



# CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC

*Communities Planning Together*

## ***Planning Advisory Committee***

**Wednesday, October 9, 2019**

**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 August 7, 2019 Minutes\***

**2:40 Building Homes Together, Regina Mahony**

Regina Mahony will provide an overview of the results from the first three years of the campaign. The final 2018 report and information is located here: <http://www.ecosproject.com/building-homes-together>.

**2:55 Census Update, Melanie Needle**

Melanie Needle will provide an update on the New Construction process. The LUCA appeals have been submitted, and we are waiting on those results. We are also waiting on PSAP feedback.

**3:05 e911 Addressing, Melanie Needle and Tyler Hermanson**

Refresher on addressing, including proper addressing of ADUs.

**3:25 Jericho Energy Plan\*, Melanie Needle**

This is a plan amendment to include a new enhanced energy plan, and 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

**3:45 Charlotte Energy Plan\*, Melanie Needle**

This is a plan amendment to include a new enhanced energy plan, and the town is seeking a Determination of Energy Compliance. This document was last reviewed and recommended for approval by the PAC in November, 2018. No further PAC action is needed on this Plan, but Staff will provide an update since it has almost been a year since the PAC last reviewed it.

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

**4:15 Other Business**

- a. Button-Up Vermont Events in the region: <https://buttonupvermont.org/participating-communities>
- b. CCRPC is hosting APA's Gentrification, Displacement and the Law Webinar on 10/10 from 3:30 to 5pm\*
- c. Next Housing Convening: Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> on Accessory Dwelling Units
- d. Implementing Act 171 Webinars – Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> \*

**4:30 Adjourn**

\* = Attachment

**NEXT MEETING: December 11, 2019**

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](mailto:evaughn@ccrpcvt.org), no later than 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, August 7, 2019  
TIME: 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
PLACE: CCRPC Offices, 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

**Members Present:**

Matt Boulanger, Williston  
Larry Lewack, Bolton  
Eric Vorwald, Winooski  
Meagan Tuttle, Burlington  
Cathyann LaRose, South Burlington  
Dean Pierce, Shelburne  
Dana Hanley, Essex  
Michael Burris, Milton

Marty Gilles, Colchester Intern  
Sean Cannon, Colchester  
Andrew Strniste, Underhill  
Daryl Arminius, Charlotte

**Staff:**

Regina Mahony, Planning Program Manager  
Emily Nosse-Leirer, Senior Planner  
Melanie Needle, Senior Planner

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Regina Mahony called the meeting to order at 2:41 p.m.

**2. Approval of May 8, 2019 Minutes**

Eric Vorwald made a motion, seconded by Dana Hanley, to approve the May 8, 2019 minutes. No further discussion.  
MOTION PASSED. Daryl Arminius and Jessica Draper abstained.

**3. Comprehensive Plans – General Topics**

- a. Implementation of Plans: The PAC asked to discuss the expectations of Plan implementation/accountability at a PAC meeting outside of a specific Plan review, including whether CCRPC should review the Plans earlier than 24 months before they expire. Emily Nosse-Leirer provided some background information on this topic including an overview of the requirements of §4350. The Staff recommendation is to follow our normal plan review process, with a few changes: 1. As a part of the 18 to 24 month (before Plan expiration) review/consultation, staff will review whether the Plan has been implemented or not, the planning process of the municipality and if the municipality is maintaining efforts to provide funding for municipal and regional planning. 2. We will include these reviews on the PAC agendas to meet the public notice requirement, and to allow the PAC to weigh in on these early reviews/consultations. Emily indicated that staff would ask the municipalities for a self-assessment on Plan implementation before CCRPC prepares the review. Emily asked the PAC for thoughts and comments on this strategy. The PAC generally agreed that a check-in on Plan implementation is a great idea, and the self-assessment would make sense because it won't be possible for CCRPC to know all the ways the Plan has been implemented (and the Planners don't necessarily know either as other Departments and Committees are responsible for parts of the Plan). Members of the PAC added that this is either something that they are already doing in house already; or will help with annual reporting and Committee workplans at the municipal level. Several municipalities wondered whether CCRPC could help provide data on various indicators included in their plans as part of this review process. Regina said that CCRPC could possibly help with this on a case-by-case basis. There was a suggestion that Charlie add a plan implementation reminder into the annual discussions that he has with the legislative bodies. Regina thanked the PAC for the feedback and stated that Staff will play this out for a year or two before making a formal change to the Plan Review Guidelines.
- b. Plan Amendment in early stages of the 8-year cycle: Emily Nosse-Leirer explained that CCRPC has received a question about whether a Town can restart the clock with a Plan amendment, if they are still meeting all statutory requirements. The issue is that while all elements and goals may be met, the data will begin to get stale and out of date. This particular municipality adopted their Plan in 2017 (so the data is largely from the 2014 ACS and the 2010 Census); and they want to amend the Plan for energy planning. For all other purposes the plan meets all statutory requirements, so the question is whether they can amend the Plan and start a new 8 year clock. The PAC had a lengthy discussion about this. The discussion included:

- i. Suggestions about alternatives to data analysis and updates so it in and of itself doesn't hold up a Plan amendment or update.
- ii. Concerns that if a municipality does small amendments along the way on a chapter or two, eventually other parts of the plan will be stale and very much out of date. This is not just a potential data issue, but a public engagement and policy issue as well.
- iii. Acknowledgement that if all statutory requirements are met, the data is not too outdated, and the municipality asks for a new 8-year clock, CCRPC should be able to approve that.
- iv. Understanding of the challenges of determining when data is outdated. It was stated that municipalities are supposed to update the information on which the plan is based; and the Regional Plan should be clear about new municipal plan updates so everyone is clear on the policy that we are operating under. Another member added that we should be flexible because statute doesn't say that all the data needs to be updated right away.
- v. Regina added that this is tied back to the change from 5 year plans to 8 year plans, and the idea that with an 8 year plan there would be less re-adoption of older plans with outdated data. Dana added that the planning community did make a lot of promises during those discussions. There was a suggestion that perhaps an amendment within the first year or two would be okay for a new 8 year clock.

Ultimately, it was acknowledged that this needs to be determined on a case-by-case basis. It is up to the municipalities to make the ask for whatever they want. If there is an ask for a new 8 year clock, then it will be on Staff to decide what the recommendation is to the PAC (from the standpoint of data, public input, policies, etc.).

- c. Forest Integrity: CCRPC has received feedback from ANR on some of the Act 171/forest integrity plans we've been writing, and we'd like to discuss this feedback with the PAC. Emily Nosse-Leirer provided an overview of ANR's feedback on the Huntington Plan. Essentially, the forest connectivity block data does not include wildlife connectivity data and should not be used as a surrogate for wildlife connectivity. Act 171 does have "habitat connector" requirements in addition to forest block requirements. Therefore, it is a good idea to get in touch with ANR for your own town plans (and bylaw work) for advice on what data to use for wildlife connectivity. Jens Hilke is really great at providing assistance and mapping potential habitat connector areas when he can.

#### **4. Building Homes Together**

Regina Mahony explained that we are finalizing the 2018 data for the third year of this campaign. This year the Building Homes Together team would also like to report all the municipal work that has been going into housing (i.e. housing committees, housing trust funds, inclusionary zoning, density improvements, development review process improvements, ADU improvements, etc). Regina emailed a spreadsheet about this information last week; and passed it around for PAC members to fill in. Melanie also sent the final 2018 housing construction numbers a few days ago for one last review. Regina asked the PAC to take a look at that data one last time, as it will be finalized next week.

#### **5. Census Update: PSAP and New Construction**

Melanie Needle indicated that there is no update on the PSAP yet, as CCRPC has not heard back from the Census on the proposed changes that were submitted. Melanie Needle explained that the New Construction Program is intended to have an accurate count as possible by Census Day, 4/1/20. The purpose is to capture housing construction that began after 3/1/18 that would not have been submitted to the Census Bureau through any other program. The deadline for submitting addresses is 11/22/19. Regarding the new construction program, Melanie stated that for those municipalities that registered as CCRPC doing the work (Essex, Essex Junction, Hinesburg, Jericho, Milton, Richmond, Shelburne, Underhill, Westford and Williston). CCRPC needs your data by September 30th. The data needed is: zoning permit info from 2018 that didn't close; and 2019 zoning permit data. While CCRPC staff do not yet know the exact information and methodology that will be needed to submit this information to the Census (the webinars are supposed to be scheduled in September), the deadline for submittal is November 22nd. Therefore, CCRPC needs the data in enough time to work with it. For those towns that didn't register as CCRPC doing the work, VCGI is going to do this work for you. They will submit new construction data to the Census from e911 and DMV data. VCGI will take more local data from municipalities if you want to provide them with it as well. Bolton and Colchester are participating in the program on their own.

#### **6. ACCD's Zoning for Great Neighborhoods project**

Regina Mahony stated that ACCD is leading a project to help municipalities throughout Vermont improve housing options in walkable places by updating land use regulations. Information about it can be found [here](#). Regina indicated that Center for New Urbanism is the consultant for this work, and they've done a similar project in Minnesota. CNU is asking the RPCs to identify *common and/or typical* existing local zoning barriers to housing and neighborhood walkability, and the specific regulations that determine these barriers. This is supposed to be typical barriers not a complete assessment of each municipality's regulations. Also, the RPCs need to suggest potential case study towns. These towns will receive specific recommendations and will be asked to participate in a charrette in November. However, there will only be four case study towns selected in the entire state, and the issues need to be replicable to other towns in Vermont. Regina asked the PAC to let her know if there is any interest in being a case study town.

#### **7. Regional Act 250/Section 248 Projects on the Horizon**

Milton: Several residential projects have been proposed in Milton, but local review is still preliminary and no Act 250 applications have been submitted yet.

Williston: just more phases of Finney Crossing and Cottonwood.

Underhill: nothing.

Shelburne: 63 units at the Yankee Doodle motel site (most significant FBC project so far). Other potential projects on Rte. 7. Kwiniaska development now held up by neighbors.

Richmond: Creamery project. Mobile home reconstruction on Rte. 2.

Bolton: Nothing Act 250 related.

Essex: New warehousing/storage in Saxon Hill.

South Burlington: FedEx proposal in Tech Park; Dorset Meadows development.

Winooski: A wall sign at VSAC needs to go to Act 250 for approval.

Colchester: Nothing new.

Burlington: A couple of projects under re-design. New Act 250 – proposed multi-family on Riverside for 50 units.

Local permits expired, so they need to come back through for permitting.

Charlotte: Nothing new.

#### **8. Other Business**

a. As in past years, the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development is issuing [this memo](#) to inform municipal planning and development officials of changes in statute.

a. Future Meetings are anticipated for: September 11, 2019; October 9, 2019; December 11, 2019. Note the NNECAPA conference conflicts with the second Wednesday in November.

b. MPG Grants due October 1<sup>st</sup>...let us know if you want our help, or want to discuss a potential MPG/UPWP application.

#### **8. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Regina Mahony

**Staff Review of the Town of Jericho's Enhanced Energy Comprehensive Town Plan**  
**Melanie Needle, Senior Planner**  
**Reviewed by the CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee on October 9, 2019**

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The Town of Jericho 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 [Town of Jericho Comprehensive Town Plan](#) (draft 9/10/2019).

Jericho is amending a number of sections of their Comprehensive Town Plan. In accordance with statute, an amendment is not a full rewrite of the Town Plan and the Town Plan expiration date will remain in 2024. The amendments include changes to the purpose of the Commercial District, an update to the Natural Resources chapter, a new Healthy Community chapter, and inclusion of an enhanced energy element.

Staff have completed this formal review of the enhanced energy plan components of the Jericho Comprehensive Town Plan (draft 9/10/2019) against the Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans in advance of the Planning Commission's public hearing on October 15, 2019.

**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 Jericho Comprehensive Town Plan Enhanced Energy element to determine whether:

1. The Comprehensive Town 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 Comprehensive Town 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 Comprehensive Town 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.

CCRPC Staff & PAC Review – Town of Jericho Enhanced Energy Comprehensive Town Plan  
October 9, 2019 PAC Meeting

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		
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		Additional work is needed	
9.f. Maximize potential for generation on preferred sites	X		
9.g. Demonstrate municipal leadership re: deploying renewable energy	X		
4. Include maps provided by CCRPC	X		

Comments related to the Standards:

The updates and enhancements made to the energy chapter have produced an energy element that is readable and accessible to the casual reader as well as any stakeholder looking to implement policy improvements. The energy chapter meets all the energy planning standards for a municipal plan. However, CCRPC staff has found that the implementation strategy related to the treatment of secondary conservation areas in Chapter 4: Natural Resources could be further clarified to ensure consistency with the implementation strategy related to possible constraints in Chapter 11: Energy. Specially, strategy 4.1.3 would benefit from further editing as the policy currently does not

indicate that mitigating impacts to these constraints may be necessary. A possible solution could be to incorporate the last sentence in the second bullet on page 42 of the tracked changes version into policy statement 4.1.3 with an additional phrase about mitigating potential impacts caused by development to secondary conservation areas. For example: “In general, these places should be evaluated carefully when development is proposed within them for potential conflicts with the natural resource values and impacts may need to be mitigated.”

Additionally, the constraint policy statements in Chapter 11 should be referenced in the energy generation siting narrative on page 131 of the tracked changes version to ensure that potential developers are aware of the policy statements in this chapter.

For example: “Additionally, implementation actions 11.2.1.9 and 11.2.1.10 should be applied to renewable energy development applications.”

Comments related to typos or clarification:

1. Page 116 add analysis after (LEAP) in second paragraph.
2. Page 118 First paragraph. Acknowledging the reliability issues and discussing battery system is a great solution. However only GMP’s battery storage system is discussed probably because VEC doesn’t have a program. It would be helpful for the reader to state that VEC doesn’t currently have a battery storage system to offer VEC rate payers at the time of writing of this plan.
3. Page 118 table 11. 2 text indicates the data is current as of 2017, but the source note in the table says 2018. Additionally, the number of solar arrays in the narrative does not match the data in the table. The text should say 275 solar arrays not 163 arrays.
4. Page 119 Third paragraph nice discussion of the natural gas conundrum
5. Page 119 under Thermal Energy Heading ‘tables’ should be singular
6. Page 120 Table 11. 3 What is the source of the data? Is it the American Community Survey? If it is, please consider adding a statement alerting the reader that the data is associated with a margin of error. Please also include a source.
7. Page 120 Table 11.4 The percentages included for natural gas consumption sum up to 102%. Please double check
8. Page 124 The first sentence of the last paragraph fits better as the second sentence in the paragraph above
9. One Page 128 Under Generation The amount of existing generation stated in the last sentence of the first paragraph does not match what is indicated in 11.2. This is ok but a note explaining the reason for the mismatch should be included.
10. Consider including the definitions of prime and base land area
11. In the list of state-define possible constraints, uncommon species are included. Uncommon species are not listed in the Act 174 standards, so I am not sure why it is listed here.
12. Page 133 Great list of actions taken!
13. Implementation 11.1.3.4 and 11.1.3.5: electric vehicles should be included in these statements as well
14. Implementation 11.1.4.5 typo add an “s” to station

Staff finds that the draft Town of Jericho Comprehensive Town Plan (draft 9/10/2019) will meet the requirements of the enhanced energy planning standards (“determination”) set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352 **with the additions of clarifying language to strategies 4.1.3.**

Proposed Motion & Next Steps:

The PAC finds that the draft Town of Jericho Comprehensive Town Plan (draft 9/10/2019) meets the requirements of the enhanced energy planning standards (“determination”) set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352 **with the additions of clarifying language to strategies 4.1.3.**

**CCRPC Staff & PAC Review – Town of Jericho Enhanced Energy Comprehensive Town Plan  
October 9, 2019 PAC Meeting**

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 the natural resource strategies mentioned above have not been revised or 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.



# 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, 2018<sup>1</sup>, 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)

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<sup>1</sup> 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](mailto:PSD.PlanningStandards@vermont.gov).

Part I: Applicant Information		
<b>The plan being submitted for review is a:</b>	<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  <b>Please submit these plans to your RPC</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Plan in a region whose regional plan has <u>not</u> received a determination of energy compliance  <b>Until July 1, 2018, please submit these to the DPS. After July 1, 2018, this option ceases to exist.</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	Town of Jericho	
<b>Contact person:</b>	Katherine Sonnick	
<b>Contact information:</b>	<a href="mailto:ksonnick@jerichovt.gov">ksonnick@jerichovt.gov</a> ; 802-899-2287 x 103, PO Box 39, Jericho, VT 05465	
<b>Received by:</b> Melanie Needle, CCRPC	<b>Date:</b> September 27, 2019	

## 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 <a href="#">24 V.S.A. § 4350</a> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Adoption date: 1/07/16 Confirmation date: 1/20/19	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Anticipated adoption and approval with the addition of the Energy Element, October 2019
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>

## 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.

<b>3. Does the plan contain an energy element, that contains the same components described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3)?</b> <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: 116-140 Notes: Chapter 11, Energy as well as maps 17 – 21 in Appendix A
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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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: Analysis and Targets section, beginning on page 119.
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 &amp; 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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: Data and Targets were created through enhanced energy planning assistance from CCRPC.

<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 118 - 120 Paragraph #: Tables 11.4, 11.6, 11.8 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 128, 121 Paragraph #: Tables 11.5, 11.7, 11.9 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 123-125 Paragraph #: Text including Tables 11.12 and 11.14 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 119- 121, 122-123, and 134-135 Paragraph #: Transportation Land Use Sections Notes: Strategies 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 11.4.1
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: 121-122 Paragraph #: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Section Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>

### 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.

<b>6. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on the conservation and efficient use of energy?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 130 Paragraph #: Goal 11.1 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 132-133 Paragraph #: Strategy 11.1.2 and following Implementation tasks Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 121-123 Paragraph #: Energy Efficiency and Conservation and Land Use Planning and Site Design Sections. implementation tasks 11.1.2.2, 11.2.3.1, 11.2.3.2 and Strategy 11.3.1 with associated implementation tasks. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 132-134 Paragraph #: Implementation 11.1.2.6, Goal 11.2, Strategies 11.2.2, 11.2.3 and their associated implementation tasks. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 130 Paragraph #: Strategy 11.1.1 and associated implementation tasks Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 123 Paragraph #: Local Food Production section. Supports policy to encourage this. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>



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: 135 Paragraph #: Goal 11.4 and associated Strategy 11.4.1 and implementation tasks. Notes: The Town has a Master Transportation Plan and Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan that are referenced as well.
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: 135 Paragraph #: Strategy 11.4.1 and associated implementation tasks. Notes: The Town has a Master Transportation Plan and Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan that are referenced and also a Transportation chapter these encourages actions as well.
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: 134 and 135 Paragraph #: Strategy 11.3.1, implementation tasks 11.3.1.2 and 11.3.1.3, Strategy 11.4.1 and associated implementation tasks. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 131-132 Paragraph #: Strategy 11.1.4 and associated implantation tasks Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: 2015 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan as incorporated by reference discusses this in detail Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 131 Paragraph #: Strategy 11.1.3 and associated implementation tasks. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>



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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<b>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?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 134 Paragraph #: Goal 11.3 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 24-25 and 134 Paragraph #: Throughout the Land Use section, including notably strategies 3.1.1, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.2.1 and this connection is reinforced with Strategy 11.3.1 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 24-25 Paragraph #: Strategy 3.1.1 and associated implementation tasks, as well as the extensive discussion of the three state designated village centers, the necessary large lot sizes in the rural areas and the anti-strip development discussion in the land use chapter and this connection is reinforced with Strategy 11.3.1. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
C. 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: 134 Paragraph #: Strategy 11.3.1 and associated implementation tasks. Notes: An effort to provide education and incentives for innovated building and landscape design for maximizing solar exposure and energy conservation.
<b>9. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on the development and siting of renewable energy resources?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Notes: Goal 11.2

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: 115 Paragraph #: Table 11.2 Notes:
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: 125 – 126 and maps 17-21 Paragraph #: Table 11.4 and Figures 2 and 3 are based off of maps 17-21 Notes:
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: 126 Paragraph #: Figures 2 and 3 based on maps 17-21 Notes:
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: 127 Paragraph #: The locally defined known and possible constraints are not a large enough area to prohibit sufficient energy siting. Notes: Figures 2 and 3 show significant available 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: 113, 126-128, 132 Paragraph #: Introductory paragraph supports this goal, the Energy Generation Siting section, and Strategy 11.2.1 and supporting implementation tasks Notes: Supports maps 17, 20 and 21
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: Paragraph #: Map 17: “Preferred Sites & Existing Renewable Energy Generation” shows preferred sites, Map 20: “Potential Wind Energy Resource Areas” and Map 21: “Potential Solar Energy Resources Area” also includes preferred and potential areas Notes:

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: page 114 Paragraph #: As noted in the Plan, at the time of writing the Plan the Town is pursuing a 1.6 MW solar array on the former landfill at Mobbs Farm. Notes:
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes:

### 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?  <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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Notes: CCRPC developed maps for Jericho.</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Notes: Map 17, "Energy Generation: Preferred Sites &amp; Existing Renewable Generation"</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 resulting Prime and Secondary Resource Maps will together comprise "potential areas":</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Notes: Map 17: "Energy Generation: Preferred Sites &amp; Existing Renewable Generation," Map 20: "Energy Resources Area: Potential Wind", Map 21 "Energy Resources Areas: Potential Solar"</p>
<p>A. Raw renewable energy potential analysis (wind and solar), using best available data layers (including LiDAR as appropriate)</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: Map 20 and Map 21  Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p>
<p>B. Known constraints (signals likely, though not absolute, unsuitability for development based on statewide or local regulations or designated critical resources) to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vernal Pools (confirmed and unconfirmed layers)</li> <li>• DEC River Corridors</li> <li>• FEMA Floodways</li> <li>• State-significant Natural Communities and Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species</li> <li>• National Wilderness Areas</li> <li>• Class 1 and Class 2 Wetlands (VSWI and advisory layers)</li> <li>• Regionally or Locally Identified Critical Resources</li> </ul> <p><i>If areas are constrained for the development of renewable</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: 126-127  Paragraph #: Energy Generation Siting section contains a discussion on the state-defined known constraints.  Notes: Map 18: "State Known Constraints, Energy Generation" include these areas.</p>

<p><i>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></p> <p><i>These areas should be subtracted from raw renewable energy resource potential maps to form Secondary Resource Maps</i></p>			
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural Soils</li> <li>• FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas</li> <li>• Protected Lands (State fee lands and private conservation lands)</li> <li>• Act 250 Agricultural Soil Mitigation areas</li> <li>• Deer Wintering Areas</li> <li>• ANR's Vermont Conservation Design Highest Priority Forest Blocks (or Habitat Blocks 9 &amp; 10, for plans using regional maps in regions whose plans will be submitted for adoption at the regional level by March 1, 2017)</li> <li>• Hydric Soils</li> <li>• Regionally or Locally Identified Resources</li> </ul> <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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: 126-127</p> <p>Paragraph #: Energy Generation Siting sections contains the state-defined possible constraints.</p> <p>Notes: Map 19: "State Possible Constraints, Energy Generation" includes these areas.</p>

<p>D. Transmission and distribution resources and constraints, as well as transportation infrastructure. <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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Notes: Map 12: “Facilities &amp; Utilities” includes the the distriction lines, Map 17: “Preferred Sites &amp; Existing Renewable Energy Generation”</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 <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. 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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: Map 17: “Preferred Sites &amp; Existing Renewable Energy Generation” shows these sties.</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: 128 Paragraph #: Lists the preferred sites as of 2019. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></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. 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	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: Map 19: “Preferrd Sites &amp; Existing Renewable Energy Generation”, Map 20:</p>
<p><b>13. Does the plan identify areas that are unsuitable for siting renewable energy resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources?</b> <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	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: 127 Paragraph #: Identifieds Locally Defined Known Constraints” Notes: Map 19 “State Known Constraints” Map 20: Potential Wind, Energy Resource Areas”, Map 21:</p>

	selected below)		Potential Solar Energy Resource Areas” identified areas unsuitable for renewable energy generation
<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)?</p> <p><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)	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Notes: Maps that identified these areas were developed by CCRPC.</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?</p> <p><i>Please explain in the Notes column.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Notes: Yes, based on supported data and studies done, including the 2015 ECOS Science to Action Project, as reference in the Natural Resources Section of the Plan.</p>
<p><b>14. Municipalities seeking a determination of energy compliance from the Department and not using their region’s maps only:</b> 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 from region, or from DPS but using region-provided maps)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p>

**Staff Review of the 2018 Charlotte Town Plan Amendments (Enhanced Energy Plan Review)**  
**Melanie Needle, Senior Planner**  
**For the CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee on October 9, 2019**

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At the PAC's November 7, 2018 meeting a motion was made which found the 2018 Charlotte Town Plan met the requirements of the enhanced energy planning standards set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352. Subsequently, the Charlotte Planning Commission submitted the proposed Town Plan Amendment to the Selectboard on December 7, 2018. The Selectboard opened its first public hearing on February 25, 2019 and continued the hearing on March 25, April 22, and June 10, 2019. The Selectboard opened and closed its second public hearing on August 12, 2019, and subsequently voted to put the amendment to a Town-wide vote on November 5, 2019. The latest version of the Town Plan can be found [here](#).

Due to the fact that the Town Plan has been under review for a number of months since the PAC made a motion to recommend CCRPC board adoption, CCRPC staff conducted another formal review to ensure that the plan remains in compliance with the statutory requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4352 and Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans. While a few of the non-required edits suggested in the November 7, 2018 staff report were not made (for example, a minor typo on the existing solar energy generation), Staff still finds that the Plan meets the statutory requirements. **Therefore, CCRPC staff finds that no substantial changes have been made and that indeed the Plan still meets the statutory requirements. As such, staff recommends that the PAC resolution made on November 7, 2018 remain as passed.**

For your information, this memo includes a summary of changes that have been made between the PAC's last review and the final document. The initial November 7, 2018 Staff report is attached for your information.

Changes made since the November Review

The changes, as described in the bullets below, have largely been to further explain data already included in the plan. CCRPC staff would like to bring attention to the fourth bullet as an information item to the PAC. Charlotte is the first town in our region to develop a map which is intended to identify where the Town encourages renewable energy generation.

- The 2018 PC draft reported the number of generation systems in Charlotte, and new tables have been added during the SB process to also report that generation with breakdowns by system size and by ownership type.
- The generation targets for 2025-2050 were lowered slightly to reflect that more generation recently came online in Charlotte
- Several examples of how the generation targets could be met were added to the plan to give readers a better sense of the necessary scale of change
- The addition of "potential town preferred sites" on Map 19. This map shows areas in town without any known or possible constraints. This change was made to reflect the fact that the generation potential maps (Maps 15 and 16) use a data source that is not always reliable. The map states that "the Town has not reviewed preferred sites at a site-specific level and may not support the designation of all preferred sites depicted. There may also be potential for designating preferred sites not symbolized on this map if those sites are consistent with the land use policies of the town plan."

Next Steps:

As called for in the November 7, 2018 motion, Staff will now forward this Plan 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, 2018<sup>1</sup>, 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)

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<sup>1</sup> 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](mailto:PSD.PlanningStandards@vermont.gov).

Part I: Applicant Information		
<b>The plan being submitted for review is a:</b>	<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  <b>Please submit these plans to your RPC</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Plan in a region whose regional plan has <u>not</u> received a determination of energy compliance  <b>Until July 1, 2018, please submit these to the DPS. After July 1, 2018, this option ceases to exist.</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	Planning & Zoning Office, Town of Charlotte	
<b>Contact person:</b>	Daryl Benoit, Town Planner	
<b>Contact information:</b>	PO Box 119, Charlotte, VT 05445 / E-mail: <a href="mailto:dbenoit@townofcharlotte.com">dbenoit@townofcharlotte.com</a>	
<b>Received by:</b> Melanie Needle	<b>Date:</b> 11/01/2018 and reviewed again on 10/1/2019	

## 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 <u>24 V.S.A. § 4350</u> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Adoption date: 6 Mar 2018 Confirmation date: 21 Mar 2018	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Signed by Christopher Roy, Chair of the CCRPC. To view the currently adopted plan for the Town of Charlotte, please visit: <a href="https://is.gd/mW9PGW">https://is.gd/mW9PGW</a> .  To view the proposed energy plan to be adopted in 2019, please visit the Town website here: <a href="https://www.charlottevt.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&amp;SEC=%7bB5E1B1EB-FEEC-4920-BF0B-89F64521E1F9%7d">https://www.charlottevt.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&amp;SEC=%7bB5E1B1EB-FEEC-4920-BF0B-89F64521E1F9%7d</a>
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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: The copy to be adopted in 2019 is linked above.
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Energy Element Requirement			
<p>To obtain a determination of energy compliance, Act 174 requires municipalities to include an “energy element” that contains the same <u>components</u> 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:</p> <p><i>An energy element, which may include an <u>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.</u></i></p> <p>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. <b>Energy element components are identified in bolded text.</b></p> <p>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.</p>			
3. <b>Does the plan contain an energy element, that contains the same components described in 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(a)(3)?</b> <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: 1-53 to Page 1-63 Notes: Section 1.12

Consistency with State Goals and Policies Requirement	
<p>Act 174 states that regional and municipal plans must be consistent with the following state goals and policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greenhouse gas reduction goals under <a href="#">10 V.S.A. § 578(a)</a> (50% from 1990 levels by 2028; 75% by 2050)</li> <li>The 25 x 25 goal for renewable energy under <a href="#">10 V.S.A. § 580</a> (25% in-state renewables supply for all energy uses by 2025)</li> <li>Building efficiency goals under <a href="#">10 V.S.A. § 581</a> (25% of homes – or 80,000 units – made efficient by 2020)</li> </ul>	

- 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 <i>Mapping</i> 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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: Energy Strategy 1, see below
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 &amp; 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: 2-63 through 2-72 on Chapter "2.8 Energy", and 1-53 through 1-63 on Chapter "1.12 Energy". Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: This portion of the plan has substantial analysis and background covered in the Chittenden County RPC's, "2018 ECOS Plan Supplement 6 – Energy Analysis, Targets, & Methodology".
A. Does the plan estimate current energy use across transportation, heating, and electric sectors?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: 2-65 through 2-67 Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: plans out to 2025, 2035, and 2050.
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: 2-68 through 2-72 Tables 36-44 Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: Page 2-69 and Table 37 and 38 Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: Section 1.2 Section 1.11Page 2-68 and Table 36 Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: Page 1-53 through 1-63, Table 39 Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>

### 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.

<b>6. Does your plan’s energy element contain a statement of policy on the conservation and efficient use of energy?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: References below are in the Energy Chapter (1.12) on Pages 1-53 to 1-63, or the Transportation Chapter (1.11) on Pages 1-47 to 1-52. Paragraph #: Energy policy #1 and #2 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: pages 1-59 through 1-63 Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: Energy Policies #3 and #5; Energy Strategies #1, #2, and #3.
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Energy Policies #1, #3, #5, and #6; Energy Strategies #4, #5, #6, #8, and #16. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Page: pages 1-59 through 1-63 Paragraph #: Energy Policy #5; Energy Strategy #5, #6; #10 and #11. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>



<i>barriers to, deployment of biomass district heating and/or thermal-led combined heat and power systems in the municipality)</i>			
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Energy Policies #1, #3, and #6; Energy Strategy #9. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: 1-59. Paragraph #: Energy Strategy #7 Notes: Update the outdoor lighting standards of the Regulations.
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Energy Policy #2 Energy Strategy #3; Transportation Strategies #4, #15, and #17. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Transportation Strategy #6, #17, #19 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Transportation Policy #14; Transportation Strategies #2, #6, #18, and #19. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Transportation Policy #15; Transportation Strategies #15 and #16. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Transportation Policy #4 and #18; Transportation Strategies #8, #9, #10, and #13. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>



<p>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></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Transportation Strategy #4</a>  Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p>
<p>F. 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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p>
<p><b>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?</b></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Notes: Policies on land use are found in the Future Land Use Chapter (1.2), Historical and Cultural Resources Chapter (1.7), and the Utilities, Facilities, &amp; Services Chapter (1.10).</p>
<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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Notes: The Town's strong natural resources protections encourage land to be put into conservation and direct development towards village areas. Natural resources protections are summarized by policies surrounding the "Areas of High Public Value" discussed in Future Land Use Policies #7, #8, and #9.</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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Notes: Throughout the plan, but most prominently: Wastewater and Potable Water Supply planning discussed in Strategies #19-#24 of the Utilities, Facilities, &amp; Services Chapter (1.10); the Strategy #3 of the Economic Development Chapter (1.9); and Strategy #1 of the Historical and Cultural Resources Chapter (1.7).</p>

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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Energy Policies #7, #8, #9, #10, #11; Energy Strategy #12 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<b>9. Does your plan's energy element contain a statement of policy on the development and siting of renewable energy resources?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Notes:
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Table 33 in Chapter 2: Charlotte Today, Section 2.8 Energy. Notes:
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Table 42-43 in Chapter 2: Charlotte Today, Section 2.8 Energy. Notes:
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 type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Tables 42-43 in Chapter 2: Charlotte Today indicate that the prime renewable energy generation potential is high enough to meet the Town's targets. Notes:
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Charlotte Today, Energy Section, Table 42 and 43 show that the prime renewable energy generation potential is high enough to meet Charlotte's targets Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Future Land Use Policies #7, #8 and #9; Energy Policies #7, #8, and #9. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Energy Strategy #13 Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>

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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: Energy Strategies #13, #16, and #17. Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>

## 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?  <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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Notes: CCRPC provided to the maps to the Town,</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Notes: Map #14 "Existing Renewable Energy Generation" maps the existing renewable energy sites.</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 resulting Prime and Secondary Resource Maps will together comprise "potential areas":</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Notes: Map #15 "Potential Solar Energy Resource Areas"; Map #16 "Potential Wind Energy Resource Areas" and Map 19 "State Designated &amp; Potential Town Preferred Sites for Net-Metering.</p>
<p>A. Raw renewable energy potential analysis (wind and solar), using best available data layers (including LiDAR as appropriate)</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Paragraph #:          Notes: Map #15 and Map #16.</p>
<p>B. Known constraints (signals likely, though not absolute, unsuitability for development based on statewide or local regulations or designated critical resources) to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vernal Pools (confirmed and unconfirmed layers)</li> <li>• DEC River Corridors</li> <li>• FEMA Floodways</li> <li>• State-significant Natural Communities and Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species</li> <li>• National Wilderness Areas</li> <li>• Class 1 and Class 2 Wetlands (VSWI and advisory layers)</li> <li>• Regionally or Locally Identified Critical Resources</li> </ul> <p><i>If areas are constrained for the development of renewable</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>          Paragraph #: Map #17 covering "State Known Constraints", which includes: Rare and Endangered Species &amp; Significant Natural Communities, and River Corridors.          Notes:</p>

<p><i>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></p> <p><i>These areas should be subtracted from raw renewable energy resource potential maps to form Secondary Resource Maps</i></p>			
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural Soils</li> <li>• FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas</li> <li>• Protected Lands (State fee lands and private conservation lands)</li> <li>• Act 250 Agricultural Soil Mitigation areas</li> <li>• Deer Wintering Areas</li> <li>• ANR's Vermont Conservation Design Highest Priority Forest Blocks (or Habitat Blocks 9 &amp; 10, for plans using regional maps in regions whose plans will be submitted for adoption at the regional level by March 1, 2017)</li> <li>• Hydric Soils</li> <li>• Regionally or Locally Identified Resources</li> </ul> <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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Paragraph #: Map #18 covering "State Possible Constraints", which includes: FEMA Special Hazard Flood Areas, Protected Land, Deer Wintering Areas, VT Conservation Design Physical Landscape Diversity Blocks, Act 250 Agricultural Soil Mitigation Area, Agricultural &amp; Hydric Soils.</p> <p>Notes:</p>

<p>D. Transmission and distribution resources and constraints, as well as transportation infrastructure.  <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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: These are covered in Maps #14, #15, &amp; #16.  Notes:</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  <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>  <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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: This is covered in Map #14.  Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></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: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: see Map #19  Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></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	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: see Map #15, Map #16 and Map #19.  Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p>
<p><b>13. Does the plan identify areas that are unsuitable for siting renewable energy resources or particular categories or sizes of those resources?</b>  <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	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>  Paragraph #: Map #6, which covers identified areas of wildlife habitat, which have been determined to be “Areas of High Public Value” (AHPV) and are discussed further in the Town Plan, Chapter 1, Section 1.2 Future Land Use.</p>

	selected below)		Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<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)?</p> <p><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)	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Paragraph #: In addition to the wildlife habitat mentioned above (i.e. Map #6), the Areas of High Public Value discussed in the Land Use Policies of Chapter 1.2 are mapped in: Map #8 (as Publicly Owned Recreation, Natural Resource, &amp;/or Open Land), Map #13 (as Conserved &amp; Public Lands), and Map #7 (as districts, properties, sites, or structures listed in the National or State Register of Historic Places).</p> <p>Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></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?</p> <p><i>Please explain in the Notes column.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Paragraph #: Chapter 1.2 of the Town Plan cites and links to a 2009 wildlife habitat study that was used to determine the habitat areas, titled: “Technical Guide to Classifying, Identifying, and Justifying Significant Wildlife Habitat in Charlotte, Vermont”, Jesse Mohr (Native Geographic, LLC), Matthew Kolan (University of Vermont), and The 2008 Charlotte Significant Wildlife Habitat Working Group, 23 April 2009. The plan also calls for following an assessment protocol of impacts on habitats to be employed during development review proceedings, titled: "Protocol for Assessment of Impacts of Proposed Development on Significant Wildlife Habitat in Charlotte, Vermont", Charlotte Conservation Commission, March 2008.</p> <p>Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p>
<p><b>14. Municipalities seeking a determination of energy compliance from the Department and not using their region’s maps only:</b> 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	<p>Page: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Paragraph #: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p> <p>Notes: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a></p>

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 the 2018 Charlotte Town Plan Amendments (Enhanced Energy Plan Review)**  
**Melanie Needle, Senior Planner**  
**November 1, 2018**

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The Town of Charlotte 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 Charlotte Town Plan. The 2018 Charlotte Town Plan was adopted and confirmed in 2018.

The Town of Charlotte is in the process of amending the 2018 plan to address the requirements for enhanced energy planning. The Charlotte Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the town plan amendment on November 15, 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 amendments to the 2018 plan to determine whether:

1. The Comprehensive 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 Comprehensive 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 Comprehensive 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		
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		

**As drafted, the 2018 Charlotte Town plan with draft energy amendments does meet the requirements.**

Additional Comments/Questions:

While these changes are not required for an affirmative determination of energy compliance, the changes discussed below would improve the plan's efficacy.

1. Page 1-54, item 2 second bullet contains a typo where a \$ was used instead of a %.
2. Page 1-54, item 2 third bullet, the "town" should be replaced with "state" to accurately reflect the wording of the state's goal.
3. Energy strategy number 4 only refers to the Vermont Residential Building Energy Standard. Consider also including the Vermont Commercial Building Energy Standard to make it clear that there are also standards for commercial uses.

4. In regard to policy 15 on page 1-59, the town does not have the authority to set expectations on applications for renewable energy generation.
5. If possible remove draft in references to the ECOS Plan.
6. Table A5 on page 2-66, there is a typo in the amount of solar energy generation reported. It should say 4,967 MWh not 4,097 MWh.

Proposed Motion & Next Steps:

**PROPOSED MOTION:** The PAC finds that the 2018 Charlotte Town Plan with the draft energy amendments, as submitted, does meet 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.

**From:** LAW OF THE LAND <comment-reply@wordpress.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 1, 2019 10:44 AM  
**To:** Regina Mahony  
**Subject:** [New post] Gentrification, Displacement, and the Law – Upcoming Webinar

Patricia Salkin posted: "WEBCAST — GENTRIFICATION, DISPLACEMENT, AND THE LAW Thursday, October 10, 2019 | 2:30–4:00 p.m. CT CM | 1.50 | Law CLE through Illinois State Bar The Planning and Law Division of the American Planning Association is pleased to host the upcoming webcast"

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## New post on **LAW OF THE LAND**



### [Gentrification, Displacement, and the Law – Upcoming Webinar](#) by [Patricia Salkin](#)

#### **WEBCAST — GENTRIFICATION, DISPLACEMENT, AND THE LAW**

Thursday, October 10, 2019 | 2:30–4:00 p.m. CT

CM | 1.50 | **Law**

**CLE through Illinois State Bar**

The Planning and Law Division of the American Planning Association is pleased to host the upcoming webcast *Gentrification, Displacement, and the Law* on Thursday, October 10, 2019 from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. CT. Registration for individuals is \$20 for PLD members and \$45 for nonmembers. Registration for two or more people at one computer is \$140.

Gentrification is one of the complex planning challenges of our times, but the legal limits on how local communities can respond to these pressures are often unclear. While there is no shortage of well-meaning ideas about how to slow the gentrification process or mitigate its impacts, some of those ideas may not be legal, and others could have significant unintended consequences. This webinar will review those laws that impose obligations to protect America's citizens against some forms of pressure and discrimination, as well as those that prohibit certain local government actions. This review will include the Community Reinvestment Act, the Fair Housing Amendments Act, the American's With Disabilities Act, and constitutional limits on interference with contracts or the fundamental right to buy and sell property. However, the real action on gentrification is at the local level, so panelists will also review selected municipal laws and policies. Speakers are Don Elliott, FAICP, with Clarion Associates, LLC, Bill Anderson, FAICP, with City Economics + Planning Leader, Bijal Patel, Esq., with the Office of City Attorney for Oakland, CA, and Chris Schildt with PolicyLink.

For more information or to register visit: <https://www.planning.org/divisions/planningandlaw/news.htm>

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**Patricia Salkin** | October 1, 2019 at 10:44 am | Categories: [Uncategorized](#) | URL: <https://wp.me/p64kE-3i3>

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## Regina Mahony

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**From:** Vermont Planners Association <VPA@list.uvm.edu> on behalf of Przyperhart, Monica <Monica.Przyperhart@VERMONT.GOV>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 19, 2019 2:22 PM  
**To:** VPA@LIST.UVM.EDU  
**Subject:** [VPA] Upcoming Act 171 Webinar: October 2 and 22

Hi folks,  
Are you

- Updating your town plan?
- Wondering about Act 171's new town planning requirements to address forest fragmentation?
- Interested in learning how to identify and map forests and connected habitats through your community?
- Looking for community-based techniques to address forest fragmentation?

Please join us for a webinar regarding the land use planning portion of Act 171—and for ideas of how to address forest fragmentation in your community!



## Implementing Act 171: Land Use Planning To Address Forest Fragmentation

Since 2018, Vermont's Act 171 requires that municipalities and regions identify areas that are important as "forest blocks" and "habitat connectors" and plan for development in those areas to minimize forest fragmentation. As town and regional plans come up for revision, many communities are now attempting to create the required maps and write appropriate language. This webinar will provide background, tools, and samples for this implementation process.

### We will cover:

- What Act 171 requires of towns and Regional Planning Commissions
- Sample town and regional plan language
- Guidance on finding, interpreting, and creating the required maps using the VT Agency of Natural Resources' BioFinder website
- Case studies of policies that maintain and protect forests and connectivity

We'll also leave time to respond to questions. Presenters are Jens Hilke and Monica Przyperhart, of VT Fish & Wildlife's Community Wildlife Program, hosted by Tim Terway of Vermont Center for Geographic Information.

This will be a repeat (with a few additions and updates) of a webinar offered in May, a video of which can be found at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWal\\_YKxXz4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWal_YKxXz4). If you'd like to experience a live version, complete with a Q & A session, please join us:

**October 2, 6:30-8:00pm (YES—This is an EVENING webinar!) --OR--**  
**October 22, 9:30-11:00am**

***Please look for a link with login information for the October 2 webinar late next week!***

With questions, please contact [monica.przyperhart@vermont.gov](mailto:monica.przyperhart@vermont.gov).

Best,  
Monica

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**Monica Przyperhart**  
**Community Wildlife Program**  
**VT Fish & Wildlife Department**

[phone] 802-461-5118

[website] <http://vtfishandwildlife.com/get-involved/partner-in-conservation/community-wildlife-program>

[email] [Monica.Przyperhart@vermont.gov](mailto:Monica.Przyperhart@vermont.gov)