



STRATEGIC PLANNING

FOR DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE SOLAR ENERGY
IN VERMONT

GOALS

- Build Close to Load
- Reduce Transmission Costs
- Collaborate, not Litigate
- Regulate Merchant Developers

STRATEGY

- Develop Information to Understand Where the Electricity is Needed
- Understand Where Renewable Generation Is Already Built
- Identify Areas Where the Grid Supports New Renewables and Where Grid Upgrades are Needed
- Create Stakeholder Process to Locate New Renewable Energy as Close to Load as Possible
- Place Communities first, not Developers
- Incentives for Parking Lots and Built Landscape
- Dis-incentives for Forests and Fields

TACTICS

- Map Population — Census Data*
- Map Population Changes Over Last Decade* & Projected Population Increases
- Map Electricity Consumption With Separate Layers for Residential, Industrial, Commercial
- Map All In-State Renewable Energy Generation Flows
- Map Grid Constrained Areas — GMP Map*
- Map Natural Resource Constraints — ANR Atlas*
- Work Regionally and Locally Using Act 250 Infrastructure (Offices and Staff) with Municipal and Regional Planning Commissions, Energy Committees and Interested Citizens to Identify Best Sites for New Renewable Energy Development
- Regulate Merchant Developers so Costs, Salaries and Profits are disclosed to the PUC

*Map already exists

STAKEHOLDERS

- VEIC, Efficiency Vermont
- VELCO, GMP, Co-ops, Municipals, VPPSA
- REV, Merchant Developers
- Act 250, Regional Planning Commissions
- Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Historic Preservation, Agency of Agriculture
- Municipal Planning Commissions and Energy Committees
- Interested and Engaged Citizens

POSSIBLE ALLOCATION OF MARKETPLACE BY SIZE

- 4.99 MW and above — Utilities
- 150 kW to 2.2 MW — Merchant Developers

COST ALLOCATION

- Sliding Scale Based on Current Rates
 - Net-Metering
 - Standard-Offer
 - Utility Owned Projects

PROCUREMENT PROCESS

- Competitive bidding for specific sites and specific size projects within specific Utility service territories

WHO ARE THE CUSTOMERS?

- Utility projects serve utility customers
- Merchant generation projects matched to local load of specific customers

CHANGED PARADIGM

- Changes the current developer-driven process based on availability of leased or purchased land to community-driven process that supports locally distributed generation close to load where it is needed, where the grid can support it, minimizing transmission costs and enabling development of micro-grids when paired with storage and small back-up generation.
- Develop new standards for merchant developers and address ethics, code of conduct, conflicts of interest, and protections for landowners who engage in leases or contracts.