

State of Vermont
Commissioner's Office
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Agency of Natural Resources
Michael C. Snyder, Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Joe Benning, Senate Institutions Committee Chair
Representative Alice Emmons, House Corrections and Institutions Committee Chair

FROM: Michael Snyder, FPR Commissioner

DATE: May 15, 2020

SUBJ: **Proposed Joint Resolution Pertaining to State Lands – Additional Authority to Exchange and Convey Corrective Deeds Regarding the ROW on Government Road, Okemo State Forest**

The Department submits the following additional proposal seeking General Assembly approval and authorization for the exchange and conveyance of corrective deeds regarding existing right-of-way deeds in the Town of Mt. Holly conveyed by the Department to landowners abutting or adjacent to Okemo State Forest. The Department recently discovered that the deeded description of the right-of-way conveyed to the Department in fee as a 50-foot strip of land by three separate landowners, contained scrivener's errors and is missing a few key course and distance calls in the description across the former Coleman, Yale, and Barber lots. The three private landowners conveyed the 50-foot strip in fee to the Department in exchange for the Department conveying a right-of-way easement to each of them to access their parcels. The Department never finalized the conveyance of a right-of-way easement to Yale University, which proposal was previously submitted to the Committees on January 14, 2020. Now, the Department seeks additional authority to exchange & convey corrective deeds to the private landowners to ensure the accuracy of the description and location of the right-of-way to the 50-foot strip of land and existing road as it is currently located on the ground. No additional rights of use would be granted in the corrective deed.

The proposed Joint Resolution language is included in track changes in the attached document provided to the Department from Legislative Council attorney, Michael Chernick.

As always, we look forward to discussing this proposal with your respective Committees at your request and convenience.

cc: Michael Chernick, Legislative Council
Becca Washburn, FPR Director of Lands Administration and Recreation
Rebecca Wasserman, Legislative Council