



Putting the *Public* in *Power*.

## WHAT WE DO

Since 1979, VPPSA has been providing services and solutions to municipal electric utilities across Vermont. These utilities are locally owned and democratically run, much like a public school or public library. That's why we call them public power utilities.

VPPSA offers a range of services to its member utilities. We provide wholesale power supply, financial support, IT support, rate planning, legislative and regulatory representation, and marketing and communications solutions.

Individually, VPPSA utilities serve anywhere from 600 to 6,000 customers. Combined, the customer base adds up to nearly 30,000. VPPSA enables small public power utilities to offer services comparable to a larger utility.

## WHO WE SERVE



- Barton Village**
- Village of Enosburg Falls**
- Town of Hardwick**
- Village of Jacksonville**
- Village of Johnson**
- Ludlow Electric Light Department**
- Lyndonville Electric Department**
- Morrisville Water & Light**
- Northfield Electric Department**
- Village of Orleans**
- Swanton Village**

## PUBLIC POWER IS...



### Renewable

VPPSA municipals are 59% renewable and 90% carbon free, mostly thanks to local hydropower. We are also developing 10 megawatts solar.



### Reliable

In the U.S., public power customers average 1.25 hours without power each year. For-profit utilities average 2.25 hours.



### Affordable

Public power utilities operate as non-profits. When electricity costs are lowered, the savings go directly back to the customer!

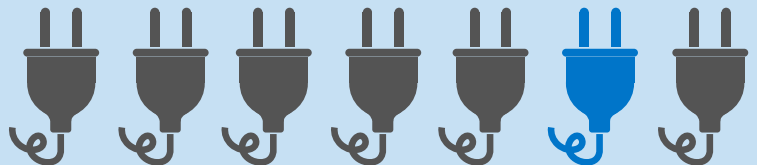


### Community Based

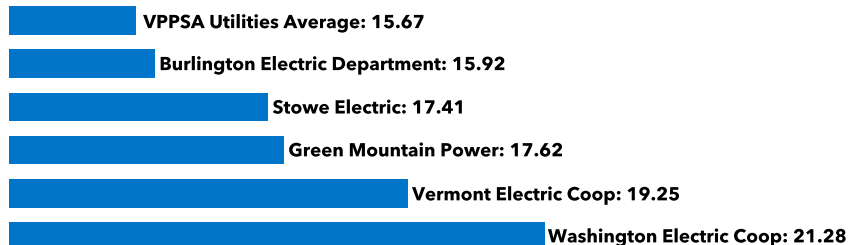
You have the power to change how your utility operates. Meetings are held on a monthly basis and are free and open to the public.

# 1 in 7

**Vermont electricity customers are served by a public power utility.**



**The most recent available data shows that on average, VPPSA utilities' residential rates (cents/kWh) are the lowest in Vermont.**





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## ACT 62 TESTIMONY

### VPPSA supports Vermont's energy and climate goals.

- Meet goals in most cost-effective manner
  - Climate Crisis requires that we be efficient with scarce public resources
- Municipal utilities are democratically controlled, non-profit entities
  - Responsive to local concerns
  - Support holistic approach to efficiency, climate concerns, and economic development
  - Some VPPSA member communities have high energy burdens; mindful of cost-shifting
- VPPSA support for any Bill will be linked with the amount of control that the local community has in spending the money raised there.

### VPPSA supports the Act 62 PUC process.

- It is a deliberative process that includes many stakeholders with diverse concerns
- Short-term: policies should focus on identified gaps in services
  - Efficiency Vermont provides electric efficiency and some thermal efficiency (limited funds)
  - Utilities provide fossil fuel reductions under Tier 3 of VT's Renewable Energy Standard
    - Electrification and some thermal efficiency services
  - Identified gaps are:
    - Thermal efficiency/weatherization. Act 62 provided limited temporary funding
    - Electric Vehicle market development -authorize limited EEC expenditures
- Long-term- identify appropriate, sustained funding source(s) for unregulated fuel efficiency

### Key considerations for energy efficiency:

- Cost and budget:
  - Need to evaluate total potential for cost-effective energy efficiency in Vermont (\$30-60M per year?)
  - Maintain direct financial benefits to ratepayers from EEC investments.
    - Diverse funding sources preferable; increasing cost of electricity undermines electrification efforts
  - Efficiency Vermont premised on direct financial benefits to ratepayers from EEC investments
    - Some funding for weatherization as temporary measure, provided DU equity
    - Diverse funding sources preferable, as increasing the cost of electricity undermines electrification efforts
- Distribution Utility (DU) Equity
  - VPPSA member concerns that EEC dollars are flowing out of their territories
    - Load control efforts can exacerbate cost-shifting among utilities
  - Greater utility involvement in efficiency program design (especially for public power utilities) is preferable
    - Responsive to local needs
    - Access to diverse funding sources (grants and loans)
- Leverage strengths of different entities
  - Efficiency Vermont positioned as statewide resource
  - DUs direct electrification and load management activities
  - Don't preclude other service providers from participation