

Governor's Energy Generation Siting Policy Commission



Siting Commission

What is it?

- **Created by Executive Order on 10/2/12**
- **To recommend best practices for siting approval of electric generation projects (other than net metered facilities) and public participation and representation in the process**
- **5 appointed members:**
 - **Gaye Symington**
 - **Jan Eastman**
 - **Tom Bodett**
 - **Louise McCarren**
 - **Scott Johnstone**
- **PSD Commissioner and ANR Secretary are ex-officio**
- **Staffed by PSD and ANR**



Siting Commission

Charges

- 1. Compare VT energy permitting processes with other states'**
- 2. Compare role for public, town, regional participation in VT permitting process with role in other states' processes**
- 3. Investigate alternative dispute resolution processes for siting**
- 4. Review coordination and timing of permit issuance in VT**
- 5. Analyze whether VT's siting criteria adequately protect lands & environmental/cultural resources, including cumulative impacts**
- 6. Analyze best practices for monitoring environmental impacts**
- 7. Consider whether VT should develop generic siting guidelines**



Siting Commission

Process

Information Sessions

- #1: Current VT Energy Siting Processes (10/31)
- #2: Other States' Energy Siting Processes #1 (11/14)
- #3: Perspectives from Participants #1 (11/30)
- #4: Perspectives from Participants #2 (12/6)
- #5: Other States' Processes #2 (12/19)

Site Visits, Public Hearings, and Deliberations: **Jan/Feb**

Draft Recommendations Issued & Public Hearings: **March**

Final Report Issued: **April**



Siting Commission

Outcomes

Final Report due 4/30/13

- **Will provide Governor and chairs of House Natural Resources and Energy, Senate Natural Resources, House Commerce, and Senate Finance committees with recommendations on best practices**
- **Will be informed by stakeholders, experts, and public at large**



Siting Commission

Public Participation

- **Commission meetings open to public**
- **Public hearings tentatively scheduled for 1/23, 1/30, 2/5 or 2/12, 3/12, 3/21 or 3/28**
- **Comments may be submitted at anytime through the Open Comment form on the Siting Commission website:**
http://sitingcommission.vermont.gov/public_involvement
- **Listserv**



Other Resources for Towns

- **Citizens Guide to Section 248:**
<http://psb.vermont.gov/statutesrulesandguidelines/guidelines>
- **PSD Section 248 Presentation: [need link]**
- **Comprehensive Energy Plan:**
http://publicservice.vermont.gov/publications/energy_plan/2011_plan



Thank you

For more information regarding the Siting Commission, go to:

<http://sitingcommission.vermont.gov>

Anne Margolis

Anne.margolis@state.vt.us

802-828-3058

