



## ENERGY ACTION NETWORK

Dear Legislators,

In 2011 the State of Vermont revised its Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) and established a bold goal: to meet 90% of Vermont's 2050 energy needs from renewable sources and increased efficiency. This goal includes energy used in all three sectors—*transportation, thermal and electric*—by residential, commercial and industrial users. While the CEP goal establishes the target for 2050, it does not define the path by which we will make that transition.

To begin to define concrete, actionable steps toward realizing the CEP's goals, the Energy Action Network (EAN) has developed a series of decade milestones to illustrate a snapshot of where we might be in 2020, 2030, 2040, en route to 90% renewables in 2050. ***This analysis is not meant to be a "roadmap," but rather to identify the known technology pathways, key policy drivers and most important questions for policy makers to consider.*** EAN is an innovative partnership of business, government and non-profit leaders joined by a mission to end Vermont's reliance on fossil fuels and to create clean, affordable and secure electric, heating, and transportation systems for the 21st Century.

### ***20% by 2020***

The first milestone indicated by EAN's analysis, is to meet 20% of our 2020 energy needs through renewable energy technologies, while also investing in efficiency. Achieving this 20% by 2020 milestone requires roughly a doubling of our current renewable energy levels and is achievable and cost effective.

This work is intended to complement and build on the Public Service Department's recently released Total Energy Study Legislative Report, which provides analysis of policies designed to achieve Vermont's renewable energy and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. From a legislative perspective, EAN's analysis also illustrates why Vermont needs to:

- Continue our net-metering program and support for expansion of solar power as an essential renewable energy technology;
- Invest in the Clean Energy Development Fund to support continued investment in local renewable energy for the thermal, electric and transportation sectors;
- Invest in electric vehicle infrastructure as an essential pathway towards our goal of achieving a renewable energy economy; and
- Implement integrated energy policy for efficiency and renewables across all energy sectors.

EAN's analysis relies on current research about the potential for efficiency, new electric technologies, and renewable energy resources to enter the market-place over time and displace current non-renewable fossil and nuclear fuels. EAN is also collaborating with UVM's Gund Institute for Ecological Economics and state partners to develop a dynamic energy modeling tool to help Vermont further identify and understand energy choices and pathways. Please contact EAN with questions or to receive a copy of the complete EAN analysis.

Sincerely,

Andrea Colnes  
EAN Executive Director

Leigh Seddon  
EAN Chair