

July 27, 2017

June Tierney, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Public Service
Via email

RE: Submission of TRORC Regional Plan for Determination of Energy Compliance

Dear Commissioner Tierney,

The Two Rivers- Ottauquechee Regional Commission is pleased to submit the recently adopted Regional Plan for a Determination of Energy Compliance pursuant to Act 174. This new Regional Plan includes the TRORC Energy Implementation Plan which was adopted by reference in the Regional Plan.

TRORC has worked with the Department of Public Service to develop the Energy Implementation Plan that is consistent with the Energy Planning Standards that were established for RPCs. Two meetings were held in September 2015 to start the energy planning process. A Regional Energy Committee was established and regularly met to help draft language for the Plan. TRORC sent a draft Energy Implementation Plan to the Department of Public Service in the summer of 2016 and received comments and suggestions that were incorporated into this Plan. There were two public hearings on the proposed amendments to the Regional Plan (including the Energy Implementation Plan) in April 2017. Comments were received during those hearings as well as written comments from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. The TRORC Regional Plan and by reference (Regional Plan Chapter 12 pg. 315) the Energy Implementation Plan was adopted on July 26, 2017.

The adopted Regional Plan includes all of the elements required by 24 VSA Section 4348(a), including an energy element. Some of the Regional Plan's original energy chapter was kept as it provides background and policy for regional energy planning, while some existing elements were incorporated into the new Energy Implementation Plan. This new energy element goes into more detail about renewable energy planning through pathways and maps and provides current use data and targets to help measure progress.

The Energy Implementation Plan is consistent with related elements of the TRORC Regional Plan. Energy associated policies are addressed throughout various sections of the Regional Plan such as Housing, Transportation, Utilities and Facilities, Land Use, Energy, and Working Landscape. Both the Regional Plan and Energy Implementation Plan have policies that do not contradict with one another but enhance and further energy planning in the region through reducing energy demand as well as meeting the remaining demand through renewable sources.

William B. Emmons, III, Chair ~ Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
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Thank you for your time on this request for a Determination of Energy Compliance. Please let me know if any additional information is required during the review process.

Sincerely,



Peter G. Gregory, AICP
Executive Director

CC: William B. Emmons, Chair