

Dear Members of the Legislative Working Group on Renewable Energy Standard Reform:

For this year's Vermont Renewable Energy Conference, I was part of a panel that discussed the need for Section 248 permitting reform and that focused on the need for the legislature to lead in the areas of landowner participation and the aesthetic review. My brief 12-minute presentation was based off my outline that I have attached here, and I figured I would share with this group as I don't believe Vermont will meet its current renewable energy goals without moving quickly to fix Section 248.

I am sharing my analysis on my behalf only. Please note that page 13 dives into the Public Utility Commission's proposed rule 5.400 and the problems with it.

By quick way of background, I have substantial experience in regulatory matters before the Vermont Public Utility Commission, Act 250, and other Vermont regulatory schemes. I am an attorney who has practiced on behalf of a wide range of Section 248 petitioners since 2005. I was an Act 250 alternative member and eventually an Act 250 Commissioner from 2016-2023. I also served on the Vermont Human Services Board and the Vermont Board of Bar Examiners.

I am a Vermont resident deeply concerned about the increasing regulatory burdens that renewable energy projects face in Vermont. Thank you for your service and time.

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