



Energize Vermont on H.40  
Senate Natural Resources and Energy  
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**1) Energize Vermont opposes RESET because:**

- a) It does not reform Vermont's flawed energy siting policies and practices
- b) Its economic impact has been given too little study
- c) It reflects misplaced priorities in responding to climate change

**2) Climate Change**

- a) Climate change is real and it's happening now. Human activity is a major cause
- b) We cannot reverse or even arrest climate change by lowering CO2 emissions
- c) Our highest moral imperative is to preserve the wildlife habitat that will enable species to adapt
- d) Sacrificing irreplaceable wildlife habitat for energy sprawl is a very poor trade
  - i) GMP claims its Lowell energy complex avoids 74,000 tons of CO2 emissions per year
  - ii) That's the equivalent of the CO2 metro NYC traffic emits in a half a day
  - iii) Over its life, Lowell will offset less than two weeks' worth of CO2 from NYC traffic
  - iv) Trading Lowell habitat for an industrial development exemplifies our misplaced priorities
- e) There is only one way to preserve habitat; there are dozens of ways to reduce CO2 emissions

**3) RESET, Energy Sprawl, and Confidence in State Government**

- a) RESET will set off another frenzy of poorly-regulated energy development
- b) RESET will continue the energy siting practices that are abusive to Vermonters and destructive to the environment
- c) Energy policy backlash is growing... when confidence in state government is already at a low.
- d) "Solar towns" are joining "wind towns" in demanding reform of Vermont's siting practices
- e) When will your town demand reform?

**4) RESET Tier 3 requires utilities to carry out "energy transformation programs."**

- a) Vermont utilities want to do this and are already doing it.
- b) Why do we need legislation to require utilities to do what they are already doing?
- c) Tier 3 can be and should be voluntary

**5) PSD says that RESET will save ratepayers ~~\$275M~~ \$390M**

- a) RESET will affect all Vermonters for decades; it must be studied thoroughly
- b) JFO: *The full economic impacts of the program have yet to be modelled*
- c) Energize Vermont has questioned the PSD's model of RESET
- d) We were introduced to a new version of the model; we don't know if it addresses our concerns or raises new ones
- e) It seems the model is still under development

**6) Energize Vermont positions**

- a) Repeal SPEED
- b) Table Reset until its economic impacts are understood
  - i) Complete the RESET model and document it
  - ii) Require review by disinterested experts
  - iii) Release the completed, documented model for public review and comment
- c) Make Tier 3 voluntary; no need to require the big utilities to do what they're already doing
- d) Include siting reform for Tier 1 and Tier 2 generators
  - i) They must not fragment forest, misuse agricultural soils, compromise wetlands, or threaten headwaters
  - ii) They must conform to regional and municipal plans
  - iii) Generators that have worked with and received the approval of regional and municipal planners should receive 125% credit for their production toward Tier 1/Tier 2 targets
- e) Make Vermont the best state in the country for collaborative development that is both environmentally sound and respectful of communities

## Vermont Energy Siting Policy Backlash

