

# Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753 www.acrpc.org Phone: 802.388.3141 Fax: 802.388.0038

September 4, 2018

June Tierney, Commissioner  
Vermont Department of Public Service  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

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STATE OF VERMONT  
DEPT. OF PUBLIC SERVICE  
MONTPELIER, VT.  
05620-2601

Subj: Submission of the Addison County Regional Plan for Determination of Energy Compliance

Dear Commissioner Tierney:

Please accept the attached comprehensive Addison County Regional Plan, including the recently adopted Energy Section of the Plan, as the request by the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) for a Determination of Energy Compliance pursuant to Act 174. For your convenience, we have included the entire Addison County Regional Plan. The Energy Sub-section of the Plan and the Energy Planning Standards for Regional Plans checklist completed to show the sections of the Energy Plan that comply with the requirements. The Plan is also available to be viewed or downloaded from our website here:

<http://acrpc.org/resources/regional-plan/>

Or The Energy Sub-section can be viewed or downloaded by itself, here:

<http://acrpc.org/programs-services/energy/>

ACRPC has worked closely with the Department of Public Service to develop the new Energy Plan – consistent with the requirements of our sub-grant from the Bennington County Regional Commission and with the Energy Planning Standards for Regional Plans. ACRPC submitted a draft Energy Plan to the Department and received numerous comments and suggestions that were incorporated into this final version of the Energy Plan. Additional comments from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development also were incorporated into the final plan, along with comments received during public meetings and public hearings held by the ACRPC this past winter and spring. The Addison County Regional Energy Plan contains all of the required elements and includes all of the required data, projections, generation targets, and maps that were prescribed by the Department during the planning process. We look forward to your comments and an affirmative Determination that will facilitate our ongoing support of municipal energy planning efforts.

As noted above, the Energy Plan was adopted by ACRPC on July 18, 2018 as an amendment to the comprehensive Addison County Regional Plan and became final on August 23<sup>rd</sup> after the 35-day waiting period required by statute. The comprehensive Regional Plan includes all of the elements required pursuant to 24 VSA Section 4348(a), including an energy element. The

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Salisbury    Shoreham    Starksboro    Vergennes    Waltham    Weybridge    Whiting



Addison County  
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Regional Plan specifically incorporates the Regional Energy Plan as Sub-section 7.2 of the Plan. In all cases, the plans' goals, policies, and recommended implementation actions are consistent and guided by conformance with the state's planning goals set forth in 24 VSA Section 4302.

The Addison County Regional Plan recognizes the significance of energy throughout all of its elements, and especially in the sections of the Plan dealing with Housing, Land Use, Natural Resources, Transportation, and other portions of the Utilities, Facilities and Services Section (Chapter 7), of which Energy is Sub-section 7.2. The Energy Plan draws policy direction from those complementary sections of the Regional Plan, and is strengthened by their in-depth treatment of topics such as compact mixed-use development, alternative transportation modes and fuels, housing programs, and targeted investments in public infrastructure. Where the Energy Plan provides a more detailed analysis and discussion of certain topics, its language can be relied upon to clarify policies and statements contained in the other sections of the Regional Plan.

Thank you for your time and attention to this request for a Determination of Energy Compliance. We are available to provide any information or coordination needed during the Department's review process.

Sincerely,

  
Adam G. Lougee, Director

Cc: Executive Board