



Position on Energy Siting Bill S.201

Energize Vermont supports S.201:

- Elevates the importance of planning in the state and improves the planning process at both the municipal and regional level
- Assures that energy developers help pay for processing their applications
- Assures that energy projects can be well-integrated with the grid and perform as promised
- Makes participation in the PSB process easier

Local and Regional Planning:

- Tradition of local and regional planning in Vermont
- But, “planning” is actually done by opportunistic energy developers
- PSB process allows them to undo years of planning for economic development and natural resource protection in a matter of months
- S.201 requires plans be given “substantial deference”
- Encourages RPCs to engage in more rigorous energy planning
- NVDA is well underway with this planning

Application Fees

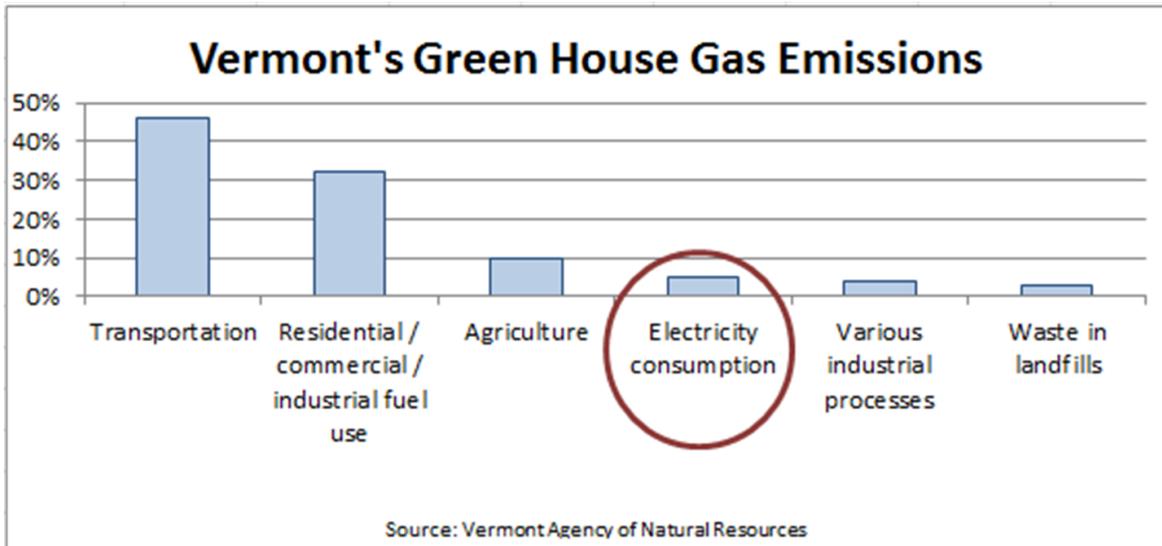
- PSB permit process is expensive: PSB, PSD, ANR
- S.201 requires applicants to pay a fee
- The fee for Lowell would have been \$200K. Is this enough?
- The fee for SMW’s MET towers would have been \$20K. Is this enough?

Grid Integration and Curtailment

- Ongoing problems in Vermont with transmission congestion and curtailment
- S.201 requires transmission capacity to be in place
- S.201 requires curtailment minimization

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Our obsession with the 5% of our GHG emissions that result from electricity are clouding our thinking



- Special interests distract us by promoting electric cars and heat pumps that are not yet ready for Vermont
- If and when they become ready, we will have far better generation options
- Energy developers are making extravagant GHG claims
- S.201 requires developers to disclose GHG emissions from:
 - Equipment manufacturing & transportation
 - Site preparation & construction
 - Transmission upgrades
 - Decommissioning
 - Operations (e.g., spinning reserve & ramping)
- Those who call for Vermonters to “step up and do their part to combat climate change” should be pleased with S.201’s requirement for GHG accounting