

Irvin Eisenberg
Montpelier

I wish I had the time and resources to stand up here today with a well polished powerpoint. Instead I can offer you the thoughts and concerns of a vermonter, father and local business person who is deeply concerned about climate change.

In the struggle to mitigate climate change, few things are inspiring. It feels like I can do little to have any substantial effect.

While H.51, H.175, and H.214. May seem insignificant in the face of climate change, I'm inspired by how much power these bills have already exerted. These bills have not even left committee, and already Gas Metro has finally abandoned their ridiculous claims of fracked gas being a bridge fuel and are now presenting an almost as ridiculous green washed strategy for preventing climate change.

Gas Metro's word is hard to take at face value at this point since our newest pipeline is still under investigation for safety concerns and nearly doubled in cost from \$86m to \$165m from there initial agreement at the expense of vermont rate payers.

I do believe in the power of resourceful businesses to help us in the fight against climate change. I do not however believe businesses will do this when left to their own devices. Innovation always comes from working within challenging constraints.

In the few months since these bills have been introduced, Gas Metro has shown the possibility of innovation. Clearly Gas Metro will do whatever it can to continue to do business in Vermont. Lets, give them the constraints that we need to effectively fight climate change. Lets harness the power of corporations versus let them lead.

Thank you for your consideration of these powerful bills. They are already showing the potential to truly have an impact.

Please take up H.51, H.175, and H.214 immediately at the start of next session so that we can continue to do our part in preventing this impending disaster.