



Baseload Renewable Power Portfolio: Ryegate Power Plant

January 20, 2022



Ryegate Power Plant

- In accordance with Act 39 (2021), the Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, in consultation with the Commissioner of Forest, Parks, and Recreation are drafting a report and contingency plan to address ways to reduce any potential economic, workforce and forest industry impacts that may occur if the Ryegate baseload renewable power plant closes
- We expect that this work will be completed by the due date of March 1, 2022

Background Information – Forestry Impacts

- The Ryegate plant uses about 240,000 tons of wood chips per year
- About 50% of these chips are sourced in VT
- The 130,000 tons of VT chips used by Ryegate are about [1/3rd] of the total VT chip production
- Chip sales to the Ryegate plant represent about \$4.0MM in forestry revenues to VT loggers

Background Information – Economic Impacts

- The Ryegate plant employs about 20 workers and pays about \$1.8MM in total annual compensation
- In addition to wood chip purchases, compensation, local property taxes and education property taxes contribute an additional \$4.0MM to the local economy

Contingencies to be Addressed

- Replacing the 160,000 MWh of annual baseload power produced by the Ryegate plant
- Finding a replacement market for the 140,000 tons of wood chips currently consumed by the plant and the \$4.0 million earned by Vermont foresters
- Replacing the non-wood chip economic activity generated by the plant