Weatherization at Scale EAN Network Action Team

Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee January 7, 2022

Neale F. Lunderville

Wx at Scale Co-Chair President & CEO, VGS (Vermont Gas)





Wx coalition mobilized for ambitious goal

Weatherize 120,000 homes by the end of the decade with a focus on low and moderate income Vermonters

Weatherization: actual & projected





Coalition partners span sectors

- Community Action Agencies
- Efficiency Vermont
- Energy Action Network
- Energy Futures Group
- Green Mountain Power
- Neighborworks of Western VT
- Preservation Trust of Vermont
- Rights and Democracy (Vermont Renews)
- Regulatory Assistance Project
- Vermont Passive House

- VHFA
- VNRC
- ✤ VPPSA
- ✤ VGS (Vermont Gas)
- VSECU
- VT Department of Public Service
- VT Office of Economic Opportunity
- ✤ VT Legislators
- ✤ Interested citizens...
- ✤ …and many others.

Work groups lead Wx initiatives



Today's Agenda

- Overview: Neale Lunderville
- Workforce & EEUs' role in Wx: Dan Reilly, Efficiency Vermont
- Energy Coaching & OEO's role in Wx: Sarah Phillips, Office of Economic Opportunity
- WRAP and New Wx Financing Innovation: Maura Collins, Vermont Housing Finance Agency
- Wx Policy & Recommendations: Richard Fasey, Energy Futures Group



- Weatherization is a unique, "no regrets" approach that complements other public policy goals. The science of weatherization is proven in Vermont with 30+ years of experience. The greenest and most affordable energy is that which you don't have to use.
- Given its multiple benefits, weatherization represents a meaningful and actionable effort to support an equitable and just transition for low-to-moderate income Vermonters.
- Weatherization and fuel switching are highly complementary. Fuel switching works best when residents reduce overall energy usage to allow renewable supply to cost-effectively replace fossil fuels.

Wx benefits abound







Wx is an investment

- Weatherization is a capital investment that requires upfront funding for ongoing benefits and savings.
- In lifetime energy bill savings alone, weatherization returns \$1.50 for every \$1.00 invested. This does not account for other unquantified benefits that accrue with weatherization.
- As expected, there is a sizable gap between current funding levels and levels to weatherize 90,000 additional homes by 2030. We will not fill the gap with any single source or method, and will require a variety of strategies over many years.



Weatherization: actual & projected



Wx needs funding certainty

- We're appreciative of the meaningful investments made in Wx by the Legislature and Administration, especially over the last couple years.
- Going forward, we must build on this strong foundation with the opportunity to use ARPA monies to fund weatherization over the next for years.
- Looking out to 2030, weatherization needs long-term, stable, and growing funding to meet State goals. The "market" needs certainty to grow and thrive.
 - Immediate Wx workforce challenges may be eased with funding certainty,
 which signals the private sector to grow Wx teams and purchase equipment.
- Richard Faesy, Wx at Scale Co-Chair, will present on specific recommendations from our group about the funding opportunities.



What's next for the coalition?

- Assist lawmakers and policymakers to unlock the unique benefits of weatherization to achieve State goals.
- Support increased weatherization funding through potential climate State legislation and available federal funding.
- Develop a multi-year framework to ensure a predictable and growing funding stream for weatherization drawn from various sources.
- Continue to grow our coalition.



Weatherization is the cornerstone of VGS Climate Plan

Launching Renewable In-Home Solutions

Expanding Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Growing Alternative Supply

VGS