

Senate Natural Resources Committee,

137 people have signed a petition on Action Network telling you to Reject the Clean Heat Standard.

Here is the petition they signed:

We the undersigned residents of Vermont call on the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee to reject ineffective, greenwashing policies by voting against the Clean Heat Standard.

The climate emergency demands immediate and effective action, not the false solutions of the Clean Heat Standard bill. The bill drastically underemphasizes the one indisputable pathway to emissions reductions, namely energy conservation through weatherization. Actual greenhouse gas emissions must be cut in half within the next eight years in order to meet Vermont's climate goals, but the elaborate process proposed by this bill would not even be implemented until 2025. The Clean Heat Standard would be modeled on the Renewable Energy Standard (RES), the embarrassing failure that allows for deceptively inaccurate reporting of greenhouse gas emissions in Vermont's electric sector. The bill is fatally flawed because of its dependence on biofuels, a problem which cannot be "fixed" by life cycle analysis as the bill proposes. Relying on biofuels will send Vermont into a market beyond our borders where competition for other land uses — farms and forests, food and biodiversity — is already intense and damaging. The Committee has failed to take direct expert testimony on this, for example by Dr. Rachel Smolker, Vermont's leading expert on biofuels.

We hereby ask the following:

1. Vote "No" on the Clean Heat Standard bill.
2. Conservation. The number one priority for Vermont's heating sector must be weatherization at scale, prioritizing low-income Vermonters and renters. We can't get the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions that are needed to meet the goals of the Climate Action Plan without major reductions in energy use. Weatherization can cut emissions from heating buildings in half. We know how to do it, and we must act quickly.
3. Fix the Renewable Energy Standard. The RES, implemented in 2017, has resulted in misleading accounting of emissions and a decline in installations of in-state renewable generation, such as solar. We must overhaul the RES to ensure that Vermont's electric supply actually reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
4. Equity. Take to heart and follow the Guiding Principles for a Just Transition that were drafted by the Vermont Climate Council. Only by following these principles can we achieve our climate goals with results that all Vermonters — whatever their income and wherever they live — can trust.

We are gravely concerned about the climate crisis. The Global Warming Solutions Act was potentially an important first step for our State — we cannot waste time now on unnecessarily complex pseudo solutions, however well-intentioned. We must ensure that how we use funds to cut GHG emissions actually reduces those emissions directly and efficiently, starting now and not in 2025.

You can view each petition signer and the comments they left you below.

Thank you,

Upper Valley Affinity Group

1. N. Dumser (*ZIP code: 11768*)

2. Anne Laurel Stevenson (*ZIP code: 05048*)

3. Anne Christie (*ZIP code: 0000@fff*)

4. Alice Evans (*ZIP code: 05673*)

5. Alan Coulter (*ZIP code: 05753*)

Please don't just get something! Get it right! Any non scientist can see that "biofuel" energy production is not carbon neutral, and that energy conservation via weatherization is hugely important in a cold climate!

6. Elizabeth Bancroft (*ZIP code: 05649*)

Weatherization and efficiency are viable parts of the solution to mitigating climate crisis. Burning anything for energy is the wrong way to go!

7. Alicia Houk (*ZIP code: 05058*)

8. Althea SullyCole (*ZIP code: 05075*)

9. Alyssa Hill (*ZIP code: 692 Metcalf Dr.)*

Thank you for the work that you're doing!

10. Andrew McLaughlin (*ZIP code: 05091*)

11. Andrew Sebranek (*ZIP code: 05401*)

12. Anne Macksoud (*ZIP code: 05091*)

Please do not pass this greenwashing bill. We need to do better than this. And if Vermont won't, what state will?

13. Anne Reed (*ZIP code: 05658*)

No to the bill

14. April Thanhauser (*ZIP code: 05445*)

15. Ariel Arwen (*ZIP code: 05048*)

16. Asa Skinder (*ZIP code: 05602*)

17. Baron Wormser (*ZIP code: 05602*)

18. Bill Bender (*ZIP code: 05055*)

19. Ben Gordesky (*ZIP code: 05401*)

Please amend the clean heat standard bill to eliminate biofuels and renewable natural gas. Please welcome the voices of indigenous Vermonters to be included in the committee testimony.

20. Bert Picard (*ZIP code: 05351*)

21. Bethany Moreton (*ZIP code: 05045*)

22. David Brandau (*ZIP code: 05068*)

23. Gail Butz (*ZIP code: 05443*)

24. Brigid Vorce (*ZIP code: 05462*)

25. Carole Petrillo (*ZIP code: 05075*)

26. Chris Wood (*ZIP code: 05077*)

27. Courtney Rae Forti (*ZIP code: 05464*)

28. Callie Willis (*ZIP code: 05674*)

Lets get it right at the onset!

29. Daniel Hoviss (*ZIP code: 05346*)

Good luck

30. Deborah Crown (*ZIP code: 05065*)

We can and we must do better than this. Stop green washing and catering to dirty industry. This is a climate emergency. Let's get the real work done!

31. Deborah Goudreau (*ZIP code: 05461*)

32. Daniel Batten (*ZIP code: 05443*)

33. Debra Diegoli (*ZIP code: 05156*)

Real, effective solutions, not greenwashing, are needed. Reject the Clean Heat Standard and emphasize conserving energy.

thank you.

34. don Faulkner (*ZIP code: 05602*)

35. Roswell Bagley (*ZIP code: 05065*)

36. Anne Dolivo (*ZIP code: 05255*)

37. Don Peabody (*ZIP code: 05491*)

38. Douglas Smith (*ZIP code: 05065*)

39. Earl Hatley (*ZIP code: 05059*)

Natural gas is fracked and has a carbon footprint nearly equal to coal. It emits methane, it is a FOSSIL FUEL! Trees store carbon. Cutting them down and burning them releases carbon. These are not CLIMATE SOLUTIONS! Thank you!

40. Emily Tupper (*ZIP code: 05491*)

41. Eesha Williams (*ZIP code: 05301*)

42. Liz Blum (*ZIP code: 05055*)

43. Fearn Lickfield (*ZIP code: 05682*)

44. steve gagliardone (*ZIP code: 05065*)

No greenwashing! Emphasize real solutions like conservation through weatherization, not false solutions like pellet stoves, natural gas and biofuels, all of which are a worse sure than the disease.

Thanks for listening,

Steve Gagliardone
Sharon,VT

45. Geoffrey Gardner (*ZIP code: 05033*)

Biofuels and "renewable natural gas"? Really? These specious solutions are at best as bad as burning fossil fuels and in most cases are worse --far worse-- especially with respect to poor land use practice and defying our need to preserve biodiversity. Heat pumps and efficient heating equipment are already being made available to economically challenged Vermonters. Just increase funding to these programs so that everyone can benefit.

A massive program to weatherize all homes and workplaces, beginning with those most challenged economically is the most important action Vermont can take. Then reform the Renewable Energy Standard so we can get our electricity emissions under control so that we can get the full climate benefit of electrification. No one except the utilities and their captured regulators and their "experts"

from the non-profits believes Vermont's electricity sector is responsible for only 2% of our GHG emissions. Reform the RES and net metering so we can get on with building in-state renewable sources of electricity generation close to load and with respect and care for other essential land uses: farms, forests and biodiversity.

The way to begin to repair Vermont's dazed and lazy response to climate change after 35 years is not to blunder headlong into poorly conceived, fantastically complex and impenetrable programs that legislators then pass off to the captured regulators to design.

It's all a lot simpler to design than this absurdly contorted bill. And a whole lot more difficult --but necessary-- to stress conservation and efficiency and include people at all levels, relying less on the bureaucrats .

It's time for the legislature to do the hard work and stop passing it off to the same old agencies, corporations and non-profits that have built a clear record of making our problems worse.

For everyone's sake, please reject this bill!

46. gunnar sievert (*ZIP code: 05482*)

47. Hayley Jones (*ZIP code: 05401*)

Instead of passing this bill that prioritizes fake fuel solutions, work with community members to weatherize mixed-income housing and ensure a just transition for all Vermonters.

Thank you for your service!

48. Hannah Smith (*ZIP code: 05075*)

49. Cynthia Hendel (*ZIP code: 05461*)

50. Janet Wormser (*ZIP code: 05602*)

51. Jennifer Skinder (*ZIP code: 05602*)

52. Jerome Lipani (*ZIP code: 05647*)

I ask the committee to organize public information forums on this subject. Such a forum needs to gather experts from all aspects of Climate-change issues. so that individual and well-organized community action can be planned and enacted. We need to prevent mistakes that will incur needless expense in the long term. We absolutely need not bow to corporate political & propagandistic pressure.

53. Jules Rabin (*ZIP code: 05658*)

54. Jill Wilcox (*ZIP code: 05065*)

It's time, past time to fix the renewable energy standard. We must have an honest account of our greenhouse gas emissions.

I was lucky to get my house weatherized last year and burned much less fossil fuel. It's time to help more Vermonters cut their emissions by weatherization of their homes and workplaces.

55. Jim Hand (*ZIP code: 05253*)

56. Joanne Boyle (ZIP code: 05091)

57. judy williamson (ZIP code: 05091)

58. Jan Waterman (ZIP code: 05667)

59. Joseph Kiefer (ZIP code: 05602)

60. JOY GAINÉ (ZIP code: 05075)

61. Janice Stearns (ZIP code: 05753)

62. Kevin Leveret (ZIP code: 05001)

Is there an off-ramp from the tipping point? World-wide, lawmakers **must** ban fossil fuels and rapidly switch to renewable energy (let's bury Big Oil in a Big Way). Our choice is a possibly long-lasting global nuclear winter -perhaps triggered by Putin's War, or measured austerity until clean energy transforms the grid.

If non-humans could vote, would they want to inherit a broken planet? Life's invaluable. Don't Short-change it.

63. Karen Ganey (ZIP code: 05055)

64. Karen Goetz (ZIP code: 05871)

65. Kate Schaefer (ZIP code: 05001)

66. Kathleen Hassey (ZIP code: 05068)

This petition is succinct and RIGHT ON! If a 'solution' is not effective it is not a solution. Let's get moving on climate action.

67. Karl Novak (ZIP code: 05461)

68. Katharine Whiteley (ZIP code: 05602)

69. Kevin Plunkett (ZIP code: 05070)

70. Kate Goetz (ZIP code: 05871-9715)

71. Krista Karlson (ZIP code: 05075)

72. Kathi Squires (ZIP code: 05602)

73. Kelly McCracken (ZIP code: 05602)

74. Kristin Ohman (ZIP code: 05654)

Go green all the way.

75. JANE Palmer (ZIP code: 05473)

You can do better than this. You NEED to do better than this. This clean heat bill falls very short of what is needed. You know what we need to do now. Please. Do the right thing.

76. Laurelyn Veatch (ZIP code: 05641)

Please reject the Clean Heat Standard and emphasize better alternatives, especially weatherization, but also solar, wind and geothermal.

77. Leslie Ward (ZIP code: 05458)

78. Lilian Shen (ZIP code: 05075)

79. Linda Owen (ZIP code: 05301)

Please do the right thing.

80. Louise Rickard (ZIP code: 05443)

81. Mark Nelson (ZIP code: 05766)

82. Madge Rossinoff (ZIP code: 05862)

83. Maeve McCurdy (ZIP code: 05401)

84. Sue and John Morris (ZIP code: 05658)

85. Bill Marks (ZIP code: 05461)

86. mary simons (ZIP code: 05443)

PLEASE act on all of our behalf. we can get through this transition if we hold high expectations.

87. Maryanne Roberts (ZIP code: 05443)

88. Maryann Zavez (ZIP code: 05061)

89. Gregory McHugo (ZIP code: 05072)

90. MD Baker (ZIP code: 05301)

Quit fooling around and get real about this; energy conservation and weatherization need to be promoted.

91. Elizabeth Champagne (ZIP code: 05650)

We've dug ourselves into a hole, let most of our topsoil be washed away, and degraded what's left using chemical agriculture. Growing these "biofuels" merely compounds the crisis in our soils. WEATHERIZATION cuts fuel burning, saves people money, and lasts. Burning biodiesel produces nearly twice the carbon emissions of burning oil.

COME DOWN TO EARTH, get people trained to weatherize homes, so that there are good jobs for skilled workers and good longterm benefits for the families having their homes weatherized!!

Yours truly,
Elizabeth Champagne
East Calais

92. Seth Lazuli (*ZIP code: 05039*)

VT needs to heat all of its buildings more efficiently via air-sealing and exterior wrapped insulation to transition towards not burning any fuel for heat. Solar and heat pumps will be the most likely technology to get us there at the moment. New codes need to be developed to require all new construction to meet net zero building practices and use solar orientation as a baseline. This and transportation are the bulk of Vermont's greenhouse emissions and so should take precedent. Involving any electric corporation in the planning of challenging global warming is likely to be deceptive and greenwashing. Corporations are legally obliged to care about quarterly reports. They can't think about the next generation. The government needs substantial willpower to make monumental changes now. Right now. Not in 2025, but immediately, and weatherization already has legs to move, so keep that as a heavy focus.

93. michael Barsanti (*ZIP code: 05068*)

94. Nicolette Corrao (*ZIP code: 05075*)

95. Carly Abrams (*ZIP code: 05602*)

96. Neville Berle (*ZIP code: 05602*)

97. Phebe McCosker (*ZIP code: 05074*)

98. Philip Hadley (*ZIP code: 05753*)

99. phillip mulligan (*ZIP code: 05038*)

100. George Plumb (*ZIP code: 05675*)

101. Donn Simpson (*ZIP code: 05674*)

Please follow the science.

102. Karen Starr (*ZIP code: 05667*)

103. Rhea Wilson (*ZIP code: 05667*)

104. Richard Biddle (*ZIP code: 05075*)

Growing crops for the production of biodiesel is a waste of resources. 30 acres of soybeans grown on prime farmland would yield 1980 gallons of biodiesel which could heat 3 or 4 homes or drive 8 cars 10,000 miles. The 30 acres of solar panels on the Elizabeth mine site in Strafford, VT produces 8.7 million KW/year, enough power for 1333 typical VT homes or drive 2610 Chevy Bolts 10,000miles. Why are we even talking about biofuels?

105. Richard Bissell (*ZIP code: 05346*)

106. Sally Burrell (*ZIP code: 05443*)

Thanks for all the work, however the bill is not yet clean enough to pass. It doesn't create the weatherization and green jobs we need nor ramp up VT-generated wind and solar energy.

107. Scott Stokoe (*ZIP code: 05075*)

Conservation and efficiency must come first and strongest. It is both the most necessary and the most cost efficient starting point in the pursuit of a zero-carbon State of Vermont.

108. Candy Jones (*ZIP code: 05701*)

109. Bill Cole (*ZIP code: 05075*)

110. Ryan Shanley (*ZIP code: 05477*)

111. Shawn Foley (*ZIP code: 05408*)

112. Siddhesh Mukerji (*ZIP code: 05641*)

113. Glenda Bissex (*ZIP code: 05667*)

114. Stuart Blood (*ZIP code: 05075*)

115. Cedar Stanistreet (*ZIP code: 05301*)

116. Sarah Sully (*ZIP code: 05075*)

Biofuels are not a solution! Please change Vermont's disincentives for solar power generation - we must take action now! Thank you

117. Susan Smiley (*ZIP code: 05472*)

118. Susan Eisenstadt (*ZIP code: 05401*)

119. TERRILL BOURICIUS (*ZIP code: 05401*)

promoting wood burning and bio fuels under the greenwashing label of "sustainable" is a disaster for the climate for the next 100 years.

120. Theora Ward (*ZIP code: 05461*)

We have to stop playing games here folks and get serious . Time is running out. Please listen carefully to citizens who have done the research and have nothing but a more habitable planet to gain instead of listening to businesses and corporations that have nothing to gain except money. Please do your homework. I am sure you want what is best for your children and our planet.

121. Upper Valley Affinity Group (UVAG) (*ZIP code: 05033*)

122. Ulrike Von Moltke (*ZIP code: 05055*)

123. Liz Medina (*ZIP code: 05667*)

124. Jennifer Swiftwater Vyhnak (*ZIP code: 05443*)

It's time for us all to 'man-up' and do what's right for ourselves and future generations. We need to be brave and to see clearly. Stop putting profits above people and the well being of life. Thank you.

125. Gary Smith (*ZIP code: 05443*)

The intention is correct, however the details might not match the intention when employed.

126. Debby Goldman (*ZIP code: 05262*)

127. Wolfger Schneider (*ZIP code: 05445*)

Primarily, we must reduce our consumption total and per capita.

128. Yotam Tubul (*ZIP code: 05345*)

129. Laura Ziegler (*ZIP code: 05658*)