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Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 12:39 PM
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Subject: [External] Testimony for S-1; Relicensing the Ryegate Power Plant
Importance: High

[External]

MS Cummings:

My name is Alan Robertson. I'm a retired engineer and own 60 acres of well- managed forest in Sheffield, Vermont. I've been a member of the **Vermont Woodlands Association (VWA)** for over 25 years and have been the Secretary for over 15 years; I have also been the Co-Chair of the Vermont American Tree Farm System program for over ten years. I'm honored and pleased to provide the following testimony on behalf VWA for the enactment of senate Bill S-1.

Actually, I've attached last year's testimony for S-190 as we feel as strongly as ever that the Ryegate relicensing is critical for all the same reasons to the state of VERMONT and its forest landowner community, and the renewable energy goals VERMONT hopes to reach:

- The plant represents a significant market for low quality wood- like Burlington Electric Dept. (BED)- and that allows our landowners to manage their forests better and more sustainably
- The plant helps support the forest products economy in the present critical years when markets have been dramatically damaged
- Wood harvesting policies are the same as BED, meaning sustainable harvest operations meeting all FPR AMP's and ecological concerns
- Air emissions have been improved over past years
- The plant is, as we asked, investigating the use of waste heat to improve the plants efficiency. We realize the plant is not as efficient as we would like but until more modern plants utilizing combined heat and power (CHP- see the BEREC attachment) technology are constructed in Vermont this plant is critical to maintaining both the market and the future of the industry.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide more information; if you have any questions or need any further information please feel free to contact me,

-AMR-

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