

## Southeast Vt Energy Roundtable

Notes:

### **Introductions**

Skipped

### **Local Energy Projects**

Chris gives overview of regional programs, town plan and regional plan, zoning updates, transportation related projects, outreach, call Chris or Jason

Town Hartland

Project EPA portfolio, focusing on school, school got 12K grant for lighting, outreach with farmfest, starting transition town

Town Norwich

Project assessing renewable resources in town, conceptualizing municipal PV

Town Chelsea

Project looked at town buildings and did low hanging fruit, then did energy audit of town hall, based on that applied for and got a Climate Change grant of 12k to do sealing, also is applying for EECSBG, also did Button Up and signed up for 10% challenge

Town Brownsville (W Windsor)

Project Exist, upcoming audit of town buildings, here to pick brains

Town Tunbridge

Project Apply for CEDF grant for 15-20KW solar array for town buildings

Town Rockingham

Project Conservation commission is going to take on energy projects, have over 400 streetlights, Mike Burke from GMP coming to talk about streetlights, got maps of lights, subcommittee will evaluate lights, need criteria, WRC will help

Town Woodstock

Project remain part of Sustainable Woodstock, addressing other issues as well that are related

Town Hartford

Project did Button Up, looked for low hanging fruit, lowered heating costs in W Hartford Library, big project in turning off streetlights, now thinking about LEDs, doing 10% challenge, got ARRA block grant will do solar hot water for police/fire building

Town Hanover

Project Doing lots of things, need to coordinate, is working on web project

Town Fairlee  
Project started with energy audit of town hall and library and applying for EECEBG

Town Sharon  
Project Shelf in town library on efficiency, applying for CEDF for solar on school.

Town Brattleboro  
Project Solar hot water workshop and Button Up, training volunteers to do home audits, looking into the clean energy assessment district, looking at solar on town buildings, retrofitting lighting in transportation building

Town Marlboro  
Project 7-8 grade energy curriculum, studied solar panels on school and got 10k Climate Change grant for 2.5 kw solar array on school.

Town Bradford  
Project Conservation Commission is combined with Energy Committee, successful alternatives energy festival, next is September 18 2010. Having audit of municipal building and applying for EECEBG.

Town Windsor  
Project applying for energy upgrade to WWTP to capture methane, might do town garage. Possible hydro up at Kennedy Pond as long term.

Town Bellows Falls  
Project geothermal test well, 1100 feet deep, might tie into school renovation, should look at alternative energy to replace VY jobs

Town Springfield  
Project just started inventory of town buildings

Town Putney  
Project put projects up on the VECAN web site, done 20 projects, upcoming is microhydro, this room has all incandescent

Town Weathersfield  
Project school put in woodchip boiler, saved 57k this year, redid town garage, town office did some tightening up and cut oil use by half, now looking at PACE program for home retrofits

Town White River Junction  
Project would like to start neighborhood challenge on Jan 6-7 when anti-VY group comes through to cut 30% power use

Town            Randolph  
Project        interested in PACE and wants to find other communities, CEAs

Town            Cornish  
Project        done workshops with SERG, recently finished school audit

Town            Thetford  
Project        weatherizing community center building, also working with PC on ordinance for incentives for efficiency in terms of building density, taking Button Up program to NH, hoping to bring NH program to VT from Clean Air Cool Planet for carbon calculators and policy review

**Support needed for local activities/challenges**

How to alleviate property assessments for renewable systems? Hartford has discussed this. Scope of larger structures that are quasi-commercial being looked at, but residential scale are not being assessed. Need dialog from state. Dummerston talked to listers, somewhat tied by state, need state level action. Brattleboro condo planned to apply for 56kw unit on roof, thinks the “standard offer” rate is so good not an issue.

Vetting process for CHP projects, concerned that that these projects are not looking at wood sustainability.

Timeline for EECBG was very bad.

Why aren't we requiring Energy Star Homes building standard for all new homes. Should require all houses meet standards, just a few thousand \$s increase per unit, but savings offset extra costs.

Does it make sense to CEADs at a greater than town scale. Are benefits from doing at larger scales as some basic costs are built in. Yes.

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