



STATE OF VERMONT
General Assembly
Commission on Act 250:
the Next 50 Years

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 30, 2018

Pursuant to 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Chair Rep. Sheldon convened the Commission on Act 250: the Next 50 Years (Commission) convened on Friday, November 30, 2018, at 10 a.m. in the Ethan Allen Room at the State House in Montpelier.

Commission members present

Rep. Amy Sheldon, Chair
Sen. Brian Campion

Sen. Christopher A. Pearson, Vice Chair
Rep. Paul Lefebvre

Advisors to the Commission or designees of advisors present

Diane Bothfeld, Dep. Secretary, AAFM
Chris Cochran, ACCD
Elizabeth Courtney
Peter Gregory, VAPDA
Brian Shupe, VNRC

Greg Boulbol, NRB
Billy Coster, ANR
Peg Elmer-Hough, VPA
Joe Segale, AOT
Gerry Tarrant, VBA

Staff present

Aaron Adler, Legislative Counsel
Ellen Czajkowski, Law Clerk

Faith Brown, Committee Assistant
Dan Dickerson, Fiscal Analyst

Others present

John Brabant, VCE
Jamey Fidel, VNRC
Peter Walke, Dep. Secretary, ANR

Stephanie Kaplan
Evan Meenan, NRB

Mr. Dickerson testified on the status of the statistical analysis called for in Act 47 and issues regarding the permit processing data received. He answered questions and sought feedback from the Commission.

The Commission discussed tasks assigned to it by Act 47, including revising jurisdiction to achieve the goals of Act 250, protecting important natural resources, addressing forest fragmentation, promoting a settlement patten of compact centers surrounded by rural countryside, amending the Capability and Development Plan and the Act to address climate change, improving the nexus between Act 250 and municipal and regional planning and related statutory

goals, and amending Act 250 jurisdiction with respect to energy facilities generally or on ridgelines in particular.

During the Commission's discussion, it heard from various advisors, staff members, and other persons present.

The Commission also provided an opportunity for public comments. Mr. Brabant and Ms. Kaplan testified.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Adler, Legislative Counsel