

## Rebecca Buck

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**From:** Theresa Utton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 12:27 PM  
**To:** richard hillyard  
**Cc:** Rebecca Buck  
**Subject:** RE: TONIGHT: Demand climate action in the budget

Thank you Richard. We will forward your comments onto the Committees. ~Theresa

Theresa Utton-Jerman (Room 40)  
[Legislative Joint Fiscal Office]  
House Committee on Appropriations (Room 42)  
Vermont State House  
Montpelier, Vermont 05633  
(802) 828-5767 [direct] (802) 828-2295 [main]  
[www.leg.state.vt.us/jfo/appropriations.aspx](http://www.leg.state.vt.us/jfo/appropriations.aspx)

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**From:** richard hillyard [mailto:[pompeyhccc@hotmail.com](mailto:pompeyhccc@hotmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 12:00 PM  
**To:** Energy Independent Vermont; Theresa Utton  
**Subject:** Re: TONIGHT: Demand climate action in the budget

I would urge the Legislature to demand of State Government a carbon tax, preferably with an escalator clause, to serve two purposes:

~To discourage unnecessary vehicle use.

~To provide funds to improve our environment, especially to underwrite clean waterway initiatives.

The appetite to pay more for gasoline, for instance, is already manifested in the willingness of drivers to pay premium prices to the distributor cartels that dominate the state, all while the legislature and municipalities thru'out NW Vermont turn a blind eye.

Thank you,

Sincerely,  
Richard Hillyard  
Ward 1,  
Burlington

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**From:** Energy Independent Vermont <[info@energyindependentvt.org](mailto:info@energyindependentvt.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2018 3:15 PM  
**To:** Richard Hillyard  
**Subject:** TONIGHT: Demand climate action in the budget



Richard,

Did you see our last email? **Tonight is your chance to give your input on the governor's proposed 2018 state budget.** Perhaps unsurprisingly, the governor's proposal is completely devoid of any meaningful climate action.

Senators and House members of the Appropriations committees are holding a series of hearings across the state TONIGHT on this proposal. We're sure many Vermonters will be letting these lawmakers know how this budget proposal fails to address some of the largest challenges we face – and we need to make sure they hear that the budget must include climate action.

**Please attend the hearing nearest to you from 6-7 pm tonight and give a comment in favor of funding a carbon pricing study:**

**Winooski** Community College of Vermont, Room 401, 4th Floor.

**St. Albans City** St. Albans City School, Library, 29 Bellows St.

**Springfield** Springfield Town Hall, 96 Main Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room (Selectman's Hall) 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**St. Johnsbury** St. Johnsbury House, Main dining room, 1207 Main St.

**Rutland City** Rutland Public Schools, Longfellow School Building, Board Room

**Johnson** Johnson State College, Stearns Student Center, Performance Space, 2nd floor  
Specifically, we want to see funding for a non-partisan study of the ESSEX Plan. That way we can put to rest the tired, recycled arguments of the opposition, and prove once and for all that this is a policy that benefits working Vermonters and our climate.

See you there,

The Energy Independent Vermont Team

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Energy Independent Vermont

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2018 1:49 PM

To: Richard Hillyard

Subject: Where's climate action in the budget?

Richard,

The state budget is a reflection of our values in dollars and cents, putting forth a vision and a plan for how we will move forward. Despite the fact that Vermont is falling radically short on meeting our state's climate and energy goals, the [Governor's budget proposal fails](#) to include meaningful action to address carbon pollution and develop Vermont's economy for the 21st century.

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees are seeking public input on the budget proposal and will be holding public meetings this upcoming **Monday, February 12th** at six locations throughout the state.

**Can you attend the public hearing near you and make a brief comment in favor of including a study of carbon pricing in the budget?**

- **Rutland:** Longfellow School Building, 6-7pm
- **Springfield:** Springfield Town Hall, 5:30-6:30pm
- **St. Albans:** St. Albans City School, 6-7pm
- **St. Johnsbury:** St. Johnsbury House, 6-7pm
- **Winooski:** Room 401 at the Community College of Vermont Winooski Campus, 6-7pm

And **Tuesday, February 13th in Montpelier** in Room 11 of the State House, 6-7pm. You'll remember that this past fall, hundreds of Vermonters asked the governor's own hand-picked climate commission to recommend a price on carbon pollution. The commission didn't go that far – but they did recommend the governor support an independent, non-partisan study of carbon pricing.

Well, the governor rejected that recommendation. He won't even study the issue – he is choosing to remain willfully ignorant.

Fortunately the legislature could move ahead on a study without him. But they'll only do so if constituents like you take action and demand it.

**Please tell the Appropriations Committees to include a full and fair study of carbon pricing in the budget at a public meeting near you this upcoming week:**

**Monday, 2/12 — Johnson, Rutland, St. Johnsbury, St. Albans, Winooski, and Springfield**

**Tuesday, 2/13 — Montpelier**

A well crafted carbon pricing plan is extremely effective in reducing carbon pollution, bolstering the local economy, growing jobs, and protecting the most vulnerable Vermonters — the very criteria that the administration seeks to fulfill in the proposed budget. We have done our homework and are confident that an impartial study will make clear that carbon pricing can in fact accomplish all of the Governor's priorities.

Governor Scott claims to want to address global warming, but fails to put forth any plan that will have a meaningful impact on reducing our climate pollution. The administration should be willing to explore carbon pricing — a climate action and economic development policy proven effective across the globe in nearly 50 jurisdictions worldwide.

Frankly, this story of failing to act is getting old — and dangerous. The impacts of climate change are only getting more severe, and the fossil fuel economy continues to disproportionately harm low-income and rural communities. We must see a plan for action in Vermont's budget.

**Please speak up for carbon pricing and the necessity for a full and fair study this Monday at a public hearing near you:**

**Monday, 2/12 — Johnson, Rutland, St. Johnsbury, St. Albans, Winooski, and Springfield**

**Tuesday, 2/13 — Montpelier**

**Not sure what to say? We're glad to help, just reply to this email.**

Thanks for all that you do,

The Energy Independent Vermont Team

**PS— Can't make it in-person to a public hearing on the budget? Submit comments to Theresa Utton-Jerman ([tutton@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:tutton@leg.state.vt.us)) or Rebecca Buck ([rbuck@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:rbuck@leg.state.vt.us)), or at (802) 828-5767 or toll-free at (800) 322-5616.**

**Energy Independent Vermont**

c/o VPIRG, 141 Main St., Ste. 6, Montpelier, VT 05602

(802) 223-5221 [info@energyindependentvt.org](mailto:info@energyindependentvt.org)

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