

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE INPUT OF VERMONT MUNICIPALITIES REGARDING THE SITING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS IN CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD.

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has set aggressive goals for the development of renewable energy in Vermont.

WHEREAS, as a result of these aggressive goals the number of certificate of public good (CPG) applications before the Public Service Board (PSB) has increased substantially.

WHEREAS, at best, the current CPG process provided by 30 V.S.A. §248 affords a limited and ineffectual role for Vermont municipalities, municipal planning commissions, and town selectboards. Regardless of the content, scope, or impact on a proposed renewable energy project or a municipality's efforts to have a say in the project's siting, the §248 process and the legal analysis employed by the PSB enable the PSB to disregard and/or avoid the policies and standards of the very municipality in which the renewable energy project is to be located. By focusing on regional impacts, to the exclusion of local municipal impacts, the PSB routinely ignores the input and evidence offered by Vermont municipalities. As a result, the "due consideration" of municipal viewpoints required by 30 V.S.A. §248(b)(1) has become consideration in name only.

WHEREAS, it has become clear that legislative changes are needed to afford Vermont municipalities a greater say in the approval and siting of renewable energy projects.

THEREFORE, it is RESOLVED by the undersigned Vermont municipalities, to instruct their state representatives and senators to develop amendments to the statutes that concern the siting and approval of renewable energy projects and to the procedures of the PSB in order to ensure that Vermont municipalities have a more meaningful role in the CPG process and to require compliance with appropriately-developed municipal siting standards.

Towns that signed Rutland Town's Solar Resolution as of 1/19/16:

Town of Andover	Town of Ludlow
Town of Averill	Town of Maidstone
Avery's Gore	Town of Middletown Springs
Town of Baltimore	Town of Montgomery
Town of Barre	Town of Morgan
Town of Bolton	Town of Mount Holly
Town of Brighton	Town of Newark
Town of Calais	Town of New Haven
Town of Canaan	Town of Orwell
Town of Craftsbury	Town of Pawlet
Town of Danville	Town of Pittsfield
Town of Derby	Town of Pittsford
Town of Dover	Town of Plainfield
Town of Duxbury	Town of Pomfret
Town of Fairfax	Town of Poultney
Town of Fairfield	Town of Proctor
Town of Fairlee	Town of Reading
Town of Fayston	Town of Ripton
Town of Ferdinand	<u>Town of Rutland</u>
Town of Ferrisburgh	Town of Saint Johnsbury
Town of Franklin	Town of Salisbury
Town of Georgia	Town of Shelburne
Town of Glover	Town of Sudbury
Town of Grafton	Town of Sutton
Town of Grand Isle	Town of Swanton
Town of Greensboro	Town of Townshend
Town of Guilford	Warner's Grant
Town of Holland	Warren's Gore
Town of Hubbardton	Town of Waterford
Town of Irasburg	Town of Weston
Town of Killington	Town of Westmore
Town of Landgrove	Town of Wilmington
Town of Lewis (population, zero)	Town of Windham
Town of Lincoln	Town of Woodbury
Town of Londonderry	

Towns that have signed similar resolutions requesting more municipal say in siting alternative energy projects:

Town of Charlotte
Town of Middlebury