

Vermont Public Service Board Hearing, March 24, 2015

I see that the Vermont Public Research Group today is in full force to support renewable energy and to fight against global warming.

The rest of us here are pleading for some semblance of democracy and to weigh in whether we even need renewables and whether we want to trade our environment for them, and if so help decide where they should be sited.

The Vermont Public Research Group has informed and aspired in the past to protect and advocate for the rights of Vermonters. But for the last few years they have acted like energy lobbyists pretty much pushing through their agenda on global warming and have made some of us look as though we have been dragging our heels in this fight for global warming and the construction for more renewables.

Believe me I have not been dragging my heels, I have been fighting to keep our mountains, hills and prime agricultural land from being blown up and covered up by run away projects.

This unchecked energy sprawl spreading over Vermont was fueled by the Speed program. Now the Reset program is before us. The ironic note here is this, the underpinning of these renewables will be backed up by Natural Gas.

In theory of Vermont's renewable goals of being independent of fossil fuels natural gas is the bad boy. But resistance to this natural gas is of lip service only.

I appeal to the Agency of Natural Resources and the Vermont Natural Resource Council to continue their work in protecting Vermont with vigilance that includes the input of all Vermonters.

I appeal to the Vermont legislature, the Governor's Office and the Public Service Board to grant us, the people of Vermont, the towns of Vermont and the regional planning commissions the transparency and the democracy to participate in the process of how we want to use these renewable proposals and to judge its merits.

We the People of Vermont need to be satisfied that we are in reality a part of a democratic process.

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