CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC
Communities Planning Together

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MEMORANDUM

To: Ken Belliveau, Planning Director/Zoning Administrator, Town of Williston; Williston Planning Commission
From: Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
Date: February 12, 2018
Re: Analysis, Targets, and Maps for Enhanced Energy Planning

The purpose of this memo is to share CCRPC's updated *Municipal Energy Data Guide* for your municipality. This replaces the guide issued in April 2017. The guide can be accessed on the CCRPC website here: https://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-work/our-plans/regional-energy-plan/#energy-data-guides. The guide is intended to support municipal "Enhanced Energy Planning," which is needed to advance the State's energy goals. The State's energy goals are:

- To obtain 90% of all energy across all sectors (transportation, heating and electricity) from renewable sources by 2050, with the interim goals of 25% renewable by 2025 and 40% renewable by 2035;
- To reduce total energy consumption per capita by 15% by 2025, and by more than one third by 2050;
- To weatherize 25% of homes by 2020; and
- To reduce greenhouse gases by 50% from 1990 levels by 2028; and 75% by 2050.

The data in this guide provide an overview of current energy use and set targets for advancing the State's 2050 goals for energy use from heating, transportation, electricity, as well as the State's 2050 goals for renewable energy generation. Intermediate targets for 2025 and 2035 provide each municipality with checkpoints towards meeting these goals. This document incudes all data required to plan for these goals at a municipal level. Consistency with the goals above is measured through the Vermont Department of Public Service's "Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans." For the full standards, visit the Department of Public Service's website: http://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/act-174-recommendations-and-determination-standards. The data in this document meet the *Analysis and Targets* section of the Standards (Standards 4 and 5).

The projections in this guide are consistent with the ECOS Plan's Metropolitan Transportation Plan scenario. This Municipal Energy Data Guide replaces the one distributed to you in April 2017. The data in the Guide are subject to change until the ECOS Plan is adopted, likely in June 2018. The guide is meant to be only a starting point for discussions on how towns and the regions can begin to plan for meeting the Act 174 standards. It is a representation of possible conditions and should be used for planning purposes only. These data will not be used to assess whether energy generation projects, utilities or municipalities are meeting energy goals. More in-depth analysis or evaluation should be done to verify or confirm actual conditions for each scenario represented, as errors or omissions may exist in the data.

A. Current Energy Use and Generation

The data below are from various sources and represent actual current consumption and generation, rather than estimates from the Long-Range Energy Alternatives (LEAP) model. Estimates from the LEAP model are shown in Section B.

Table A1. Current Municipal Transportation Energy Use

Fossil Fuel Burning Light Duty Vehicles, 2015	6605
Electric Light Duty Vehicles, July 2017	35
Sources: DMV, Drive Electric Vermont	

Table A2. Number of Homes Heating with Delivered Fuels, 2015

Number of homes heating with Fuel oil, Kerosene	860 homes (23% of homes)
Number of homes heating with Propane	377 homes (10% of homes)
Percentage of Households Heating with Delivered Fuels	33% of homes
Sources: American Community Survey 2011-2015 5-Year Estimate	

Table A3. Current Thermal Energy Use from Natural Gas, 2015

Total Residential Natural Gas Consumption (MMBtu)	209,111
Percentage of Municipal Natural Gas Consumption	35%
Total Commercial/Industrial Natural Gas Consumption (MMBtu)	391,079
Percentage of Municipal Natural Gas Consumption	65%
Total Municipal Natural Gas Consumption	600,189
Sources: Vermont Gas	

Table A4. Recent Residential Energy Efficiency Projects

	2014	2015	2016
Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Leads	32	28	13
Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Projects	14	12	4
Total Residential Projects (includes Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® projects)	76	89	84
Source: Efficiency Vermont, October 2017			

Table A5. Electrical Energy Use, 2015

Residential Electric Energy Use (MWh)	26,999
Commercial and Industrial Electric Energy Use (MWh)	89,713
Total Electric Energy Use (MWh)	116,711
Sources: Efficiency Vermont, October 2017	

Table A6. Existing Renewable Electricity Generation

	Sites	Power (MW)	Energy (MWh)
Solar	208	2.9	3,406
Wind	2	.012	28
Hydroelectric	0	0	0
Biomass (Wood)	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Total	210	2.9	3,434

Source: Community Energy Dashboard, July 2017

B. Projected Energy Use

Projected future energy use targets are drawn from the Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) analysis for Chittenden County, completed by the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC). LEAP is an accounting framework that shows one possible path for Chittenden County and its municipalities to meet the State's energy goals required for enhanced energy plans. LEAP aggregates existing energy use data and forecasts the demand for energy and sources of energy over time, based on a set of anticipated economic and policy changes. For example, demographic projections are one component of projecting future energy use. LEAP is well suited for examining how energy systems might evolve over time to meet certain goals (in this case, Vermont's goal to gain 90% of energy from renewable sources by 2050). These targets show the direction and magnitude of change needed meet local, regional and state energy goals

It is also important to remember that the targets established by LEAP represent only one way to achieve each municipality's energy goals. Other strategies may allow the municipality to meet its goals (for example, switching some wood heating systems to heat pump systems). If desired, CCRPC will provide the spreadsheets and source materials used to calculate these data, and a municipality can revise their targets. Many of these targets are associated with concrete implementation actions. The Department of Public Service's Guidance on implementation actions can be found here: http://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/dps/files/documents/Pubs_Plans_Reports/Act_174/Municipal%20Guidance_Final.pdf

For more information on the LEAP model, including its underlying assumptions, please see Draft 2018 ECOS Plan Supplement 6 – Energy Analysis, Targets, & Methodology, available here: http://www.ecosproject.com/2018-ecos-plan/

Table B1. Projected Transportation Energy Use, 2025-2050

	2025	2035	2050
Total Light Duty Transportation Energy Use (MMBtu)	389,278	246,582	107,470
Electricity Used for Light Duty Transportation (MMBtu)	5,191	35,782	75,520
Light Duty Electric Vehicles (% of Vehicle Fleet)	6%	41%	89%
Biofuel Blended* Energy Used for Light Duty Transportation (MMBtu)	384,087	210,800	31,951
Biofuel Blend*Light Duty Vehicles (% of Vehicle Fleet)	94%	59%	11%
Heavy-Duty Transportation Energy Use from Biodiesel (Percent of Total)	33%	58%	96%
Heavy-Duty Transportation Energy Use from Fossil Fuels (Percent of Total)	67%	42%	4%

**This measures biofuels blended with fossil fuels. A common example is gasoline with ethanol mixed in.*

Sources: VTrans, LEAP Model

Table B2. Projected Commercial and Industrial Thermal Energy Use, 2025-2050

	2025	2035	2050
Total Commercial and Industrial Thermal Energy Use (MMBtu)	376,345	358,468	317,071
Percent of Commercial and Industrial Establishments Weatherized by Target Year	18%	20%	34%
Energy Saved by Weatherization by Target Year (MMBtu)	20,231	28,051	67,601
Commercial and Industrial Establishments Using Heat Pumps (%)	19%	31%	35%
Commercial and Industrial Thermal Energy Use by Heat Pumps (MMBtu)	30,517	60,326	90,134
Commercial and Industrial Establishments Using Wood Heating (%)	8%	9%	10%
Commercial and Industrial Thermal Energy Use Attributable to Wood Heating (MMBtu)	45,538	62,722	91,827
Sources: LEAP Model, Department of Public Service, Department of Labor			

Table B3. Projected Residential Thermal Energy Use, 2025-2050

	2025	2035	2050
Total Residential Thermal Energy Use (MMBtu)	338,820	287,280	198,900
Percent of Residences Weatherized by Target Year	14%	36%	100%
Energy Saved by Weatherization by Target Year (MMBtu)	15,816	43,200	135,216
Percent of Residences Using Heat Pumps	18%	37%	60%
Residential Thermal Energy Use from Heat Pumps (MMBtu)	21,960	45,180	66,240
Residences Using Wood Heating (%)	14%	14%	14%
Residential Thermal Energy Use from Wood Heating (MMBtu)	62,220	62,280	54,720
Sources: LEAP Model, Department of Public Service			

Table B4. Projected Electrical Energy Use, 2025-2050

	2025	2035	2050
Without Industrial (MWh)	92,341	117,696	152,528
Industrial Only (MWh)	29,963	38,743	52,006
Total (MWh)	122,304	156,439	204,533
Total Electric Energy Saved (MWh)	6,420	12,960	24,240
Residences that have increased their Electric Efficiency	30%	58%	98%
Commercial and Industrial Establishments that have Increased Their Electric Efficiency	30%	58%	98%

Source: LEAP Model

**Please note that industrial electricity use is recognized as the most difficult element to project in the LEAP model, because of regional discrepancies in data from the commercial and industrial sector. Therefore, projected electricity use and total energy use are reported two ways: with industrial electricity use included and excluded.*

Table B5. Projected Total Energy Use Per Capita (Including Industrial Electricity Use*) 2015-2050

	2015	2025	2035	2050
Total Energy Use (MMBtu)	1,563,338	1,521,745	1,426,100	1,321,309
Population	9,409	10,014	10,402	10,926
Total Energy Use Per Capita (MMBtu)	166	152	137	121
Reduction in Total Energy Use Per Capita since 2015	--	-9%	-17%	-27%

Source: LEAP Model

**Please note that industrial electricity use is recognized as the most difficult element to project in the LEAP model, because of regional discrepancies in data from the commercial and industrial sector. Therefore, projected electricity use and total energy use are reported two ways: with industrial electricity use included and excluded.*

Table B6. Projected Total Energy Use Per Capita (Excluding Industrial Electricity Use) 2015-2050

	2015	2025	2035	2050
Total Energy Use (MMBtu)	1,491,271	1,419,511	1,293,908	1,143,865
Population	9,409	10,014	10,402	10,926
Total Energy Use Per Capita (MMBtu)	158	142	124	105
Reduction in Total Energy Use Per Capita since 2015	--	-11%	-22%	-34%

Source: LEAP Model

**Please note that industrial electricity use is recognized as the most difficult element to project in the LEAP model, because of regional discrepancies in data from the commercial and industrial sector. Therefore, projected electricity use and total energy use are reported two ways: with industrial electricity use included and excluded.*

One goal of enhanced energy planning is for energy use per capita to be reduced by more than 1/3 between 2015 and 2050. The LEAP model reports an energy pathway that leads to a 1/3 reduction in energy use per capita for the state as a whole. However, because of Chittenden County's concentration of the State's largest employers, especially commercial/industrial establishments with high energy loads, Chittenden County as a whole, and a few of its largest municipalities, do not meet this goal individually when industrial electricity use is included in the projections. However, because the LEAP model includes this 1/3 reduction at a statewide level, this data guide still represents a future that is consistent with this goal.

C. Projected Renewable Energy Generation Potential

This guide also reports how much wind and solar generation potential exists in the municipality, and sets targets for additional renewable energy generation within each municipality. However, the generation targets are technology neutral, meaning a municipality can use any form of renewable generation (wind, solar, biomass, hydroelectric, etc.) to meet its goals. For more information on how these targets were determined, please see Draft 2018 ECOS Plan Supplement 6 – Energy Analysis, Targets, & Methodology, available here: http://www.ecosproject.com/2018-ecos-plan/

Prime solar or wind areas are areas where models show the appropriate conditions for electricity generation, and where there are no constraints. Base solar or wind areas are areas where models show the appropriate conditions for electricity generation, but where there are possible constraints, which must be considered during development and may reduce the development potential of a site. The draft 2018 ECOS Plan indicates that *"development should be located to avoid state and local known constraints that have been field verified, and to minimize impacts to state and local possible constraints that have been field verified."* Please see Table C4 for the list of constraints.

A municipality's reported land available for wind and solar generation and generation potential are based on models of the elevation, slope, and aspect of land, or the modeled wind speed, in a municipality. These models do not remove existing impervious surfaces. Therefore, land-based generation potential may be over-estimated for municipalities with a high percentage of impervious surface, including Burlington, Winooski and Essex Junction.

Table C1. Land Available for Wind and Solar Generation

	Prime Potential	Base Potential
Solar	738 acres (4% of town)	3,277 acres (16% of town)
Wind	1,570 acres (8% of town)	6,775 acres (34% of town)

Source: CCRPC and the Department of Public Service, Vermont Center for Geographic Information

Table C2. Projected Renewable Electricity Generation Potential

	Power (MW)	Energy (MWh)
Rooftop Solar*	9	11,495
Ground-Mounted Solar* – Prime	92	113,111
Ground-Mounted Solar* – Base	55	66,992
Wind – Prime	63	192,521
Wind – Base	271	830,837
Hydro	See Hydro Map	
Biomass	See Biomass Map	
Methane	Unknown	Unknown
Other	Unknown	Unknown

Source: CCRPC and the Department of Public Service

*Rooftop solar potential is calculated by assuming that a certain percentage of rooftops can hold solar systems. Ground-mounted solar potential reports how much land could be developed with solar based on its aspect and elevation, and does not remove space taken up by impervious surfaces like roofs. Therefore, rooftop solar potential cannot be added to ground-mounted solar potential, as this would lead to some generation potential being double counted.

Table C3. New Renewable Electricity Generation Targets

	2025		2035		2050	
	Low	**High**	**Low**	**High**	**Low**	**High**
Generation Targets – Any Technology (MWh)	11,775	20,359	23,550	40,718	41,213	71,256

Sources: LEAP Model and CCRPC Modeling

These targets are in addition to what the municipality is already generating.

Table C4. State/Local Known and Possible Constraints

State Known Constraints	State Possible Constraints	Local Known Constraints	Local Possible Constraints
FEMA Floodways DEC River Corridors National Wilderness Areas State-significant Natural Communities and Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Vernal Pools (confirmed and unconfirmed) Class 1 and 2 wetlands (VSWI and advisory layers)	Agricultural Soils + Hydric Soils Act 250 Ag. Soil Mitigation Areas FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas VT Conservation Design Highest Priority Forest Blocks (Forest Blocks – Connectivity, Forest Blocks – Interior, Forest Blocks - Physical Land Division) Highest Priority Wildlife Crossings Highest Priority Wildlife Crossings Protected Lands (State fee lands and private conservation lands) Deer Wintering Areas	Water Protection Buffers Primary Viewshed Areas Slopes 30% or greater	Slopes 15% -30% Conservation Areas/ Natural Communities

D. Mapping

The maps in this section meet the Act 174 Mapping standards for your municipality. Municipal plans must include the maps contained within this section. These maps identify potential areas for development and siting of solar and wind generation, which account for areas that are unsuitable for siting renewable energy generation because of the presence of state/local known and possible constraints, identified in table C4. Maps showing preferred sites/existing renewable generation facilities, hydro and biomass generation are also included.

These maps should be used in conjunction with complementary policies in the town plan. The map identifying constrained areas is a visual representation of the constraints listed above. A certified Enhanced Energy Plan means that a municipality's "land conservation measures and specific policies" might be given substantial deference during project review under 30 V.S.A. § 248. However, for these measures and policies to be given substantial deference, they must be clearly included in the text, as a map may lack sufficient clarity or granularity regarding the area in which a project is proposed.