

No. 129. An act relating to extending the sunset of 30 V.S.A. § 248a.

(H.527)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 248a is amended to read:

§ 248a. CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD FOR COMMUNICATIONS
FACILITIES

* * *

(e) Notice. No less than 60 days prior to filing an application for a certificate of public good under this section, the applicant shall serve written notice of an application to be filed with the Commission pursuant to this section to the legislative bodies and municipal and regional planning commissions in the communities in which the applicant proposes to construct or install facilities; the Secretary of Natural Resources; the Secretary of Transportation; the Division for Historic Preservation; the Commissioner of Public Service and its Director for Public Advocacy; the Land Use Review Board if the application concerns a telecommunications facility for which a permit previously has been issued under 10 V.S.A. chapter 151; and the landowners of record of property adjoining the project sites. In addition, at least one copy of each application shall be filed with each of these municipal and regional planning commissions. The notices to the legislative body and planning commission of the municipality shall attach a statement that itemizes the rights and opportunities available to those bodies under subdivisions (c)(2)

and (e)(2) of this section and under subsections (m), (n), and (o) of this section and informs them of the guide published under subsection (p) of this section and how to obtain a copy of that guide.

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(2) ~~On the request of~~ For any application other than a de minimis modification, as defined in subdivision (b)(2) of this section or a facility of limited size and scope, as defined in subdivision (b)(4) of this section, the municipal legislative body or the planning commission, shall hold and the applicant shall attend a duly warned public meeting with the municipal legislative body or planning commission, or both, within the 60-day notice period before filing an application for a certificate of public good. The Department of Public Service shall attend the public meeting ~~on the request of the municipality~~. The Department shall consider the comments made and information obtained at the meeting in making recommendations to the Commission on the application and in determining whether to retain additional personnel under subsection (o) of this section.

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(i) Sunset of Commission authority. Effective on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2029, no new applications for certificates of public good under this section may be considered by the Commission.

* * *

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Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Date Governor signed bill: June 15, 2026