



**State of Vermont  
Public Utility Commission**

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Senator Chris Bray, Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee

From: Tom Knauer, Policy Director, Public Utility Commission

Re: Information request --- comparative contributions spreadsheet

Date: January 25, 2021

On Friday, January 22, 2021, I accompanied Commissioner Cheney to testify in your committee regarding the Commission's final Act 62 report. In my remarks I referenced a "back-of-the-envelope" analysis I had done to compare the relative contributions made by different fuels (i.e., heating oil, natural gas, propane, and electricity) to Vermont's clean energy programs based on current laws. You asked that I provide a copy of that analysis to the Committee.

The Excel spreadsheet analysis is attached. Please note that this analysis *is not* part of the Commission's Act 62 report, nor does it represent a final work product of the Commission. Instead, this analysis was done for my own purposes as part of my work. The analysis is not exact and was developed in an attempt to understand the relative order of magnitude.

As discussed in my testimony, the analysis roughly quantifies, on a dollars-per-BTU basis, the contributions made by each of the listed fuels to the Weatherization Assistance Program (pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 2503), the regulated energy efficiency programs (pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 209), and the Renewable Energy Standard (pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005). The last line of the spreadsheet shows that, per BTU, electric customers contribute about 30 times more than heating oil customers to the identified clean energy programs. This is illustrated below.

