Ernie Pomerleau

Copy of Written Testimony, March 14 2017

Attached please <u>find flow chart of Vermont permit process</u>....very involved – don't think this has ever been put on a flow chart – illustrates complexity of process....and will help members of the committee who may not have gone through this process how involved it is....and better understand what development both profit and non-profit organizations have to address.

-Please note I am very supportive of the Act 250 process! Likely hold more act 250 permits than anyone in Vermont – started in development the year Act 250 was implemented – long ago!!! And have never been denied a permit – But do believe there are simple ways to make it more timely and predicable....without harming review or environmental issues whatsoever....also believe the appeal process is in desperate need or review. The issue really is not in Act 250 hearing itself- it is in the 20 plus letters that you have to obtain to even commence the process – defacto permits that have no rules or time constraints. Have endless comments on appeal process....but all evidence why a periodic review of any process is good to do..

-On Bills quick comments on each part below

...H 424 Support – needs to be timely within a year and highly recommend adequate private sector representation

.... H 18 – Generally support

...H 321 Support

...H 194 Support – However Believe cap should be adjusted for communities with smaller populations as well.

...H 209 overall see as positive but feel strongly making Aesthetics a criteria without definition/objectives is extremely subjective and fuel for appeals with no basis! Would recommend reviewing again "on the record review" or very least looking at changing "burden of proof" in appeals

...H 237 agree with protecting Forests but without further definition could have unanticipated negative effects on projects outside of Chittenden county.

....H 326 agree