and Approval of Municipal Plans

This form addresses the statutory requirements of the State of Vermont for town plans, as cited in the Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning and Development Act, Title 24 V.S.A Chapter 117 (the Act). It includes the 12 required elements found in § 4382 of the Act; the four planning process goals found in § 4302(b), the 14 specific goals found in § 4302(c); and the standard of review found in § 4302(f), which covers consistency with goals and compatibility standards.

During the Regional approval and confirmation process, specified in § 4350 of the Act, the regional planning commission is required to assess town plans and the process whereby they are developed according to the criteria of the Act. Sections of relevant statute are quoted at each question.

	Required Elements § 4382	Met	Not Met
1	Statement of Objectives, Policies, Programs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Land Use Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Transportation Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Utility and Facility Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Rare Natural Resources/Historic Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Educational Facilities Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Implementation Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Development Trends	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Energy Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Housing Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Economic Development Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Flood Resiliency Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	State Planning Goals § 4302	Met	Not Met
1	Development Pattern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Economy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Natural and Historic Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Quality of Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Agriculture and Forest Industries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Use of Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Public Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Child Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Flood Resiliency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOWN PLAN REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Title 24 Chapter 117: Municipal and Regional Planning and Development

24 V.S.A. § 4382. The plan for a municipality

(a) A plan for a municipality may be consistent with the goals established in section 4302 of this title and compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region and with the regional plan and shall include the following:

(1) A statement of objectives, policies and programs of the municipality to guide the future growth and development of land, public services and facilities, and to protect the environment.

Comments: These are located throughout the document and are expressed as vision statements and goals/objectives.

Met

Pages: 24-26, 37-38, 52-53, 68-70, 80

(2) A land use plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective land uses, that indicates those areas proposed for forests, recreation, agriculture (using the agricultural lands identification process established in 6 V.S.A. § 8), residence, commerce, industry, public and semi-public uses and open spaces, areas reserved reserved for flood plain, and areas identified by the State, the regional planning commission, or the municipality that require special consideration for aquifer protection; for wetland protection, for the maintenance of forest blocks, wildlife habitat, and habitat connectors; or for other conservation purposes; sets forth the present and prospective location, amount, intensity and character of such land uses and the appropriate timing or sequence of land development activities in relation to the provision of necessary community facilities and service; identifies those areas, if any, proposed for designation under chapter 76A of this title, together with, for each area proposed for designation, an explanation of how the designation would further the plan's goals and the goals of § 4302 of this title, and how the area meets the requirements for the type of designation to be sought; and indicates those areas that are important as forest blocks and habitat connectors and plans for land development in those areas to minimize forest fragmentation and promote the health, viability, and ecological function of forests.

Comments: This is mainly located in the Introduction Chapter, though there are land use components in all the chapters.

Met

Pages: 18-26

MAPS

Present Land Use Plan ☒

Prospective Land Use Plan ☒

(3) A transportation plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective transportation and circulation facilities showing existing and proposed highways and streets by type and character of improvement, and where pertinent, parking facilities, transit routes, terminals, bicycle paths and trails, scenic roads, airports, railroads and port facilities, and other similar facilities or uses, with indications of priority of need;

Comments: This is mainly located in the Municipal Infrastructure chapter, and the Winooski Transportation Plan - a separate Plan, included by reference.

Met

Pages: 39-53

MAP

Transportation ☒

(4) A utility and facility plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective community facilities and public utilities showing existing and proposed educational, recreational and other public sites, buildings and facilities, including hospitals, libraries, power generating plants and transmission lines, water supply, sewage disposal, refuse disposal, storm drainage and other similar facilities and activities, and recommendations to meet future needs for community facilities and services, with indications of priority of need, costs and method of financing;

Comments: This is mainly located in the Municipal Infrastructure chapter, and partially in the Safe, Healthy, Connected People chapter. The utility information is mapped in a variety of locations including Winooski's online map, and the energy maps in the Energy Planning Supplement. **The Plan could be strengthened by including utilities on the facilities map, and adding VT Gas lines.**

Met
Pages: 39-53

MAP
Utility and Facility ☒

(5) A statement of policies on the preservation of rare and irreplaceable natural areas, scenic and historic features and resources;

Comments: This is located throughout the Plan, but mainly located in the Land Use section of the Introduction Chapter and partially in the Safe, Healthy, Connected People chapter.

Met
Pages: 20-23

(6) An educational facilities plan consisting of a map and statement of present and projected uses and the local public school system;

Comments: This is mainly located throughout the Safe, Healthy, Connected People chapter, with a specific section on the school district on pages 65-67.

Met
Pages: 65-67

MAP
Educational Facility ☒

(7) A recommended program for the implementation of the objectives of the development plan;

Comments: This is in the Introduction chapter, specifically located on pages 29-30.

Met
Pages: 29-30

(8) A statement indicating how the plan relates to development trends and plans of adjacent municipalities, areas and the region developed under this title;

Comments: This is in the Introduction chapter, specifically located on pages 27-28; and will be updated based on the draft plans in Burlington and Colchester.

Met
Pages: 27-28

(9) An energy plan, including an analysis of energy resources, needs, scarcities, costs and problems within the municipality, a statement of policy on the conservation of energy, including programs, such as thermal integrity standards for buildings, to implement that policy, a statement of policy on the development of renewable energy resources, a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy;

Comments: This is in the Municipal Infrastructure chapter and the Energy Planning Supplement.

Met
Pages: 48-49

(10) A housing element that shall include a recommended program for addressing low and moderate income persons' housing needs as identified by the regional planning commission pursuant to subdivision 4348a(a)(9) of this title. The program should account for permitted accessory dwelling units, as defined in subdivision 4412(1)(E) of this title, which provide affordable housing.

Comments: This is in the Housing Chapter.

Met

Pages: 71-80

(11) An economic development element that describes present economic conditions and the location, type, and scale of desired economic development, and identifies policies, projects, and programs necessary to foster economic growth.

Comments: This is in the Economic Vitality chapter, and the more detailed Economic Development Plan.

Met

Pages: 31-38

(12)(A) A flood resilience plan that:

(i) identifies flood hazard and fluvial erosion hazard areas, based on river corridor maps provided by the Secretary of Natural Resources pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1428(a) or maps recommended by the Secretary, and designates those areas to be protected, including floodplains, river corridors, land adjacent to streams, wetlands, and upland forests, to reduce the risk of flood damage to infrastructure and improved property; and

(ii) recommends policies and strategies to protect the areas identified and designated under subdivision (12)(A)(i) of this subsection and to mitigate risks to public safety, critical infrastructure, historic structures, and municipal investments.

(B) A flood resilience plan may reference an existing local hazard mitigation plan approved under 44 C.F.R. § 201.6.

Comments: This is in the land use section of the Introduction chapter, and partially in the Municipal Infrastructure chapter.

Met

Pages: 21-23, and 46-47

§4382(c) Data:

Where appropriate, and to further the purposes of subsection 4302(b) of this title, a municipal plan shall be based upon inventories, studies, and analyses of current trends and shall consider the probable social and economic consequences of the proposed plan. Such studies may consider or contain, but not be limited to:

(1) population characteristics and distribution, including income and employment;

(2) the existing and projected housing needs by amount, type, and location for all economic groups within the municipality and the region;

(3) existing and estimated patterns and rates of growth in the various land use classifications, and desired patterns and rates of growth in terms of the community's ability to finance and provide public facilities and services.

Comments: This is a completely new Plan, so the data is up to date at least over the last few years. The other more specific plans also included updated data.

Met

Pages: throughout

GOALS AND STANDARDS OF REVIEW

GOALS

24 VSA § 4302

(a) General purposes . . .

(b) It is also the intent of the legislature that municipalities, regional planning commissions and state agencies shall engage in a continuing planning process that will further the following goals:

(1) To establish a coordinated, comprehensive planning process and policy framework to guide decisions by municipalities, regional planning commissions, and state agencies.

(2) To encourage citizen participation at all levels of the planning process, and to assure that decisions shall be made at the most local level possible commensurate with their impact.

(3) To consider the use of resources and the consequences of growth and development for the region and the state, as well as the community in which it takes place.

(4) To encourage and assist municipalities to work creatively together to develop and implement plans.

(c) In addition, this chapter shall be used to further the following specific goals:

Goal 1:

To plan development so as to maintain the historic settlement pattern of compact village and urban centers separated by rural countryside.

(A) Intensive residential development should be encouraged primarily in areas related to community centers, and strip development along highways should be discouraged.

(B) Economic growth should be encouraged in locally designated growth areas, or employed to revitalize existing village and urban centers, or both.

(C) Public investments, including construction or expansion of infrastructure, should reinforce the general character and planned growth patterns of the area.

Consistent

Pages: 18-26

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The entire City of Winooski is a compact urban center, and future growth is called for in the Downtown, and Gateways.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 2:

To provide a strong and diverse economy that provides satisfying and rewarding job opportunities and that maintains high environmental standards, and to expand economic opportunities in areas with high unemployment or low per capita incomes.

Consistent

Pages: 31-38

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The Plan includes a chapter on Economic Vitality and includes reference to a more specific Economic Development Plan. Most Winooski residents do not work in Winooski, and the Plan includes opportunities and actions to improve employment options within the City.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 3:

To broaden access to educational and vocational training opportunities sufficient to ensure the full realization of the abilities of all Vermonters.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The Plan includes a discussion on the educational opportunities in and around Winooski, including child care access. The Plan also includes a discussion on the school's pilot bus system for school access.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Consistent

Pages: 58-59, and 65-67

Goal 4:

To provide for safe, convenient, economic and energy efficient transportation systems that respect the integrity of the natural environment, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians and bicyclers.

- (A) Highways, air, rail and other means of transportation should be mutually supportive, balanced and integrated.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The Municipal Infrastructure section includes information on transportation options and calls for improvements in transit and bike/ped infrastructure.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Consistent

Pages: 41-45

Goal 5:

To identify, protect and preserve important natural and historic features of the Vermont landscape including:

- (A) significant natural and fragile areas;
- (B) outstanding water resources, including lakes, rivers, aquifers, shorelands and wetlands;
- (C) significant scenic roads, waterways and views;
- (D) important historic structures, sites, or districts, archaeological sites and archaeologically sensitive areas

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The entire City of Winooski is a compact urban center, and future growth is planned. The Plan calls for growth that incorporates green infrastructure, urban trees and resiliency. It also calls for protection of its natural areas including the Winooski River, Casavant and Gilbrook.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Consistent

Pages: 16-26

Goal 6:

To maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife, forests and other land resources.

Consistent

Pages: 16-26

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why: The entire City of Winooski is a compact urban center, and future growth is planned. The Plan calls for growth that incorporates green infrastructure, urban trees and resiliency. It also calls for protection of its natural areas including the Winooski River, Casavant and Gilbrook.

Goal 7:

To encourage the efficient use of energy and the development of renewable energy resources.

Consistent

Pages: 48-49

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The Plan calls for efficient use of energy in all three sectors: electricity, transportation and thermal. It also calls for development of renewable energy though the opportunities are fairly limited in Winooski outside of rooftops.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 8:

To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for Vermont residents and visitors.

Consistent

Pages: 59-62

(A) Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities.

(B) Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The Plan calls for maintaining and increasing recreational opportunities.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 9:

To encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest industries.

Consistent

Pages: 16-26 and 48-49

(A) Strategies to protect long-term viability of agricultural and forestlands should be encouraged and should include maintaining low overall density.

(B) The manufacture and marketing of value added agricultural and forest products should be encouraged.

(C) The use of locally-grown food products should be encouraged.

(D) Sound forest and agricultural management practices should be encouraged.

(E) Public investment should be planned so as to minimize development pressure on agricultural and forest land.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why: Winooski has little land for agricultural and forest industries. While there are some mapped prime agricultural soils, the entire City of Winooski is a compact urban center and intends to continue that land use pattern. Therefore the Plan is relatively silent on these industries, but not inconsistent with this goal.

Goal 10:

To provide for the wise and efficient use of Vermont's natural resources and to facilitate the appropriate extraction of earth resources and the proper restoration and preservation of the aesthetic qualities of the area.

Pages:

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why: The Plan is relatively silent on extraction industries as there are no lands available for this. The Plan is however not inconsistent with this goal. This needs to be strengthened in the plan – see note in the staff review.

Goal 11:

To ensure the availability of safe and affordable housing for all Vermonters.

Consistent

Pages: 71-80

(A) Housing should be encouraged to meet the needs of a diversity of social and income groups in each Vermont community, particularly for those citizens of low and moderate income.

(B) New and rehabilitated housing should be safe, sanitary, located conveniently to employment and commercial centers, and coordinated with the provision of necessary public facilities and utilities.

(C) Sites for multi-family and manufactured housing should readily available in locations similar to those generally used for single-family conventional dwellings.

(D) Accessory apartments within or attached to single family residences which provide affordable housing in close proximity to cost-effective care and supervision for relatives or disabled or elderly persons should be allowed.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The plan is consistent with this goal as it calls for housing for all.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 12:

To plan for, finance and provide an efficient system of public facilities and services to meet future needs.

Consistent

Pages: 39-53

(A) Public facilities and services should include fire and police protection, emergency medical services, schools, water supply and sewage and solid waste disposal.

(B) The rate of growth should not exceed the ability of the community and the area to provide facilities and services.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The Plan is consistent with this goal and references the City's capital improvement plan.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 13:

To ensure the availability of safe and affordable child care and to integrate child care issues into the planning process, including child care financing, infrastructure, business assistance for child care providers, and child care work force development.

Consistent

Pages: 58-59

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The Plan calls for improvements to the availability of child care.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 14:

To encourage flood resilient communities.

(A) New development in identified flood hazard, fluvial erosion, and river corridor protection areas should be avoided. If new development is to be built in such areas, it should not exacerbate flooding and fluvial erosion.

(B) The protection and restoration of floodplains and upland forested areas that attenuate and moderate flooding and fluvial erosion should be encouraged.

(C) Flood emergency preparedness and response planning should be encouraged.

Consistent

Pages: 21-23, and 46-47

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: **The Plan supports the City's existing floodplain regulations, supports the actions in the All Hazard Mitigation Plan and identifies river corridor protection as something to investigate further.**

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

STANDARD OF REVIEW

24 V.S.A. § 4302(f)

(1) As used in this chapter, "consistent with the goals" requires substantial progress toward attainment of the goals established in this section, unless the planning body determines that a particular goal is not relevant or attainable. If such a determination is made, the planning body shall identify the goal in the plan and describe the situation, explain why the goal is not relevant or attainable, and indicate what measures should be taken to mitigate any adverse effects of not making substantial progress toward that goal. The determination of relevance or attainability shall be subject to review as part of a consistency determination under this chapter.

(2) As used in this chapter, for one plan to be "compatible with" another, the plan in question, as implemented, will not significantly reduce the desired effect of the implementation of the other plan. If a plan, as implemented, will significantly reduce the desired effect of the other plan, the plan may be considered compatible if it includes the following:

- (A) a statement that identifies the ways that it will significantly reduce the desired effect of the other plan;
- (B) an explanation of why any incompatible portion of the plan in question is essential to the desired effect of the plan as a whole;
- (C) an explanation of why, with respect to any incompatible portion of the plan in question, there is no reasonable alternative way to achieve the desired effect of the plan, and
- (D) an explanation of how any incompatible portion of the plan in question has been structured to mitigate its detrimental effects on the implementation of the other plan.

Details of CCRPC's review process can be found in "Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes, Approval of Municipal Plans and Granting Determinations of Energy Compliance," as amended on September 19, 2018.

Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans

Instructions

Before proceeding, please review the requirements of Parts I and II below, as well as the Overview document. Submitting a Municipal Plan for review under the standards below is entirely voluntary, as enabled under [Act 174](#), the Energy Development Improvement Act of 2016. If a Municipal Plan meets the standards, it will be given an affirmative “determination of energy compliance,” and will be given “substantial deference” in the Public Service Board’s review of whether an energy project meets the orderly development criterion in the Section 248 process. Specifically, with respect to an in-state electric generation facility, the Board:

[S]hall give substantial deference to the land conservation measures and specific policies contained in a duly adopted regional and municipal plan that has received an affirmative determination of energy compliance under 24 V.S.A. § 4352. In this subdivision (C), “substantial deference” means that a land conservation measure or specific policy shall be applied in accordance with its terms unless there is a clear and convincing demonstration that other factors affecting the general good of the State outweigh the application of the measure or policy. The term shall not include consideration of whether the determination of energy compliance should or should not have been affirmative under 24 V.S.A. § 4352.

Municipal Plans should be submitted by the municipality’s legislative body to the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) if the Regional Plan has received an affirmative determination of energy compliance. If a Regional Plan has not received such a determination, until July 1, 2018¹, a municipality may submit its adopted and approved Municipal Plan to the Department of Public Service (DPS) for a determination of energy compliance (determination), along with the completed checklist below. After a Municipal Plan and completed checklist have been submitted to the RPC (or DPS), the RPC or DPS will schedule a public hearing noticed at least 15 days in advance by direct mail to the requesting municipal legislative body, on the RPC or DPS website, and in a newspaper of general publication in the municipality. The RPC or DPS shall issue a determination in writing within two months of the receipt of a request. If the determination is negative, the RPC or DPS shall state the reasons for the denial in writing and, if appropriate, suggest acceptable modifications. Submissions for a new determination following a negative determination shall receive a new determination within 45 days.

The plans that Municipalities submit must:

- Be adopted
- Be confirmed under 24 V.S.A. § 4350
- Include an energy element that has the same components as described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3)
- Be consistent with state energy policy (described below), in the manner described in 24 V.S.A. § 4302(f)(1)
- Meet all standards for issuing a determination of energy compliance (see below)

¹ These standards will be revised after July 1, 2018 to reflect that Municipal Plans should be submitted only to the Regional Planning Commissions – which will all have had an opportunity to seek a determination of energy compliance – from that point forward.

Municipalities are encouraged to consult with their reviewer (either their RPC or DPS) before undertaking the process of plan adoption, which may help in identifying any deficiencies or inconsistencies with the standards or other requirements that would be more difficult to remedy after a plan has gone through the formal adoption process.

The state's Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) is revised on a 6-year basis. When the next CEP is published in 2022, it will include a revised set of standards, as well as Recommendations that are customized to regions and municipalities. The Recommendations that accompany this initial set of Standards represent a subset of recommendations from the 2016 CEP, which were not written with regions and municipalities specifically in mind. A Guidance document – which is expected to evolve as best practices from regions and municipalities emerge – will be published shortly after the Standards are issued. It will serve as the warehouse for relevant recommendations from the 2016 CEP, links to data sources, instructions on conducting analysis and mapping, and sample language/best practices. Once issued and until the 2022 CEP is published, this Guidance document will supplant the Recommendations document.

Affirmative determinations last for the life cycle of a revision of the Municipal Plan, and Municipal Plans that are submitted after the 2022 CEP is issued will be expected to meet the Standards that are issued at that time. Municipalities are encouraged to consult with their RPC or DPS regarding interim amendments that might affect any of the standards below, to discuss whether a new review is triggered.

If you wish to submit your Municipal Plan to your RPC or to DPS for a determination, please read closely the specific instructions at the start of each section below, and attach your Municipal Plan to this checklist.

Determination requests to an RPC (and any other questions) should be submitted to your RPC's designated contact. Determination requests to DPS until July 1, 2018 – and only for municipalities whose Regions' plans have not received an affirmative determination – should be submitted to:

PSD.PlanningStandards@vermont.gov.

Part I: Applicant Information

The plan being submitted for review is a:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal Plan in a region whose regional plan has received an affirmative determination of energy compliance from the Commissioner of Public Service Please submit these plans to your RPC	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Plan in a region whose regional plan has <u>not</u> received a determination of energy compliance Until July 1, 2018, please submit these to the DPS. After July 1, 2018, this option ceases to exist.
Applicant:	City of Winooski	
Contact person:	Eric Vorwald	
Contact information:	evorwald@winooski.vt.gov	
Received by: Click here to enter text.	Date: Click here to enter text.	

Part II: Determination Standards Checklist

The checklist below will be used to evaluate your plan's consistency with statutory requirements under Act 174, including the requirement to be adopted and approved, contain an enhanced energy element, be consistent with state energy policy, and meet a set of standards designed to ensure consistency with state energy goals and policies.

Please review and attach your plan (or adopted energy element/plan, along with supporting documentation) and self-evaluate whether it contains the following components. Use the Notes column to briefly describe how your plan is consistent with the standard, including relevant page references (you may include additional pages to expand upon Notes). If you feel a standard is not relevant or attainable, please check N/A where it is available and use the Notes column to describe the situation, explaining why the standard is not relevant or attainable, and indicate what measures your municipality is taking instead to mitigate any adverse effects of not making substantial progress toward this standard. If N/A is not made available, the standard must be met (unless the instructions for that standard indicate otherwise) and checked "Yes" in order to receive an affirmative determination. There is no penalty for checking (or limit on the number of times you may check) N/A where it is available, as long as a reasonable justification is provided in the Notes column.

Plan Adoption Requirement

[Act 174](#) requires that municipal plans be adopted and approved in order to qualify for a determination of energy compliance. In the near term, it is likely municipalities will revise and submit isolated energy plans or elements, particularly due to long planning cycles. Therefore, the plan adoption requirement can be met through an amendment to an existing plan in the form of an energy element or energy plan, as long as the amendment or plan itself is duly adopted as part of the municipal plan and incorporated by reference or appended to the underlying, full plan (i.e., is officially "in" the municipal plan), as well as approved for confirmation with the region. If this route is chosen, the municipality should also attach the planning commission report required for plan amendments under 24 V.S.A. § 4384, which should address the internal consistency of the energy plan/element with other related elements of the underlying plan (particularly Transportation and Land Use), and/or whether the energy plan/element supersedes language in those other elements. Standards 1 and 2 below must be answered in the affirmative in order for a plan to receive an affirmative determination of energy compliance.

1. Has your plan been duly adopted and approved for confirmation according to 24 V.S.A. § 4350 ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Adoption date: Click here to enter text. Confirmation date: Click here to enter text.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	In process, the Plan and the Energy Plan are being reviewed together.
2. Is a copy of the plan (or adopted energy element/plan, along with underlying plan and planning commission report addressing consistency of energy element/plan with other elements of underlying plan) attached to this checklist?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Notes: Click here to enter text.

Energy Element Requirement

To obtain a determination of energy compliance, Act 174 requires municipalities to include an “energy element” that contains the same components described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3), which was revised through Act 174 to explicitly address energy across all sectors and to identify potential and unsuitable areas for siting renewable energy resources:

An energy element, which may include an analysis of resources, needs, scarcities, costs, and problems within the region across all energy sectors, including electric, thermal, and transportation; a statement of policy on the conservation and efficient use of energy and the development and siting of renewable energy resources; a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy; and an identification of potential areas for the development and siting of renewable energy resources and areas that are unsuitable for siting those resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources.

The standards below are generally organized to integrate each component of the enhanced energy element with related determination standards that evaluate the plan’s consistency with state goals and policies. **Energy element components are identified in bolded text.**

While municipalities may choose to primarily address energy used for heating, transportation, and electricity in the required energy element, they may also choose to address some of these components in related plan elements (e.g., Transportation and Land Use) and should indicate as much in the Notes column. To the extent an energy element is designed to comprehensively address energy, it should be complementary to and reference other relevant plan elements.

3. Does the plan contain an energy element, that contains the same components described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3)? <i>Individual components of the energy element will be evaluated through the standards below.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 48 & the Supplement Notes: Click here to enter text.
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Consistency with State Goals and Policies Requirement

Act 174 states that regional and municipal plans must be consistent with the following state goals and policies:

- Greenhouse gas reduction goals under [10 V.S.A. § 578\(a\)](#) (50% from 1990 levels by 2028; 75% by 2050)
- The 25 x 25 goal for renewable energy under [10 V.S.A. § 580](#) (25% in-state renewables supply for all energy uses by 2025)
- Building efficiency goals under [10 V.S.A. § 581](#) (25% of homes – or 80,000 units – made efficient by 2020)
- State energy policy under [30 V.S.A. § 202a](#) and the recommendations for regional and municipal planning pertaining to the efficient use of energy and the siting and development of renewable energy resources contained in the [State energy plans](#) adopted pursuant to [30 V.S.A. §§ 202](#) and [202b](#)
- The distributed renewable generation and energy transformation categories of resources to meet the requirements of the Renewable Energy Standard under [30 V.S.A. §§ 8004](#) and [8005](#)

The standards in the checklist below will be used to determine whether a plan is consistent with these goals and policies. The standards are broken out by category. *Analysis and Targets* standards address how energy analyses are done within plans, and whether targets are established for energy conservation, efficiency, fuel switching, and use of renewable energy across sectors. *Pathways (Implementation Actions)* standards address the identification of actions to achieve the targets. *Mapping* standards address the identification of suitable and unsuitable areas for the development of renewable energy.

Municipalities may choose to incorporate the information necessary to meet the standards in their energy elements, and/or in other sections of their plans (many transportation items may fit best in the Transportation chapters of plans, for instance). However, plans must be internally consistent, and applicants should cross-reference wherever possible.

Analysis and Targets Standards

For the *Analysis & Targets* determination standards below, municipalities will be provided with analyses and targets derived from regional analyses and targets no later than April 30, 2017 (and likely much sooner). Municipalities may choose to rely on these “municipalized” analyses and targets to meet the standards in this section. Municipalities which elect to use the analysis and targets provided by a region will be presumed to have met the standards in this section. Alternatively, municipalities may develop their own custom analyses and targets or supplement the analyses and targets provided by the regions with specific local data; if this option is chosen, the analysis and targets must include all of the same components and meet the standards required of regions, as described below.

For municipalities that choose to undertake their own analysis and target-setting (and for regions), DPS is providing a guidance document to explain the expected level of detail in and data sources and methodologies available for meeting the standards (including areas where it is understood data at the municipal level is unavailable, and therefore not expected). Note that standards 5A-4E are all derived directly from requirements in Act 174 (with minor modifications to make them feasible) and must be met affirmatively in order for a municipal plan to receive an affirmative determination of energy compliance.

Targets set by regions and municipalities should be aligned with state energy policy (see the goals and policies listed above). Where targets (and efforts to reach them) depart significantly from state energy goals and policies, an explanation for how the plan otherwise achieves the intent of the state goal or policy should be provided. The guidance document also offers additional clarification on alignment with state goals and policies.

The analysis items below are intended to provide regions and municipalities with an overview of their current energy use, and with a sense of the trajectories and pace of change needed to meet targets, which can be translated into concrete actions in the *Pathways* standards below. Targets provide regions and municipalities with milestones or checkpoints along the way toward a path of meeting 90% of their total energy needs with renewable energy, and can be compared with the potential renewable energy generation from areas identified as potentially suitable in the *Mapping* standards exercise below to give regions and municipalities a sense of their ability to accommodate renewable energy that would meet their needs.

4. Does your plan’s energy element contain an analysis of resources, needs, scarcities, costs, and problems within the municipality across all energy sectors (electric, thermal, transportation)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Throughout the Enhanced Energy Planning Supplement Notes: Click here to enter text.
5. Does your plan contain an analysis that addresses A-E below, either as provided by your Regional Planning Commission or as developed by your municipality? <i>Municipalities may meet this standard by using the analysis and targets provided by their regions, or by developing their own analyses and targets. If using the analysis & targets provided by your region, please answer “Yes-Region” and skip ahead to #6. If</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes-Region <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Custom	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Throughout the Enhanced Energy Planning Supplement Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

<i>developing a custom analysis, please answer “Yes-Custom” and address 5A-5E separately, below.</i>			
A. Does the plan estimate current energy use across transportation, heating, and electric sectors?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Does the plan establish 2025, 2035, and 2050 targets for thermal and electric efficiency improvements, and use of renewable energy for transportation, heating, and electricity?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
C. Does the plan evaluate the amount of thermal-sector conservation, efficiency, and conversion to alternative heating fuels needed to achieve these targets?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
D. Does the plan evaluate transportation system changes and land use strategies needed to achieve these targets?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
E. Does the plan evaluate electric-sector conservation and efficiency needed to achieve these targets?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

Pathways (Implementation Actions) Standards

This section examines whether plans meet the Act 174 expectation that they include pathways and recommended actions to achieve the targets identified through the *Analysis and Targets* section of the Standards (above). Plans are expected to include or otherwise address all of the pathways (implementation actions) below; some actions may not be applicable or equally relevant to all applicants (small vs. large municipalities, for instance), in which case N/A may be checked (if available) and the justification provided in the Notes column. There is no penalty for choosing N/A one or more times, as long as a reasonable justification is provided in the Notes column, preferably including an explanation of how the plan alternatively achieves attainment of the targets should be included. If N/A is not provided as an option, the standard must be met, and “Yes” must be checked, in order for the plan to meet the requirements for a determination (unless the instructions particular to that standard indicate otherwise).

DPS will be issuing a guidance document in the near term providing potential implementation actions derived from the Comprehensive Energy Plan (relevant formal Recommendations as well as opportunities not specifically called out as Recommendations), from recent regional and municipal plans, and from other sources. The guidance document will be revised after the regions have compiled best practices from early municipalities pursuing energy planning to seek a determination of energy compliance, in the summer of 2017.

For the time being, we offer potential implementation action options for consideration as italicized text under each standard. Plans are encouraged to promote as diverse a portfolio of approaches as possible in each sector, or if not, to explain why they take a more targeted approach. Implementation actions may fit best in a holistic discussion contained within a plan’s energy element, though cross-referencing to other relevant plan elements is also acceptable.

Municipalities must demonstrate a commitment to achieving each standard in both policies and implementation measures in clear, action-oriented language.			
6. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on the conservation and efficient use of energy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Main Doc: Page 52, goal 4 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
A. Does the plan encourage conservation by individuals and organizations? <i>(Actions could include educational activities and events such as convening or sponsoring weatherization workshops, establishing local energy committees, encouraging the use of existing utility and other efficiency and conservation programs and funding sources, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Supplement: Page 10 Paragraph #: Energy Awareness Actions 2, 4 & 5 Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Does the plan promote efficient buildings? <i>(Actions could include promoting compliance with residential and commercial building energy standards for new construction and existing buildings, including additions, alterations, renovations and repairs; promoting the implementation of residential and commercial building efficiency ratings and labeling; considering adoption of stretch codes, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Supplement: Page 10 Paragraph #: Energy Awareness Actions 1 & 2, and all Energy Standards Actions Notes: Click here to enter text.
C. Does the plan promote decreased use of fossil fuels for heating? <i>(Actions and policies could promote switching to wood, liquid biofuels, biogas, geothermal, and/or electricity. Suitable devices include advanced wood heating systems and cold-climate heat pumps, as well as use of more energy efficient heating systems; and identifying potential locations for, and barriers to, deployment of biomass district heating and/or thermal-led combined heat and power systems in the municipality)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Supplement: Page 10 Paragraph #: Energy Awareness Actions 1 & 5, and all Energy Standards Actions Notes: Click here to enter text.
D. Does the plan demonstrate the municipality's leadership by example with respect to the efficiency of municipal buildings? <i>(Actions could include building audits and weatherization projects in schools and town offices, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Supplement: Page 10 Paragraph #: Energy Awareness Actions 1 & 2 Notes: Click here to enter text.
E. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Winooski has an energy efficient land use pattern.
7. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on reducing transportation energy demand and single-occupancy vehicle use, and encouraging use of renewable or lower-emission energy sources for transportation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Main Doc: Page 52, goal 3, 4 & 7; and Supplement: Page 10, action 14. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Actions 15, 16 & 17 don't quite align with the new Plan and should be clarified.
A. Does the plan encourage increased use of public transit? <i>(Actions could include participation in efforts to identify and develop new</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Main Doc: Page 52, goal 7 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.

<i>public transit routes, promote full utilization of existing routes, integrate park-and-rides with transit routes, etc.)</i>			Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Does the plan promote a shift away from single-occupancy vehicle trips, through strategies appropriate to the municipality? <i>(Actions could include rideshare, vanpool, car-sharing initiatives; efforts to develop or increase park-and-rides; enhancement of options such as rail and telecommuting; education; intergovernmental cooperation; etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Main Doc: Page 52, goal 7 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: The goals and actions are there, but the intent of moving away from single occupancy vehicle travel could be strengthened in the main document.
C. Does the plan promote a shift away from gas/diesel vehicles to electric or other non-fossil fuel transportation options through strategies appropriate to the municipality? <i>(Actions could include promoting the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, providing education and outreach to potential users, supporting non-fossil fuel vehicle availability through outreach to vehicle dealers, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Main Doc: Page 48 and Page 52, Goal 4, Energy Awareness Action 3 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
D. Does the plan facilitate the development of walking and biking infrastructure through strategies appropriate to the municipality? <i>(Actions could include studying, planning for, seeking funding for, or implementing improvements that encourage safe and convenient walking and biking; adopting a "Complete Streets" policy, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Main Doc: Page 52, Goal 3 & 7 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
E. Does the plan demonstrate the municipality's leadership by example with respect to the efficiency of municipal transportation? <i>(Actions could include purchasing energy efficient municipal and fleet vehicles when practicable, installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Main Doc: Page 49 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
F. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
8. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Main Doc: Page 48-49 and land use goals in the introduction chapter Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
A. Does the plan include land use policies (and descriptions of current and future land use categories) that demonstrate a commitment to reducing sprawl and minimizing low-density development? <i>(Actions could include adopting limited sewer service areas, maximum building sizes along highways, policies or zoning that require design features</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Main Doc: Page 18 - 26 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

<i>that minimize the characteristics of strip development [multiple stories, parking lot to the side or back of the store], and requirements that development in those areas be connected by means other than roads and cars; adopting a capital budget and program that furthers land use and transportation policies; etc.)</i>			
B. Does the plan strongly prioritize development in compact, mixed-use centers when physically feasible and appropriate to the use of the development, or identify steps to make such compact development more feasible? <i>(Actions could include participating in the state designation program, such as obtaining state designated village centers, downtowns, neighborhoods, new town centers, or growth centers; exploration of water or sewage solutions that enable compact development; etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Main Doc: Page 18 - 26 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Including designated downtown, neighborhood designations, sewer and water service and the TIF district.
C. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
9. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on the development and siting of renewable energy resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Notes: Click here to enter text.
A. Does the plan evaluate (estimates of or actual) generation from existing renewable energy generation in the municipality? <i>Municipalities should be able to obtain this information from their regions.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Supplement: Table 8, page 5 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Does the plan analyze generation potential, through the mapping exercise (see <i>Mapping</i> standards, below), to determine potential from preferred and potentially suitable areas in the municipality? <i>Municipalities should be able to obtain this information from their regions.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Supplement: Table 15, page 8 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Plan only estimates rooftop generation potential, given lack of open space that is not already designated as a park
C. Does the plan identify sufficient land in the municipality for renewable energy development to reasonably reach 2050 targets for renewable electric generation, based on population and energy resource potential (from potential resources identified in the <i>Mapping</i> exercise, below), accounting for the fact that land may not be available due to private property constraints, site-specific constraints, or grid-related constraints? <i>If N/A, please describe how you are working with your regional planning commission to ensure overall regional objectives are achieved.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: See paragraph above Table 14 – there is not likely enough land to meet the City's target. Given the 1 square mile of developed land, the City plays a different role in the region. Generation targets may be more feasible in the future if rooftop technology improves, allowing a higher proportion of roofs to be developed, if dam capacity increases or if methane digestors are added

			at the wastewater treatment plant.
D. Does the plan ensure that any local constraints (locally designated resources or critical resources, from 12B and 12C under <i>Mapping</i> , below) do not prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the provision of sufficient renewable energy to meet state, regional, or municipal targets? <i>If N/A, please describe how you are working with your regional planning commission to ensure overall regional objectives are achieved.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: There are no local constraints so this isn't a problem.
E. Does the plan include statements of policy to accompany maps (could include general siting guidelines), including statements of policy to accompany any preferred, potential, and unsuitable areas for siting generation (see 12 and 13 under <i>Mapping</i> , below)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Supplement: page 9 & 10. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: However, the City doesn't find agricultural soils and the river corridor as currently mapped to be constraints, though it is understood that the State will review these resources as constraints.
F. Does the plan maximize the potential for renewable generation on preferred locations (such as the categories outlined under 12E in the <i>Mapping</i> standards, below)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Supplement: page 9 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Rooftops are the most likely location for renewables in the City.
G. Does the plan demonstrate the municipality's leadership by example with respect to the deployment of renewable energy? <i>(Actions could include deploying renewable energy to offset municipal electric use, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Supplement page 10, actions 9 and 10 Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
H. Other (please use the notes section to describe additional approaches that your municipality is taking)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

Mapping Standards

Act 174 requires plans to identify potential areas for the development and siting of renewable energy resources and areas that are unsuitable for siting those resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources. It furthermore requires that the standards address the potential generation from the potential siting areas.

The *Mapping* standards lay out a sequence of steps for planners to examine existing renewable resources and to identify potential (and preferred) areas for renewable energy development, and to identify likely unsuitable areas for development, by layering constraint map layers on to raw energy resource potential map layers. The maps should help municipalities visualize and calculate the potential generation from potential areas, and compare it with the 2025, 2035, and 2050 targets from the *Analysis and Targets* standards to get a sense of the scale and scope of generation that could be produced within the region to

meet the municipality's needs. DPS will provide additional guidance to accompany the standards that fleshes out the steps, layers, and standards more fully.

Plans must include maps that address all of the standards below, unless N/A is provided as an option, in which case a compelling reason why the standard is not applicable or relevant should be provided in the Notes column. Regions must develop their own maps (already underway through support being provided to regions by DPS), and to then break out the maps for their municipalities, who can use their region-provided maps to meet the municipal *Mapping* standards (such "municipalization" work is being supported through a training & technical assistance contract between DPS and regions, and all regions must supply completed maps to their municipalities by April 30, 2017, though many are expected to do so much sooner).

Municipalities may choose to rely on the maps provided by the regions to meet the standards in this section. Those maps should be somewhat familiar to municipalities, who are expected to be consulted as regions develop their maps. Alternatively, municipalities may choose to undertake their own mapping, according to the same set of standards as regions. Additionally, municipalities are expected to work collaboratively with their regions and with neighboring municipalities to ensure compatibility between the final products.

The map and the text describing the policies or rules used to construct the map, as well as the text describing specific policies applicable to map features, should be complementary. That should help ensure that any "land conservation measures and specific policies" that might be given substantial deference in the context of a particular project review under 30 V.S.A. § 248 are clearly identifiable in the text, should a map lack sufficient clarity or granularity regarding the area in which a project is proposed.

<p>10. Does your plan contain one or more maps that address 11-13 below, as provided by your Regional Planning Commission or as developed by your municipality?</p> <p><i>Municipalities may meet this standard by using the maps provided by their regions, or by developing their own maps. If using the maps provided by your region, please answer "Yes-Region" and skip ahead to #14. If developing custom maps, please answer "Yes-Custom" and address 11-13 separately, below.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes-Region <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Custom	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: At the end of the Supplement</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>11. Does the plan identify and map existing electric generation sources? <i>Maps may depict generators of all sizes or just those larger than 15 kW, as long as information on generators smaller than 15 kW is summarized and provided or referenced elsewhere. It is expected that the best available information at the time of plan creation will be used. This information is available from the DPS.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>12. Does the plan identify potential areas for the development and siting of renewable energy resources and the potential generation from such generators in the identified areas, taking into account factors including resource availability, environmental constraints, and the location and capacity of electric grid infrastructure? <i>Maps should include the following (available from VCGI and ANR), and the</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>

<i>resulting Prime and Secondary Resource Maps will together comprise “potential areas”:</i>			
A. Raw renewable energy potential analysis (wind and solar), using best available data layers (including LiDAR as appropriate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
B. Known constraints (signals likely, though not absolute, unsuitability for development based on statewide or local regulations or designated critical resources) to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vernal Pools (confirmed and unconfirmed layers) • DEC River Corridors • FEMA Floodways • State-significant Natural Communities and Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species • National Wilderness Areas • Class 1 and Class 2 Wetlands (VSWI and advisory layers) • Regionally or Locally Identified Critical Resources <i>If areas are constrained for the development of renewable energy due to the desire to protect a locally designated critical resource (whether a natural resource or a community-identified resource), then the land use policies applicable to other forms of development in this area must be similarly restrictive; for this category, policies must prohibit all permanent development (and should be listed in the Notes column).</i> <i>These areas should be subtracted from raw renewable energy resource potential maps to form Secondary Resource Maps</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.
C. Possible constraints (signals conditions that would likely require mitigation, and which may prove a site unsuitable after site-specific study, based on statewide or regional/local policies that are currently adopted or in effect), including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Soils • FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas • Protected Lands (State fee lands and private conservation lands) • Act 250 Agricultural Soil Mitigation areas • Deer Wintering Areas 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: Click here to enter text. Paragraph #: Click here to enter text. Notes: Click here to enter text.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANR's Vermont Conservation Design Highest Priority Forest Blocks (or Habitat Blocks 9 & 10, for plans using regional maps in regions whose plans will be submitted for adoption at the regional level by March 1, 2017) • Hydric Soils • Regionally or Locally Identified Resources <p><i>If locations are constrained for the development of renewable energy due to the desire to protect a locally designated resource (whether a natural resource or community-identified resource, like a view), then the land use policies applicable to other forms of development must be similarly restrictive (and should be listed in the Notes column).</i></p> <p><i>These areas should be subtracted from Secondary Resource Maps to form Prime Resource Maps.</i></p>			
<p>D. Transmission and distribution resources and constraints, as well as transportation infrastructure.</p> <p><i>(Including three-phase distribution lines, known constraints from resources such as Green Mountain Power's solar map, known areas of high electric load, etc.)</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>E. Preferred locations (specific areas or parcels) for siting a generator or a specific size or type of generator, accompanied by any specific siting criteria for these locations</p> <p><i>Narrative descriptions of the types of preferred areas in accompanying plan text are acceptable, though mapping of areas and especially specific parcels (to the extent they are known) is highly encouraged, to signal preferences to developers, particularly for locally preferred areas and specific parcels that do not qualify as a statewide preferred location under i. below.</i></p> <p><i>The locations identified as preferred must not be impractical for developing a technology with regard to the presence of the renewable resource and access to transmission/distribution infrastructure.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>i. Statewide preferred locations such as rooftops (and other structures), parking lots, previously developed sites, brownfields, gravel pits, quarries, and Superfund sites</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>ii. Other potential locally preferred locations</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p>

<p><i>For example, customer on- or near-site generation, economic development areas, unranked and not currently farmed agricultural soils, unused land near already developed infrastructure, locations suitable for large-scale biomass district heat or thermal-led cogeneration, potential locations for biogas heating and digesters, etc.</i></p> <p><i>These are particularly important to map if possible, as “a specific location in a duly adopted municipal plan” is one way for a net metering project to qualify as being on a preferred site.</i></p>		<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>13. Does the plan identify areas that are unsuitable for siting renewable energy resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources? <i>Either Yes or No (“No” if the plan chooses not to designate any areas as unsuitable) is an acceptable answer here. “Resources” is synonymous with “generators.”</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (“Yes” for A and B must also be selected below)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>A. Are areas identified as unsuitable for particular categories or sizes of generators consistent with resource availability and/or land use policies in the regional or municipal plan applicable to other types of land development (answer only required if “Yes” selected above, indicating unsuitable areas have been identified)? <i>If areas are considered unsuitable for energy generation, then the land use policies applicable to other forms of development in this area should similarly prohibit other types of development. Please note these policies in the Notes column.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A (if no unsuitable areas are identified)	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>B. Does the plan ensure that any regional or local constraints (regionally or locally designated resources or critical resources, from 12b-12c above) identified are supported through data or studies, are consistent with the remainder of the plan, and do not include an arbitrary prohibition or interference with the intended function of any particular renewable resource size or type? <i>Please explain in the Notes column.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>14. Municipalities seeking a determination of energy compliance from the Department and not using their region’s maps only: Does the plan ensure that its approach, if applied regionally, would not have the effect of prohibiting any type of renewable generation technology in all locations?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (also check Yes if seeking determination)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Paragraph #: Click here to enter text.</p> <p>Notes: Click here to enter text.</p>

	tion from region, or from DPS but using region- provided maps)		
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November 26, 2018

Matt Boulanger, Director of Planning
Town of Williston
7900 Williston Road
Williston, Vermont 05495

Dear Mr. Boulanger,

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission approved the 2016-2024 Town of Williston Comprehensive Plan on September 20, 2017. In 2018, the Town of Williston proposed amendments to the 2016-2024 Comprehensive Plan. These amendments are intended to (1) adopt the *Williston Village Master Plan* as an amendment to the 2016-2024 Comprehensive Plan, and (2) make changes to Chapter 13 of the 2016-2024 Comprehensive Plan to add additional goals for the protection of forests, river corridors and archaeological and cultural resources.

CCRPC staff have reviewed the amendments and determined that the affected sections continue to meet the relevant required elements and goals and are consistent with the ECOS Regional Plan. **Therefore, CCRPC's approval of the 2016-2024 Town of Williston Comprehensive Plan and confirmation of Williston's planning process are not affected by the 2018 amendments.**

Please let me know if you need any other information or have any questions.

Sincerely,



Charlie Baker
Executive Director

CC (via email): CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee
Deborah Beckett, Williston Town Clerk & Treasurer
Chris Roy, CCRPC Commissioner from Williston
Debbie Ingram, CCRPC Alternate Commissioner from Williston