

**From:** London, Sarah [Sarah.London@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2016 5:02 PM  
**To:** Peter Hirschfeld  
**Subject:** FW: Follow up production  
**Attachments:** PRA response 6-28-16.pdf

FYI Pete if you are still looking at these.

---

**From:** London, Sarah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2016 5:01 PM  
**To:** 'tscher@arsquared.org' <tscher@arsquared.org>  
**Subject:** Follow up production

Mr. Scher, Attached please find our follow up production mentioned in my last email to you. This completes our production on your most recent request.

Thank you,  
Sarah

Sarah London  
Counsel to the Governor  
802-828-3333  
[sarah.london@vermont.gov](mailto:sarah.london@vermont.gov)

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 18, 2016 1:32 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott; Porter, Louis  
**Subject:** Nice snub! FW: For Immediate Release: EPA Releases Final Phosphorus Limits for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain

---

**From:** Percival, Penny [mailto:Penny.Percival@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2016 4:18 PM  
**To:** Percival, Penny  
**Subject:** For Immediate Release: EPA Releases Final Phosphorus Limits for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain

### News Release

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
New England Regional Office  
June 17, 2016

Contact: David Deegan, [\(617\) 918-1017](tel:6179181017)

### EPA Releases Final Phosphorus Limits for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain

**BURLINGTON** –The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is establishing the final Phosphorus Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the twelve Vermont segments of Lake Champlain.

Too much phosphorus pollution is reaching Lake Champlain primarily from the streams and rivers draining into it. The primary concern is polluted runoff – rainwater or snowmelt that drains off of parking lots, roads and streets, logging roads, farm fields and croplands, and lawns. The runoff carries pollutants – sediment, nutrients such as phosphorus that are naturally present in soils, pet and animal wastes, fertilizers, and other pollutants – and deposits these pollutants into streams and rivers or directly into Lake Champlain. Long-term trends since 1990 indicate that phosphorus concentrations in several segments continue to increase.

EPA's document sets targets for meeting water quality standards in each of 12 lake segments in Vermont and then subdivides the targets among the major sectors that contribute phosphorus to the Lake. Those sectors include Wastewater Treatment Facilities, runoff from developed lands and roadways, agricultural and forest lands, and erosion in unstable stream corridors. The final Phosphorus TMDLs contain refinements based on public comments received on the proposed TMDLs released in August 2015. These refinements include small adjustments among the sub-allocations within some segments, but do not significantly change the overall reduction requirements.

"Today's announcement marks another very important step forward in restoring the priceless beauty that is Lake Champlain," said Curt Spalding, regional administrator of EPA's New England office. "While EPA is setting the targets, the strategies for meeting those targets has and will continue to be led by Vermont. Act 64 and the state's Implementation Plan provide a progressive roadmap for achieving these targets. EPA commends Vermont for some cutting edge choices on how to tackle all significant sources of phosphorus and for all the implementation planning already in motion at the state and municipal level. Our action today does not mark the end of EPA's involvement, but rather the beginning of the next phase. EPA will continue to provide support to the Vermont agencies and will assess and report to the public on

progress in meeting the commitments in Vermont's Implementation Plan and reducing phosphorus loads to the Lake," Spalding said.

The TMDLs are the product of a multi-year collaborative effort involving EPA, the VT Agency of Natural Resources, the VT Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets and the VT Agency of Transportation. The effort also benefited from feedback from other agencies like NRCS, and organizations like the Friends of Northern Lake Champlain, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, the Conservation Law Foundation and many other Vermonters along the way.

"This is a pivotal time for the future of Lake Champlain and Vermont," said Deb Markowitz, Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. "EPA's TMDL provides the targets to achieve a clean lake. We look forward to working across all sectors to ensure its effective implementation. Our success will lead to a more vibrant Lake, and will support the state's tourism industry and economy overall."

A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is an important management tool that can help resource agencies determine where to focus their management efforts. A TMDL is a calculation of the loading capacity – or the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can be expected to handle, while safely meeting established water quality standards.

More information:

- Lake Champlain TMDLs: <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/lake-champlain-phosphorous-tmdl-commitment-clean-water>

- How EPA identifies polluted waters and develops plans to restore them: <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl>

# # #

-----

Dave Deegan  
U.S. EPA Region 1  
Office of Public Affairs  
o: 617.918.1017  
m: 617.594.7068

**This press release was forwarded by:**

Penny Percival / Executive Assistant  
Agency of Natural Resources / Secretary's Office  
1 National Life Dr, Davis 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3901  
(802) 828-1294  
[penny.percival@vermont.gov](mailto:penny.percival@vermont.gov)

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 06, 2016 3:32 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Gray, Laura  
**Subject:** Heads Up

**Importance:** High

South Burlington, VT was identified as one of 33 US cities using water testing “cheats” in response to lead concerns that are similar, if not identical to those in Flint, now the subject of criminal investigation. Sign the petition, and join with us to Restore the Trust and keep Vermont waters safe!

[http://www.radvt.org/restore\\_the\\_trust](http://www.radvt.org/restore_the_trust)

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 01, 2016 5:01 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott; Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** VT Gubernatorial Forum focused on lake and fishery for those interested!

Please attend, and help get the word out, if you are serious about making a difference in the future of our public waters and fisheries!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1017993504947562/>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect](#) with James



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Springer, Darren  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 03, 2016 10:36 AM  
**To:** Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** Fwd: Memo on Sub-Committee Status  
**Attachments:** MEMO\_5.3.2016.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Lueders-Dumont, Tim" <Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov>  
**To:** "dsweaney@leg.state.vt.us" <dsweaney@leg.state.vt.us>, "Jeanette White" <JWhite@leg.state.vt.us>  
**Cc:** "Pearce, Beth" <Beth.Pearce@vermont.gov>, "Considine, Matt" <Matt.Considine@vermont.gov>, "Green, Katie" <Katie.Green@vermont.gov>, "Foss, Nick" <Nick.Foss@vermont.gov>, "Springer, Darren" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, "Gray, Laura" <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>, "Austin Davis" <austin@350vt.org>, "Eric Becker" <eric@cleanyield.com>, "Eric Becker" <ericbecker350@gmail.com>, "Robb Kidd" <robb.kidd@sierraclub.org>, "Amy Shollenberger" <amy@action-circles.com>, "pburns@vpirg.org" <pburns@vpirg.org>, "bwalsh@vpirg.org" <bwalsh@vpirg.org>, "eschoenberg@vpirg.org" <eschoenberg@vpirg.org>, "Steve Howard" <SHoward@VSEA.ORG>, "Nancy Lynch (NLynch@VSEA.ORG)" <NLynch@VSEA.ORG>, "Joel Cook" <jcook@vtnea.org>, "Jeff Fannon" <jfannon@vtnea.org>, "Ben O'Brien" <pffv.president@gmail.com>, "Bradley Reed" <breed@pffv.org>, "danielb@vbsr.org" <danielb@vbsr.org>, "Johanna iJoeyi Miller" <jmiller@vnrc.org>, "Lauren Hierl" <lhierl@vermontconservationvoters.org>, "James Ehlers" <james@champlain.ngo>, "Considine, Matt" <Matt.Considine@vermont.gov>, "Golonka, Thomas" <Thomas.Golonka@partner.vermont.gov>, "Pearce, Beth" <Beth.Pearce@vermont.gov>, "Harris, Jon (jon.harris@cesuvt.org)" <jon.harris@cesuvt.org>, "Peter Amons" <pamons@rutlandhs.k12.vt.us>, "Green, Katie" <Katie.Green@vermont.gov>, "Foss, Nick" <Nick.Foss@vermont.gov>, "Deliduka, Linda" <Linda.Deliduka@partner.vermont.gov>, "karen.paul.btv@gmail.com" <karen.paul.btv@gmail.com>, "Paul, Karen" <Karen.Paul@partner.vermont.gov>, "Deliduka, Linda" <Linda.Deliduka@partner.vermont.gov>, "Golonka, Thomas" <Thomas.Golonka@partner.vermont.gov>, "Roger Dumas" <rogerpdumas@yahoo.com>, "pamons@rutlandschools.org" <pamons@rutlandschools.org>, "president@vermonttroopers.com" <president@vermonttroopers.com>  
**Subject:** Memo on Sub-Committee Status

Senator White and Representative Sweaney,

Please see the attached memo from Beth.

Senator White, we look forward to being there today at 1:30pm for testimony.

Thank you very much.



Tim Lueders-Dumont  
Policy Director  
Office of the State Treasurer  
109 State Street, 4th Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05609-6901  
(desk) 802-828-1451  
[www.vermonttreasurer.gov](http://www.vermonttreasurer.gov)

**Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 3:09 PM  
**To:** Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** FW: just filed --- FW: CSO Draft Rule Joint Comments  
**Attachments:** CSO Rule LCI-CLF-CRWC Final Comments.pdf

---

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:54 PM  
**To:** 'Gram, David'; lrathke@ap.org  
**Subject:** just filed --- FW: CSO Draft Rule Joint Comments

DEC needs to step up and fulfill its obligation to the public, the public whose resources it holds in trust and is legally bound to protect!

---

**From:** Elena M. Mihaly [mailto:EMihaly@clf.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:36 PM  
**To:** ANR.WSMDWastewaterComments@vermont.gov  
**Cc:** Julia.Butzler@vermont.gov; pete.lafiamme@vermont.gov; ernie.kelley@vermont.gov; james@champlain.ngo; Anthony Iarrapino; ddeen@ctriver.org; Chris Kilian  
**Subject:** CSO Draft Rule Joint Comments

Dear Watershed Management Division,

Attached please find a joint comment letter on the proposed draft CSO Rule from Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), Lake Champlain International (LCI), and Connecticut River Watershed Council (CRWC). Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and please let me know if you have any trouble opening the attachment.

Thank you,  
Elena

**Elena M. Mihaly**  
Staff Attorney  
Conservation Law Foundation

15 East State Street, Suite 4  
Montpelier, VT 05602

P: 802-223-5992 x4016  
E: [emihaly@clf.org](mailto:emihaly@clf.org)

For a thriving New England





## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:31 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Dudley, Jahala; Gray, Laura  
**Subject:** Sewage & Cyanobacteria Notification Passed SNR a bit ago ... Governor will sign, yes?

League opposes, but I will handle them ... and have been ... if you have been watching any of the number of FB pages we run ... And, remember, you can't be against dirty coal and for dirty water, just in case, you needed a little affirmation as to what they right thing is here!

XOXO

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:38 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** FW: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

---

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:35 PM  
**To:** 'Lauren Hierl'; 'Tom Golonka'  
**Cc:** 'Johanna Joey Miller'; 'Tim Lueders-Dumont'; beth.pearce@vermont.gov; 'Considine, Matt'  
**Subject:** RE: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

Lauren and Tom,  
Not to mention all of the already existing damage to our waters, fisheries, food, and forests ... Who pays for that?

Thank you, both.

James

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

---

**From:** Lauren Hierl [mailto:lhierl@vermontconservationvoters.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:17 PM  
**To:** Tom Golonka

**Cc:** James Ehlers; Johanna iJoeyi Miller; Tim Lueders-Dumont; [beth.pearce@vermont.gov](mailto:beth.pearce@vermont.gov); Considine, Matt  
**Subject:** Re: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

Dear Tom,

I appreciate your prompt response. We remain very committed to a serious exploration of divestment, and continue to believe it is the right path for VPIC and pension-holders given the anticipated carbon bubble and current and anticipated costs and harms from carbon pollution and climate change (and I say all of this as someone whose husband is a teacher and participant in the pension system!). As you know, which questions are asked, and how they are asked, can determine what answer you receive. VCV will continue to monitor and participate in the process in the hopes that it will result in a fair and objective analysis and recommendation, and look forward to meaningful progress in time for the May 2nd report to the Senate Committee on Government Operations.

Thank you for your on-going consideration,  
Lauren

*Lauren Hierl*  
*Political Director*  
*Vermont Conservation Voters*  
(802) 224-9090

On Apr 5, 2016, at 1:12 PM, Tom Golonka <[thomas.golonka@partner.vermont.gov](mailto:thomas.golonka@partner.vermont.gov)> wrote:

Lauren,

Thank you for your comments on the VPIC subcommittee. As you are undoubtedly aware, we have set the first 2 meetings for April 13<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to begin the process and to determine the best path forward in our analysis. We are committed to reviewing the issue in a thorough and objective manner and welcome your participation. As fiduciaries of the trust that represent over 50,000 beneficiaries of the State and Municipal pension systems, we take our duty seriously. In my opinion, asking critical questions in the review process before a change is potentially implemented is imperative for any board to meet this obligation.

The following is the charge and subcommittee membership as approved by VPIC at our March meeting. The chair of the subcommittee will be determined at our first meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**CHARGE:** The establishment of a subcommittee of VPIC to further investigate the issue of divestment specifically geared towards the following areas:

1. Scope and anticipated timeline for review
2. ESG Policy, divestment and constructive engagement
3. Indexing and Commingled funds – issues and limitations
4. Fees and fiduciary Responsibility
5. Staffing levels and outside consultants
6. Budget for subcommittee to properly investigate
7. Alternatives for VPIC to consider

VPIC would like to see from the subcommittee an initial timeline and scope of work expected by early May to report to the state legislature on our progress.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Tom Golonka (VPIC Chair)

Beth Pearce (VPIC Vice Chair)  
Linda Dediluka (VPIC Alternate)  
Karen Paul (VPIC Member)  
Roger Dumas (VSERS Chair)  
Jon Harris (VSTRS Chair)  
Peter Amons (VMERS Chair)

Feel free to continue to reach out with comments or questions on the process.

Regards,  
Tom

<image001.png>

**Tom Golonka, Chair**  
Vermont Pension Investment Committee  
109 State Street - 4th Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05609-6200  
(p) 802-279-7331

[thomas.golonka@partner.vermont.gov](mailto:thomas.golonka@partner.vermont.gov)

---

**From:** Lauren Hierl [<mailto:lhierl@vermontconservationvoters.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 5, 2016 11:38 AM  
**To:** [tgolonka@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:tgolonka@montpelier-vt.org)  
**Cc:** James Ehlers <[james@champlain.ngo](mailto:james@champlain.ngo)>; Johanna Joey Miller <[jmiller@vnrc.org](mailto:jmiller@vnrc.org)>; Lueders-Dumont, Tim <[Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov](mailto:Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov)>; [beth.pearce@vermont.gov](mailto:beth.pearce@vermont.gov)  
**Subject:** VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

Dear VPIC Chair Golonka,

Please see the attached letter regarding the VPIC Divestment Subcommittee process, submitted on behalf of Vermont Conservation Voters, Vermont Natural Resources Council, and Lake Champlain International. We appreciate your consideration of our thoughts and concerns, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Hierl (VCV), Johanna Miller (VNRC), and James Ehlers (LCI)

*Lauren Hierl*  
*Political Director*  
*Vermont Conservation Voters*  
*(802) 224-9090*

**Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 11:27 AM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Allen, Susan; Gray, Laura  
**Subject:** and taking your calls on dirty coal! Audubon and Bird Diva on WDEV News Radio's "Our Nature with James Ehlers" this Friday at 1 -- streaming on the internet, too!



This week "Our Nature with James Ehlers" is going to the birds. Tune in this Friday at 1 on [WDEV](#), as he visits with experts on all things wings: [Jim Shallow](#) of [Audubon Vermont](#) and [Bridget Butler](#), the [Bird Diva](#). We'll take a bird's eye view of the state of our feathered friends' populations and habitats, from game birds to song birds, and what it portends for us bipedals. Expect them to share some of their favorite spring birding spots, as well. And, James will share pointers on how to prevent a wild duck from taking up residence in our own roost. And, we promise, no more puns, unless absolutely nestessary.

Join James as he visits Vermont's people, her places, and the possibilities. Stories from the woods, waters, farms, and backyards to help us work through the issues of living with the land in 21st Century Vermont. Join the conversation at 802.244.1777. And, remember, chips are for kindlin' not for shoulders.

Every Friday, at 1 pm on WDEV and streaming on the internet, "Our Nature with James Ehlers."

Have ideas for guests you would like to hear or topics you want discussed? Send them Ehlers' way or send them to the station!

Miss a previous show? No worries. You can listen here:

<https://www.mychamplain.net/OurNature>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect](#) with James



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 05, 2016 6:47 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** FW: 350 Vermont (@350Vermont) retweeted your Tweet!

---

**From:** 350 Vermont (via Twitter) [mailto:notify@twitter.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 05, 2016 6:44 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** 350 Vermont (@350Vermont) retweeted your Tweet!



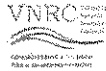
350 Vermont  
retweeted your Tweet.



**James Ehlers** @James\_Ehlers

Buy Coal? The Navy stopped that century ago!!  
Come on, VPIC. Protect VT assets/eco, not ur  
turf!  
#vtpoli





April 5, 2016

Dear VPIC Chair/Ten Golaska,

We are writing to express our sincere hope for a fair and objective analysis of divestment from coal and ExxonMobil assets by VPIC, a position shared by Governor Stimmie, the Vermont House of Representatives as expressed in H.R. 13, and a majority of Vermont Senators. We appreciate Treasurer Haines's efforts to convene and drive this process forward. We hope the analysis undertaken by the Divestment Subcommittee will be an open-minded and fact-based process to develop recommendations for how Vermont might divest its investments in coal and Exxon-Mobil in a way that meets the fiduciary responsibility of VPIC and protects its pension holders from the anticipated carbon bubble.

We are concerned that as Chair of the VPIC subcommittee charged with this task, you appear to be predisposed against divestment, given your recent statements in the media. For example your statements in [VermontWatchdog.org](http://VermontWatchdog.org) and [VTDigger.org](http://VTDigger.org),<sup>1</sup> including:

- "Divestment, although it may sound good to certain people, is very difficult to do, or it will add layers of cost that I don't know how prepared we are for something like that."
- "...we see it as that pain is an expensive way to approach something that would have minimal impact."
- "The difficulty would be screening this so future investment manager buys any of these in the future, whether it's equities or bonds, and making restrictions on the managers to do so. We've had managers tell us they wouldn't do business with the state if we put these types of restrictions on them, so we'd be limited in regards to what investment managers we'd be able to work with. We may need to get rid of some of the ones we have."
- "I'm very concerned about what does it mean for the structure of VPIC."

We ask that given your apparent strong concerns about divestment, you consider recusing yourself as Chair of the Divestment Subcommittee and allow a more neutrally-minded Chair to lead this process. That said, if your thinking has evolved since these statements were made, please let us know how you propose to proceed so the Subcommittee doesn't simply ask the same questions VPIC asked last year, to the same people, presumably getting the same answer.

<sup>1</sup> <http://watchdog.org/259634/divestment-very-difficult-to-do/>  
<http://vtdigger.org/2016/03/19/vpic-chair-casts-doubt-on-divestment/>

Settings | Help | Opt-out | Download app

Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Springer, Darren  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 05, 2016 1:48 PM  
**To:** Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** Fwd: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** James Ehlers <[james@champlain.ngo](mailto:james@champlain.ngo)>  
**Date:** April 5, 2016 at 1:43:24 PM EDT  
**To:** "Springer, Darren" <[Darren.Springer@vermont.gov](mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

---

**From:** Tom Golonka [<mailto:thomas.golonka@partner.vermont.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 05, 2016 1:13 PM  
**To:** 'Lauren Hierl'  
**Cc:** 'James Ehlers'; 'Johanna lJoeyl Miller'; 'Lueders-Dumont, Tim'; [beth.pearce@vermont.gov](mailto:beth.pearce@vermont.gov); 'Considine, Matt'  
**Subject:** RE: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

Lauren,

Thank you for your comments on the VPIC subcommittee. As you are undoubtedly aware, we have set the first 2 meetings for April 13<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to begin the process and to determine the best path forward in our analysis. We are committed to reviewing the issue in a thorough and objective manner and welcome your participation. As fiduciaries of the trust that represent over 50,000 beneficiaries of the State and Municipal pension systems, we take our duty seriously. In my opinion, asking critical questions in the review process before a change is potentially implemented is imperative for any board to meet this obligation.

The following is the charge and subcommittee membership as approved by VPIC at our March meeting. The chair of the subcommittee will be determined at our first meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**CHARGE:** The establishment of a subcommittee of VPIC to further investigate the issue of divestment specifically geared towards the following areas:

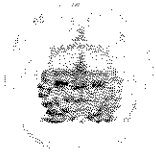
1. Scope and anticipated timeline for review
2. ESG Policy, divestment and constructive engagement
3. Indexing and Commingled funds – issues and limitations
4. Fees and fiduciary Responsibility
5. Staffing levels and outside consultants
6. Budget for subcommittee to properly investigate
7. Alternatives for VPIC to consider

VPIC would like to see from the subcommittee an initial timeline and scope of work expected by early May to report to the state legislature on our progress.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Tom Golonka (VPIC Chair)  
Beth Pearce (VPIC Vice Chair)  
Linda Dediluka (VPIC Alternate)  
Karen Paul (VPIC Member)  
Roger Dumas (VSERS Chair)  
Jon Harris (VSTRS Chair)  
Peter Amons (VMERS Chair)

Feel free to continue to reach out with comments or questions on the process.

Regards,  
Tom



Tom Golonka, Chair  
Vermont Pension Investment Committee  
109 State Street - 4th Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05609-6200  
(p) 802-279-7331

[thomas.golonka@partner.vermont.gov](mailto:thomas.golonka@partner.vermont.gov)

**From:** Lauren Hierl [<mailto:lhierl@vermontconservationvoters.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 5, 2016 11:38 AM  
**To:** [tgolonka@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:tgolonka@montpelier-vt.org)  
**Cc:** James Ehlers <[james@champlain.ngo](mailto:james@champlain.ngo)>; Johanna iJoeyi Miller <[jmiller@vnrc.org](mailto:jmiller@vnrc.org)>; Lueders-Dumont, Tim <[Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov](mailto:Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov)>; [beth.pearce@vermont.gov](mailto:beth.pearce@vermont.gov)  
**Subject:** VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

Dear VPIC Chair Golonka,

Please see the attached letter regarding the VPIC Divestment Subcommittee process, submitted on behalf of Vermont Conservation Voters, Vermont Natural Resources Council, and Lake Champlain International. We appreciate your consideration of our thoughts and concerns, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Hierl (VCV), Johanna Miller (VNRC), and James Ehlers (LCI)

*Lauren Hierl*  
*Political Director*  
*Vermont Conservation Voters*  
*(802) 224-9090*

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 02, 2016 11:22 AM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Porter, Louis  
**Subject:** FW: wcax & the duck

Chips are for kindlin' not for shoulders!

---

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 02, 2016 11:18 AM  
**To:** 'windyledges'  
**Subject:** RE: wcax & the duck

Thanks for the note! I am aware it is a wood duck. You may be interested to know wood ducks will nest within two feet of the ground. Seen a few myself. The woman was wrong to have taken possession of it as a duckling, which is why it is now domesticated. She sadly created the situation by not immediately notifying wildlife professionals three years ago. Laws exist to protect the commons. Polling is entertaining but the laws are the product of science. As you know, death is a part of nature, and wild animals such as ducks lay more eggs than necessary to account for the inevitable mortality to ensure the continuation of the species organically. While I appreciate fuzzy little ducks as much as the next person, I have no tolerance for unsupervised pets much less irresponsible "journalism." Not sure what any of this has to do with CAFOs, but I do not agree that people looking to make a better life for their families are responsible for industrial agriculture. It is my experience that corporations and their bought politicians are. And, perhaps, the American consumer, more generally, and our lust for cheap food. Good idea for a future show, though! Thanks for listening and for sharing your opinion!

---

**From:** windyledges [mailto:windyledgesfarm@localnet.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 01, 2016 2:57 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** wcax & the duck

James, you made yourself look really ignorant with your rant about the little pug destroying the duck nest. The duck in question is a Wood Duck, they nest in trees or boxes high off the ground.

The duck was newly hatched when the dog brought it to Ms. Stevens and was probably dropped by a crow or other predator. The duck is not captive, it is free to fly away at any time.

As we keep being told, the wildlife belongs to all citizens and I think we should have a poll as to whether the people of Vermont would rather our wildlife be nurtured or allowed to die.

I wish some of our law enforcement would be directed at those exploiting illegal immigrant farm labor which is the biggest enabling factor in the rise of CAFO's.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2016 9:46 AM  
**To:** Porter, Louis; Palmer, Eric; Parren, Steve; Scott, Mark; Royar, Kim  
**Cc:** Markowitz, Deb; Schuren, Alyssa; Ross, Chuck; Leland, Jim; Martin, Trey; Coriell, Scott; Springer, Darren; David Deen; Dylan Giambatista; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy; 'John Campbell'; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; 'Christopher Bray'; tklein@leg.state.vt.us; 'Don Turner'  
**Subject:** Nutrient pollution continues to takes it toll on fisheries and other aquatic populations

"I'd estimate there are tens of millions of dead fish," Zud said. "I've seen dead fish piled up from shore to shore in a single photo that represented tens of thousands of fish."

<http://www.tcpalm.com/news/indian-river-lagoon/health/sebastian-has-brown-tide-that-sparked-brevard-county-fish-kill--2f3231af-e29f-446b-e053-0100007f835b-373905301.html>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2016 6:07 PM  
**To:** Markowitz, Deb; Martin, Trey  
**Cc:** Allen, Susan; Coriell, Scott; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin  
**Subject:** An Assessment of the Economic Value of Clean Water in Lake Champlain | University of Vermont

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The regional economy, quality of life and tourism rely on clean water in Lake Champlain and its surrounding basin. This project explored elements of this relationship between water quality and property valuation, tourism expenditures and regional economic activity at various scales.

At the parcel scale, both single family residential and seasonal home purchasers associated higher water quality with increased selling price. A one meter increase in water clarity is equated with a nearly 3% average increase in single family home value, and a 37% average increase in seasonal home value. Proximity to the Lake also contributes significantly to property valuation. Single family and seasonal residences within 100 m of Lake Champlain are expected to sell for nearly 30% and 49% more than similar residences that are located outside this area. Scenario analysis of changes in total phosphorous in the Lake from both climate change and meeting legal maximum daily load targets found that increased loading associated with climate change is estimated to result in a \$7,000 average price decrease for single family dwellings, while reduced loading from TMDL implementation would result in a \$15,200 average price increase for single family dwellings.

At the scale of lake-side towns, water clarity during the peak summer months of July and August indicate a significant impact on lodging expenditures, an indicator of tourism spending more broadly. A linear regression model estimated a \$2,303 increase per average lodging unit per meter of water clarity increase. Extrapolating to the five-town scale concludes that a one-meter improvement in water clarity is expected to lead to a 10% increase (\$110,544) in room expenditures for the month of August alone.

At the regional scale an input-output model was constructed for a six-county lakeshore economy in Vermont and New York. County-level employment, income, industry and household characteristics were used to assess the economic flows among sectors. The input-output model suggests that for each dollar of labor income required within lake-related tourist sectors an additional \$0.57 in labor income through indirect industry inputs and induced impacts from additional spending of households will be generated. Similarly, each dollar of value-added (taxes, property income, profits) income generated in tourism-related sectors generates another \$0.62. In terms of employment, every new job related to the lake tourism economy creates an additional 0.4 jobs to support indirect and induced activities. The \$300 million estimated annual tourist expenditures in Vermont's four main lakeside counties generate an additional \$72.75 million in spending and nearly 1,070 jobs. Extrapolating from the town-scale model, a one-meter decrease in water clarity during the months

of July and August would lead to the loss of 195 full-time equivalent jobs, a \$12.6 million reduction in tourism expenditures and a total economic reduction of nearly \$16.8 million.

This analysis represents a snapshot in time. The example of Georgia, VT underscores the importance of understanding how changes over time (i.e. downward trending water quality) might affect real estate transactions, vacation rentals and tourism expenditures as losses in any of these sectors are further magnified when considering their effect on employment and indirect expenditures. Moving forward, scenarios ranging from individual events (e.g. fishing tournaments) to long-term environmental and economic conditions could be further analysed. Building on this framework could allow for rapid assessment of land use plans, zoning regulations, and environmental restoration, while additional scenario analysis could inform regional, integrated economic development and watershed management planning.

[http://www.lcbp.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/81\\_VoigtEconomicsFinalReport1.pdf](http://www.lcbp.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/81_VoigtEconomicsFinalReport1.pdf)

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.



## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2016 5:31 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** FW: A legal loophole might be exposing children to lead in the nation's schools - The Washington Post

---

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2016 5:31 PM  
**To:** kbruno@leg.state.vt.us; bcampion@leg.state.vt.us; 'Christopher Bray'; 'Diane B. Snelling'; jrodgers@leg.state.vt.us; 'Diane B. Snelling'  
**Cc:** David Deen; asheldon@leg.state.vt.us; Bob Krebs; plefebvre@leg.state.vt.us; jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us; sbeyor@leg.state.vt.us; Kate Webb; jwillhoit@leg.state.vt.us; tterenzini@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista  
**Subject:** A legal loophole might be exposing children to lead in the nation's schools - The Washington Post

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/education/wp/2016/03/18/a-legal-loophole-might-be-exposing-children-to-lead-in-the-nations-schools/>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

**Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2016 12:48 PM  
**To:** 'Tracy, John (Leahy)'; tom\_berry@leahy.senate.gov; 'Pero, Haley (Sanders)'; Philip Fiermonte; Katie Thomas; bob.rogan@mail.house.gov; Twigg, George; Fowler, Mark; Adrienne Wojciechowski; john\_dowd@leahy.senate.gov; Goodrow, John (Leahy)  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren; Allen, Susan; Coriell, Scott; Powell, Mary; Ancel, Charlotte; Conor T. Kennedy; Dylan Giambatista; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; 'John Campbell'; Kate Webb; scopelandhanzas@leg.state.vt.us; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us  
**Subject:** OP-ED | Our Water System: What a Waste

This must be a federal, state, and private initiative ... 200 of Vermont's 251 communities are limited economically due to insufficient water and wastewater infrastructure, pollution and public health issues notwithstanding.

[nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)

## Our Water System: What a Waste

Michael E. Webber March 22, 2016 / *Michael E. Webber, the deputy director of the Energy Institute at the University of Texas, Austin, is the author of the forthcoming "Thirst for Power: Energy, Water and Human Survival."*

Austin, Tex. — AMERICA has a water problem. To put it simply, the national network for providing safe, clean water is falling apart.

This state of affairs, which is the focus of a summit meeting on Tuesday at the White House, threatens more than our drinking water supplies. Water is used in every sector of industry, grows our food, affects our health and props up our energy system.

The price of this neglect will be high. In Flint, Mich., the mayor has estimated that it will cost as much as \$1.5 billion to fix or replace lead pipes. Over all, repairing our water and wastewater systems could cost \$1.3 trillion or more, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers. We need to do this to improve water quality, protect natural ecosystems and ensure a reliable supply for our cities, agriculture and industry.

The problem is a result of many factors, including old, leaky pipes; archaic pricing; and a remarkable lack of data about how much water we use.

In cities across the country, billions of gallons of water disappear every day through leaky pipes. Houston alone lost 22 billion gallons in 2012. As the water expert David Sedlak at the University of California, Berkeley, has noted, the water system is facing a double whammy: It has reached the end of its service life just as climate change and population growth have increased its burdens. No wonder the civil engineers society gave the nation's drinking water systems a grade of D in 2013.

Wastewater treatment systems are also in serious need of upgrading. Flooding strains treatment plants and sewer systems in many older cities, causing them to discharge untreated sewage whenever rainfall or snowmelt overwhelm them. After Hurricane Sandy, treatment plants in the New York area backed up, with sewage

flowing the wrong direction from drainage pipes. The New York Times noted that in one neighborhood “a plume of feces and wastewater burst through the street like a geyser.”

Droughts also jeopardize water supplies, causing cities in the West to reach farther or dig deeper to get their water. Outside Las Vegas, Lake Mead, fed by the Colorado River, was recently measured at 39 percent of capacity.

These problems are compounded by an antiquated system of regulations, dysfunctional water markets, policies that encourage overpumping, and contracts that discourage conservation by requiring customers to pay for water they don’t use. These approaches depress investment and inhibit innovation.

To fix our water systems, we need prices that lead to more rational water use and invite needed investment, data to track water resources and usage, and much more research and development.

Take prices, for example. Water prices should rise or fall according to supply and demand. The idea that the price should be the same in the dry season (when supplies are low and demand for irrigation is high) as the wet season (when supplies are high and demand is low) is nonsense.

Water utilities should take a page out of the energy sector’s playbook. Electric utilities had been plagued for decades by many of the same difficulties. But now they are moving toward time-of-use pricing, with prices rising when demand is up, and inverted block pricing, where prices increase with consumption. Allowing these price shifts would change user behavior. Higher prices would encourage conservation and new technologies.

Regulations can ensure that the first few gallons per person per day are cheap or free, with escalating costs beyond that. Water for necessities such as drinking, cooking and hygiene should be affordable. Beyond that, water for lawns, filling swimming pools, washing cars and other uses should be more expensive.

We also have to fix our data gaps. We are operating blind. Compared to sectors like energy, where robust statistics on prices, production and consumption are generated weekly, key information on water use and supply is missing or published only every few years.

We should increase the federal budgets for water monitoring. Establishing a Water Information Administration, just as the Department of Energy has an Energy Information Administration, to collect, curate and maintain up-to-date, publicly available water data would inform policy makers and the markets.

Congress should also significantly increase support for water research and development, making sure to include the private sector as a partner.

We need breakthroughs in water treatment technology that would enable larger-scale recycling and reuse of treated water, desalination, and aquifer storage and recovery. These improvements range from the mundane — better pumps and home appliances — to advanced nanomaterials for energy-efficient water treatment.

The water industry’s risk-averse culture has resisted innovation. Higher prices and government-backed research and development could help prompt a wave of innovation and investment. This is what happened with hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling, two technologies advanced through government research that kicked off the shale boom.

The water problem is daunting. But putting a sensible price on water to invite investment and encourage conservation, increasing the availability of information and doubling down on innovation can go a long way toward solving it.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2016 8:53 AM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Allen, Susan  
**Subject:** Advocates: EPA Gets 'F' On PFOA

[http://www.pollutiononline.com/doc/advocates-epa-gets-f-on-pfoa-0001?sectionCode=News&templateCode=Single&user=2821394&source=nl%3A45224&utm\\_source=et.6214185&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=POL\\_2016-03-23&utm\\_term=F3F9B512-37EB-443A-B707-0D6C08049D8B&utm\\_content=Advocates%253a%2BEPA%2BGets%2B%2527F%2527%2BOn%2BPFOA](http://www.pollutiononline.com/doc/advocates-epa-gets-f-on-pfoa-0001?sectionCode=News&templateCode=Single&user=2821394&source=nl%3A45224&utm_source=et.6214185&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=POL_2016-03-23&utm_term=F3F9B512-37EB-443A-B707-0D6C08049D8B&utm_content=Advocates%253a%2BEPA%2BGets%2B%2527F%2527%2BOn%2BPFOA)

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

**Coriell, Scott**

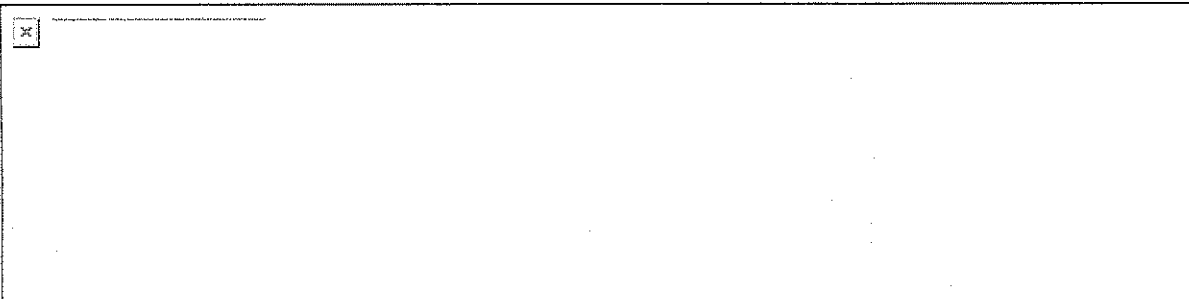
---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2016 3:46 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren  
**Cc:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** Free webinar, Darren --- Best practices for hiring and retaining millennials

---

**From:** Looksharp [mailto:info@looksharp.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2016 3:43 PM  
**To:** james@mychamplain.net  
**Subject:** [webinar] Best practices for hiring and retaining millennials

To view this email as a web page, [click here](#)



---

Hey James,

Gone are the days when interns were hired to fill the coffee pot, make copies, and run errands.

Join us for our [upcoming Hiring to Retain webinar](#) and learn how to take a stellar intern (or new grad) and retain them for years to come.

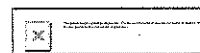
This webinar will be led by Looksharp's Employer Advocate, Blake McCammon, and Dovetail Software's VP of Marketing, Rayanne Thorn.

[Register for the webinar!](#)

DATE / TIME

Thursday, March 31st

11:00 AM PT  
(2:00 PM ET)



Need job or offer letter templates?

[Download them from our employer](#)

[resources library.](#)



Looksharp, 425 2nd St., Suite 201, San Francisco, CA 94107

[Contact Us](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

Copyright © 2015 Looksharp. All rights reserved

Looksharp | 425 2nd Street, Suite 201, San Francisco, CA 94107

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2016 11:17 AM  
**To:** sue.allen@state.vt.us; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** Comments on 2nd Draft RAPs.pdf  
**Attachments:** Comments on 2nd Draft RAPs.pdf

Attached

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2016 3:13 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Gray, Laura  
**Subject:** New draft rules let farmers count heads to see if they must comply | VTDigger

<http://vtdigger.org/2016/03/14/new-draft-rules-let-farmers-count-heads-to-see-if-they-must-comply/>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.



## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 2:11 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers; Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren; Schuren, Alyssa; Chen, Harry; sue.allen@state.vt.us  
**Cc:** ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy  
**Subject:** RE: In case you had not seen this --- How DuPont Concealed the Dangers of the New Teflon Toxin

Oops. Wrong email. Sorry everyone.

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 2:07 PM  
**To:** 'James Ehlers' <james@champlain.ngo>; Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>; Schuren, Alyssa <Alyssa.Schuren@vermont.gov>; Chen, Harry <Harry.Chen@vermont.gov>; sue.allen@state.vt.us  
**Cc:** ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista <dgiambatista@leg.state.vt.us>; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>  
**Subject:** RE: In case you had not seen this --- How DuPont Concealed the Dangers of the New Teflon Toxin

Go Sarah!

---

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 2:07 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>; Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>; Schuren, Alyssa <Alyssa.Schuren@vermont.gov>; Chen, Harry <Harry.Chen@vermont.gov>; sue.allen@state.vt.us  
**Cc:** ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista <dgiambatista@leg.state.vt.us>; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>  
**Subject:** In case you had not seen this --- How DuPont Concealed the Dangers of the New Teflon Toxin

<https://theintercept.com/2016/03/03/how-dupont-concealed-the-dangers-of-the-new-teflon-toxin/>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 2:07 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers; Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren; Schuren, Alyssa; Chen, Harry; sue.allen@state.vt.us  
**Cc:** ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy  
**Subject:** RE: In case you had not seen this --- How DuPont Concealed the Dangers of the New Teflon Toxin

Go Sarah!

---

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 2:07 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>; Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>; Schuren, Alyssa <Alyssa.Schuren@vermont.gov>; Chen, Harry <Harry.Chen@vermont.gov>; sue.allen@state.vt.us  
**Cc:** ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista <dgiambatista@leg.state.vt.us>; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>  
**Subject:** In case you had not seen this --- How DuPont Concealed the Dangers of the New Teflon Toxin

<https://theintercept.com/2016/03/03/how-dupont-concealed-the-dangers-of-the-new-teflon-toxin/>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 2:07 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott; Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren; Schuren, Alyssa; Chen, Harry; sue.allen@state.vt.us  
**Cc:** ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy  
**Subject:** In case you had not seen this --- How DuPont Concealed the Dangers of the New Teflon Toxin

<https://theintercept.com/2016/03/03/how-dupont-concealed-the-dangers-of-the-new-teflon-toxin/>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 1:50 PM  
**To:** Dylan Giambatista; Kate Webb; scopelandhanzas@leg.state.vt.us; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy; ddeen@ctriver.org  
**Cc:** Markowitz, Deb; Ross, Chuck; Johnson, Justin; Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Gray, Laura; Schuren, Alyssa; 'Stephen Perkins'; szaro.deb@epa.gov; Curt Spalding; ckilian@clf.org; Elena Mihaly; Anthony Iarrapino  
**Subject:** Moral of the story: No need to be afraid of the Farm Bureau -- Lobbying didn't stop plan for a cleaner bay | Editorials | pilotonline.com

"IT'S WORTH asking whether the American Farm Bureau Federation effectively represents the cause of American farmers.

"The organization is an increasingly politicized lobbying apparatus for corporate agriculture, and it's unclear whether its work for farmers outweighs the damage it does to their cause by fighting against clean water ..."

[http://pilotonline.com/opinion/editorial/editorial-lobbying-didn-t-stop-plan-for-a-cleaner-bay/article\\_7f95ea91-6dd0-55ee-b561-7e917412e5c9.html](http://pilotonline.com/opinion/editorial/editorial-lobbying-didn-t-stop-plan-for-a-cleaner-bay/article_7f95ea91-6dd0-55ee-b561-7e917412e5c9.html)

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 08, 2016 3:54 PM  
**To:** Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** New Poll Finds 95% of Americans Want Public Officials to Invest in Water Systems, 60% Are Willing to Pay More for Secure Water Service

<http://www.wef.org/about/page.aspx?id=12884907198>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

**Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 11:29 AM  
**To:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** Fwd: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Gray, Laura" <[Laura.Gray@vermont.gov](mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov)>  
**Date:** February 16, 2016 at 10:04:41 AM EST  
**To:** "Coriell, Scott" <[Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov](mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** James Ehlers <[james@champlain.ngo](mailto:james@champlain.ngo)>  
**Date:** February 16, 2016 at 10:03:13 AM EST  
**To:** "Gray, Laura" <[Laura.Gray@vermont.gov](mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

[nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)

## How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

The Editorial Board February 16, 2016

As the destructive coal mining process known as mountaintop removal ebbs in Appalachia, it is leaving behind what amounts to its own grim field of tombstones: A grossly disfigured landscape pocked with decapitated mountains standing flat as mesas and inhospitable to forest restoration.

The blight is more than vertical, for millions of tons of slag waste have been bulldozed down into the surrounding countryside for more than 40 years. The rubble has clogged countless streams and waterways and devastated the Appalachian environment with pollutants, rerouting rain torrents through homes and hamlets below.

The destruction, shocking to anyone flying across the scarred mountain remains, has now been measured in all three dimensions in a survey by researchers at Duke University. It presents a timely reminder of what has been lost to King Coal's furious bulldozing swaths across the mountains of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Drastic changes to the landscape have left central Appalachian regions in the study's focus area 40 percent flatter after the bulldozers moved on, reducing elevations at the top while raising them at ground level by up to 10 feet because of the layers of accumulated slag.

"The physical effects of mountaintop mining are much more similar to volcanic eruptions where the entire landscape is fractured, deepened and decoupled from prior landscape evolution trajectories, effectively resetting the clock on landscape and ecosystem co-evolution," the report declares after sampling one West Virginia waste field laden with enough rubble to bury Manhattan Island.

The report holds little hope of returning to the verdant Appalachian past, where underground mining at least left the lofty horizon and snug hamlets undisturbed. As the industry decapitated mountains to get at the lucrative coal seams below the surface, it reassured residents that there would be adequate restoration. The resulting tabletops of hedges and grass are derided by residents in nearby hollows. "Lipstick on a corpse," says Ken Hechler, a tireless environmentalist and public servant in West Virginia.

While coal-fired power plants have been closing with the rise of cheap natural gas, the marketplace could easily shift back, and watchful environmentalists report that companies continue to apply for permits for mountaintop operations. At the same time, the Interior Department has been working on a stronger Stream Protection Rule, which pro-coal House Republicans are resisting. It aims to better protect thousands of miles of streams from abuse by requiring companies to operate responsibly, monitor streams and restore them to health.

The sorry history of Appalachia shows how difficult this will be. Over the years, initial court victories for the environment were repeatedly frustrated by evasive government delays and policy rulings favoring the industry's destructive practices. The hollows of Appalachia still ring with the rulings of Chief Judge Charles Haden II of United States District Court for his determined stand against King Coal 17 years ago in a Charleston, W.Va., courthouse:

"If there is any life form that cannot acclimate to life deep in a rubble pile, it is eliminated," he said after personally visiting mountaintop removal's destructive power in the land. "No effect on related environmental values is more adverse than obliteration."



**Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** Gray, Laura  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:05 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** Fwd: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** James Ehlers <[james@champlain.ngo](mailto:james@champlain.ngo)>  
**Date:** February 16, 2016 at 10:03:13 AM EST  
**To:** "Gray, Laura" <[Laura.Gray@vermont.gov](mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

[nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)

## How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

The Editorial Board February 16, 2016

As the destructive coal mining process known as mountaintop removal ebbs in Appalachia, it is leaving behind what amounts to its own grim field of tombstones: A grossly disfigured landscape pocked with decapitated mountains standing flat as mesas and inhospitable to forest restoration.

The blight is more than vertical, for millions of tons of slag waste have been bulldozed down into the surrounding countryside for more than 40 years. The rubble has clogged countless streams and waterways and devastated the Appalachian environment with pollutants, rerouting rain torrents through homes and hamlets below.

The destruction, shocking to anyone flying across the scarred mountain remains, has now been measured in all three dimensions in a survey by researchers at [Duke University](http://Duke University). It presents a timely reminder of what has been lost to King Coal's furious bulldozing swaths across the mountains of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Drastic changes to the landscape have left central Appalachian regions in the study's focus area 40 percent flatter after the bulldozers moved on, reducing elevations at the top while raising them at ground level by up to 10 feet because of the layers of accumulated slag.

"The physical effects of mountaintop mining are much more similar to volcanic eruptions where the entire landscape is fractured, deepened and decoupled from prior landscape evolution trajectories, effectively resetting the clock on landscape and ecosystem co-evolution," the report declares after sampling one West Virginia waste field laden with enough rubble to bury Manhattan Island.

The report holds little hope of returning to the verdant Appalachian past, where underground mining at least left the lofty horizon and snug hamlets undisturbed. As the industry decapitated mountains to get at the lucrative coal seams below the surface, it reassured residents that there would be adequate restoration. The resulting tabletops of hedges and grass are derided by residents in nearby hollows. "Lipstick on a corpse," says Ken Hechler, a tireless environmentalist and public servant in West Virginia.

While coal-fired power plants have been closing with the rise of cheap natural gas, the marketplace could easily shift back, and watchful environmentalists report that companies continue to apply for permits for mountaintop operations. At the same time, the Interior Department has been working on a stronger Stream Protection Rule, which pro-coal House Republicans are resisting. It aims to better protect thousands of miles of streams from abuse by requiring companies to operate responsibly, monitor streams and restore them to health.

The sorry history of Appalachia shows how difficult this will be. Over the years, initial court victories for the environment were repeatedly frustrated by evasive government delays and policy rulings favoring the industry's destructive practices. The hollows of Appalachia still ring with the rulings of Chief Judge Charles Haden II of United States District Court for his determined stand against King Coal 17 years ago in a Charleston, W.Va., courthouse:

"If there is any life form that cannot acclimate to life deep in a rubble pile, it is eliminated," he said after personally visiting mountaintop removal's destructive power in the land. "No effect on related environmental values is more adverse than obliteration."

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2016 10:48 AM  
**To:** Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** FYI --- FW: VT Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets impugns USFWS scientists in legislative testimony. Suggests bias in intersex fish studies. Implicates TFM.

**Importance:** High

---

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2016 10:48 AM  
**To:** Springer, Darren (Darren.Springer@vermont.gov); Justin Johnson; Deb Markowitz  
**Cc:** Chuck Ross  
**Subject:** VT Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets impugns USFWS scientists in legislative testimony. Suggests bias in intersex fish studies. Implicates TFM.  
**Importance:** High

“... this is the USFWS [authors of the study], BUT they have embellished in the past, in my opinion.”  
--Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets

Begins at 17:30 on this recording of the testimony before the VT House Agriculture:  
<https://www.mychamplain.net/forum/house-agriculture-and-forest-products-testimony-atrazine-2-3-2016>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director  
[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## **Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:34 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael; Markowitz, Deb  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Release - edits welcome!

Team sport!

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:29 PM  
**To:** james@champlain.ngo; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael; Markowitz, Deb  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Release - edits welcome!

Great event. Thanks all!

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:14 AM  
**To:** james@champlain.ngo; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Markowitz, Deb <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Release - edits welcome!

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 10, 2016

### **Gov. Shumlin Highlights Damage to Lakes, Fish, and Forests Resulting from Coal**

**MONTPELIER** – Continuing his push for Vermont to divest from coal stocks, Gov. Peter Shumlin today highlighted the negative effects the burning of coal has on Vermont's lakes and waterways, fish species, and forests and how it threatens important economic industries like tourism, outdoor recreation, and iconic maple sugaring.

The coal power industry is a major source of mercury emissions and mercury accumulation in the environment, impacting lakes, forests, and the species that inhabit both. Mercury and other harmful compounds resulting from the burning of coal are brought to Vermont by the way of precipitation, or what is known as acid rain, with devastating effects for the state's environment.

Vermont lakes are hit hardest, with up to 16 percent showing acid stress. In severe cases, acid compounds coming to Vermont through precipitation can lead to dead water bodies where native species cannot survive.

High levels of mercury also pose a concern for fish in Vermont's lakes and those who consume them. While mercury levels in Lake Champlain sport fish have declined since the 1990's, elevated levels of mercury mean Vermonters must follow Department of Health guidelines to ensure safe fish consumption. For pregnant

women, these guidelines generally restrict consumption to between one and five meals per month of most sportfish.

Too much mercury in a diet, especially for pregnant women, can result in organ and central nervous system damage and impaired neurological development for children.

“Despite this pollution coming from out of state, it is Vermonters who pay the price, both with tax dollars required for clean-up efforts and in economic losses to businesses dependent on our state's natural resources,” said James Elhers, Executive Director of Lake Champlain International.

Much of the dirty air that contributes to acid rain travels across many states and ends up in Vermont forests, threatening their long-term sustainability. Years of acid deposition have leached vital nutrients from forest soils and impacted many of Vermont tree species, including:

- Red spruce was one of the first trees to draw attention to this problem through work by UVM professor Hub Vogelmann more than 3 decades ago. His research team's work on Camels Hump led the nation in recognizing connections between red spruce decline and pollution from coal fired power plants.
- More recently Vermont learned that paper birch trees didn't recover from damages of the 1998 ice storm where acid deposition has depleted necessary soil nutrients.
- Forests where acid rain has affected soils have slower tree growth, poorer recovery from tree damages from pests or abnormal weather, and perhaps the most troubling, fewer seedlings surviving into future sugar maple forests.

“The health and productivity of our forests depend on reducing air pollution and maintaining a climate that supports tree species we rely on for wildlife habitat, maple syrup, recreation, tourism, wood products and clean water,” Commissioner of the Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation Mike Snyder said.

Aside from the direct effects on lakes, fish, and forests, the burning of coal is the biggest contributor to climate change in America and poses significant risks for Vermont. One readily apparent effect of climate change is the recent increase in frequency of devastating storms and flood events which threaten Vermont watersheds and livelihoods. Warmer temperatures brought on by climate change may also reduce the range of cold water fish species such as our native brook trout and make environmental conditions more favorable for invasive, non-native species.

###

## **Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:29 PM  
**To:** james@champlain.ngo; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael; Markowitz, Deb  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Release - edits welcome!

Great event. Thanks all!

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:14 AM  
**To:** james@champlain.ngo; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Markowitz, Deb <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Release - edits welcome!

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 10, 2016

#### **Gov. Shumlin Highlights Damage to Lakes, Fish, and Forests Resulting from Coal**

**MONTPELIER** – Continuing his push for Vermont to divest from coal stocks, Gov. Peter Shumlin today highlighted the negative effects the burning of coal has on Vermont's lakes and waterways, fish species, and forests and how it threatens important economic industries like tourism, outdoor recreation, and iconic maple sugaring.

The coal power industry is a major source of mercury emissions and mercury accumulation in the environment, impacting lakes, forests, and the species that inhabit both. Mercury and other harmful compounds resulting from the burning of coal are brought to Vermont by the way of precipitation, or what is known as acid rain, with devastating effects for the state's environment.

Vermont lakes are hit hardest, with up to 16 percent showing acid stress. In severe cases, acid compounds coming to Vermont through precipitation can lead to dead water bodies where native species cannot survive.

High levels of mercury also pose a concern for fish in Vermont's lakes and those who consume them. While mercury levels in Lake Champlain sport fish have declined since the 1990's, elevated levels of mercury mean Vermonters must follow Department of Health guidelines to ensure safe fish consumption. For pregnant women, these guidelines generally restrict consumption to between one and five meals per month of most sportfish.

Too much mercury in a diet, especially for pregnant women, can result in organ and central nervous system damage and impaired neurological development for children.

"Despite this pollution coming from out of state, it is Vermonters who pay the price, both with tax dollars required for clean-up efforts and in economic losses to businesses dependent on our state's natural resources," said James Elhers, Executive Director of Lake Champlain International.

Much of the dirty air that contributes to acid rain travels across many states and ends up in Vermont forests, threatening their long-term sustainability. Years of acid deposition have leached vital nutrients from forest soils and impacted many of Vermont tree species, including:

- Red spruce was one of the first trees to draw attention to this problem through work by UVM professor Hub Vogelmann more than 3 decades ago. His research team's work on Camel's Hump led the nation in recognizing connections between red spruce decline and pollution from coal fired power plants.
- More recently Vermont learned that paper birch trees didn't recover from damages of the 1998 ice storm where acid deposition has depleted necessary soil nutrients.
- Forests where acid rain has affected soils have slower tree growth, poorer recovery from tree damages from pests or abnormal weather, and perhaps the most troubling, fewer seedlings surviving into future sugar maple forests.

"The health and productivity of our forests depend on reducing air pollution and maintaining a climate that supports tree species we rely on for wildlife habitat, maple syrup, recreation, tourism, wood products and clean water," Commissioner of the Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation Mike Snyder said.

Aside from the direct effects on lakes, fish, and forests, the burning of coal is the biggest contributor to climate change in America and poses significant risks for Vermont. One readily apparent effect of climate change is the recent increase in frequency of devastating storms and flood events which threaten Vermont watersheds and livelihoods. Warmer temperatures brought on by climate change may also reduce the range of cold water fish species such as our native brook trout and make environmental conditions more favorable for invasive, non-native species.

###



## **Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:55 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Cc:** Gray, Laura  
**Subject:** more fodder, Scott, if you need it, want it FW: Jame's First Draft Connecting Lake and Divestment  
**Attachments:** James Ehlers First Draft Divestment Op Ed.docx

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:29 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Release - edits welcome!

Scott ... suggest ... water, food, and forests

- A. Not just lakes ... rivers, ponds, too
- B. Food is more inclusive than fish, but still accurate as the fish should be a local sustainable food source
- C. Rolls off tongue ... catchier ... say it fast and with a smile : - ) and see if you agree

“Despite this pollution coming from out of state, it is Vermonters who pay the price, both with tax dollars required for clean-up efforts and in economic losses to businesses dependent on our state's natural resources,”

How about this instead ...

“Vermonters have been paying and continue to pay for the ecological and economic destruction wrought on our state from the burning of coal. Enough is enough. Standing by while out-of-state industry profits through the poisoning our own water, food, and forests makes no absolutely no sense. I applaud the Governor leading us to act on behalf of the interests of all Vermonters, today and tomorrow.”

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:14 AM  
**To:** james@champlain.ngo; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael; Markowitz, Deb  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** Draft Release - edits welcome!

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 10, 2016

### Gov. Shumlin Highlights Damage to Lakes, Fish, and Forests Resulting from Coal

**MONTPELIER** – Continuing his push for Vermont to divest from coal stocks, Gov. Peter Shumlin today highlighted the negative effects the burning of coal has on Vermont's lakes and waterways, fish species, and forests and how it threatens important economic industries like tourism, outdoor recreation, and iconic maple sugaring.

The coal power industry is a major source of mercury emissions and mercury accumulation in the environment, impacting lakes, forests, and the species that inhabit both. Mercury and other harmful compounds resulting from the burning of coal are brought to Vermont by the way of precipitation, or what is known as acid rain, with devastating effects for the state's environment.

Vermont lakes are hit hardest, with up to 16 percent showing acid stress. In severe cases, acid compounds coming to Vermont through precipitation can lead to dead water bodies where native species cannot survive.

High levels of mercury also pose a concern for fish in Vermont's lakes and those who consume them. While mercury levels in Lake Champlain sport fish have declined since the 1990's, elevated levels of mercury mean Vermonters must follow Department of Health guidelines to ensure safe fish consumption. For pregnant women, these guidelines generally restrict consumption to between one and five meals per month of most sportfish.

Too much mercury in a diet, especially for pregnant women, can result in organ and central nervous system damage and impaired neurological development for children.

"Despite this pollution coming from out of state, it is Vermonters who pay the price, both with tax dollars required for clean-up efforts and in economic losses to businesses dependent on our state's natural resources," said James Elhers, Executive Director of Lake Champlain International.

Much of the dirty air that contributes to acid rain travels across many states and ends up in Vermont forests, threatening their long-term sustainability. Years of acid deposition have leached vital nutrients from forest soils and impacted many of Vermont tree species, including:

- Red spruce was one of the first trees to draw attention to this problem through work by UVM professor Hub Vogelmann more than 3 decades ago. His research team's work on Camels Hump led the nation in recognizing connections between red spruce decline and pollution from coal fired power plants.
- More recently Vermont learned that paper birch trees didn't recover from damages of the 1998 ice storm where acid deposition has depleted necessary soil nutrients.
- Forests where acid rain has affected soils have slower tree growth, poorer recovery from tree damages from pests or abnormal weather, and perhaps the most troubling, fewer seedlings surviving into future sugar maple forests.

"The health and productivity of our forests depend on reducing air pollution and maintaining a climate that supports tree species we rely on for wildlife habitat, maple syrup, recreation, tourism, wood products and clean water," Commissioner of the Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation Mike Snyder said.

Aside from the direct effects on lakes, fish, and forests, the burning of coal is the biggest contributor to climate change in America and poses significant risks for Vermont. One readily apparent effect of climate change is the recent increase in frequency of devastating storms and flood events which threaten Vermont watersheds and livelihoods. Warmer temperatures brought on by climate change may also reduce the range of cold water fish species such as our native brook trout and make environmental conditions more favorable for invasive, non-native species.

###

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:04 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Release - edits welcome!

Ehlers not Elhers

See your FB messages for a post going out from LCI

Will look further



---

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:14 AM  
**To:** james@champlain.ngo; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael; Markowitz, Deb  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** Draft Release - edits welcome!

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 10, 2016

#### **Gov. Shumlin Highlights Damage to Lakes, Fish, and Forests Resulting from Coal**

**MONTPELIER** – Continuing his push for Vermont to divest from coal stocks, Gov. Peter Shumlin today highlighted the negative effects the burning of coal has on Vermont's lakes and waterways, fish species, and forests and how it threatens important economic industries like tourism, outdoor recreation, and iconic maple sugaring.

The coal power industry is a major source of mercury emissions and mercury accumulation in the environment, impacting lakes, forests, and the species that inhabit both. Mercury and other harmful compounds resulting from the burning of coal are brought to Vermont by the way of precipitation, or what is known as acid rain, with devastating effects for the state's environment.

Vermont lakes are hit hardest, with up to 16 percent showing acid stress. In severe cases, acid compounds coming to Vermont through precipitation can lead to dead water bodies where native species cannot survive.

High levels of mercury also pose a concern for fish in Vermont's lakes and those who consume them. While mercury levels in Lake Champlain sport fish have declined since the 1990's, elevated levels of mercury mean Vermonters must follow Department of Health guidelines to ensure safe fish consumption. For pregnant women, these guidelines generally restrict consumption to between one and five meals per month of most sportfish.

Too much mercury in a diet, especially for pregnant women, can result in organ and central nervous system damage and impaired neurological development for children.

“Despite this pollution coming from out of state, it is Vermonters who pay the price, both with tax dollars required for clean-up efforts and in economic losses to businesses dependent on our state's natural resources,” said James Elhers, Executive Director of Lake Champlain International.

Much of the dirty air that contributes to acid rain travels across many states and ends up in Vermont forests, threatening their long-term sustainability. Years of acid deposition have leached vital nutrients from forest soils and impacted many of Vermont tree species, including:

- Red spruce was one of the first trees to draw attention to this problem through work by UVM professor Hub Vogelmann more than 3 decades ago. His research team's work on Camel's Hump led the nation in recognizing connections between red spruce decline and pollution from coal fired power plants.
- More recently Vermont learned that paper birch trees didn't recover from damages of the 1998 ice storm where acid deposition has depleted necessary soil nutrients.
- Forests where acid rain has affected soils have slower tree growth, poorer recovery from tree damages from pests or abnormal weather, and perhaps the most troubling, fewer seedlings surviving into future sugar maple forests.

“The health and productivity of our forests depend on reducing air pollution and maintaining a climate that supports tree species we rely on for wildlife habitat, maple syrup, recreation, tourism, wood products and clean water,” Commissioner of the Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation Mike Snyder said.

Aside from the direct effects on lakes, fish, and forests, the burning of coal is the biggest contributor to climate change in America and poses significant risks for Vermont. One readily apparent effect of climate change is the recent increase in frequency of devastating storms and flood events which threaten Vermont watersheds and livelihoods. Warmer temperatures brought on by climate change may also reduce the range of cold water fish species such as our native brook trout and make environmental conditions more favorable for invasive, non-native species.

###

**Coriell, Scott**

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:14 AM  
**To:** james@champlain.ngo; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael; Markowitz, Deb  
**Cc:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** Draft Release - edits welcome!

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 10, 2016

**Gov. Shumlin Highlights Damage to Lakes, Fish, and Forests Resulting from Coal**

**MONTPELIER** – Continuing his push for Vermont to divest from coal stocks, Gov. Peter Shumlin today highlighted the negative effects the burning of coal has on Vermont's lakes and waterways, fish species, and forests and how it threatens important economic industries like tourism, outdoor recreation, and iconic maple sugaring.

The coal power industry is a major source of mercury emissions and mercury accumulation in the environment, impacting lakes, forests, and the species that inhabit both. Mercury and other harmful compounds resulting from the burning of coal are brought to Vermont by the way of precipitation, or what is known as acid rain, with devastating effects for the state's environment.

Vermont lakes are hit hardest, with up to 16 percent showing acid stress. In severe cases, acid compounds coming to Vermont through precipitation can lead to dead water bodies where native species cannot survive.

High levels of mercury also pose a concern for fish in Vermont's lakes and those who consume them. While mercury levels in Lake Champlain sport fish have declined since the 1990's, elevated levels of mercury mean Vermonters must follow Department of Health guidelines to ensure safe fish consumption. For pregnant women, these guidelines generally restrict consumption to between one and five meals per month of most sportfish.

Too much mercury in a diet, especially for pregnant women, can result in organ and central nervous system damage and impaired neurological development for children.

"Despite this pollution coming from out of state, it is Vermonters who pay the price, both with tax dollars required for clean-up efforts and in economic losses to businesses dependent on our state's natural resources," said James Elhers, Executive Director of Lake Champlain International.

Much of the dirty air that contributes to acid rain travels across many states and ends up in Vermont forests, threatening their long-term sustainability. Years of acid deposition have leached vital nutrients from forest soils and impacted many of Vermont tree species, including:

- Red spruce was one of the first trees to draw attention to this problem through work by UVM professor Hub Vogelmann more than 3 decades ago. His research team's work on Camel's Hump led the nation in recognizing connections between red spruce decline and pollution from coal fired power plants.

- More recently Vermont learned that paper birch trees didn't recover from damages of the 1998 ice storm where acid deposition has depleted necessary soil nutrients.
- Forests where acid rain has affected soils have slower tree growth, poorer recovery from tree damages from pests or abnormal weather, and perhaps the most troubling, fewer seedlings surviving into future sugar maple forests.

"The health and productivity of our forests depend on reducing air pollution and maintaining a climate that supports tree species we rely on for wildlife habitat, maple syrup, recreation, tourism, wood products and clean water," Commissioner of the Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation Mike Snyder said.

Aside from the direct effects on lakes, fish, and forests, the burning of coal is the biggest contributor to climate change in America and poses significant risks for Vermont. One readily apparent effect of climate change is the recent increase in frequency of devastating storms and flood events which threaten Vermont watersheds and livelihoods. Warmer temperatures brought on by climate change may also reduce the range of cold water fish species such as our native brook trout and make environmental conditions more favorable for invasive, non-native species.

###

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:50 AM  
**To:** James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael  
**Cc:** Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** Tomorrow

Hey all, We're set for tomorrow at 11:30 in the fifth floor conference room. We'll do prep around 11 in the Governor's office on the fifth floor. You should have received calendar invites from Shana. Mike and Louis are sending me talking points. James has already sent stuff. I'll work all of that into a press release and circulate to all of you. For speaking order, here is what I am thinking:

GPS

Sec. Markowitz

James Elhers – to carry the lake message

Louis Porter – to carry the fish message

Mike Snyder – to carry the forests message

Sound good?

Scott Coriell

Office of the Governor

(802) 353-1449

[scott.coriell@vermont.gov](mailto:scott.coriell@vermont.gov)



## **Coriell, Scott**

---

**Subject:** Press Conference

**Location:** 5th Floor

**Start:** Wed 2/10/2016 11:30 AM

**End:** Wed 2/10/2016 12:30 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Accepted

**Organizer:** EXE - GPS Calendar

**Required Attendees:** Springer, Darren; Coriell, Scott; Gray, Laura; Markowitz, Deb; Porter, Louis; Snyder, Michael; James Ehlers (james@champlain.ngo)

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:13 AM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** RE: Tomorrow

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:09 AM  
To: Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>  
Subject: RE: Tomorrow

Roger. Let me know if you need anything else, Scott.

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:08 AM  
To: James Ehlers  
Subject: RE: Tomorrow

Think we're good at this point. I've got Louis and Snyder sending me stuff for the release. Gonna pack that baby full of stats.

-----Original Message-----

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:03 AM  
To: Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>  
Subject: RE: Tomorrow

Need more data for TPs?

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:57 AM  
To: james@mychamplain.net  
Subject: Tomorrow

We are all set for tomorrow. 11:30 AM fifth floor conference room in Montpelier. I will send press release and calendar invites soon. Thank you!

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:09 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Tomorrow

Roger. Let me know if you need anything else, Scott.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:08 AM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** RE: Tomorrow

Think we're good at this point. I've got Louis and Snyder sending me stuff for the release. Gonna pack that baby full of stats.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:03 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Tomorrow

Need more data for TPs?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:57 AM  
**To:** james@mychamplain.net  
**Subject:** Tomorrow

We are all set for tomorrow. 11:30 AM fifth floor conference room in Montpelier. I will send press release and calendar invites soon. Thank you!

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:08 AM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** RE: Tomorrow

Think we're good at this point. I've got Louis and Snyder sending me stuff for the release. Gonna pack that baby full of stats.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:03 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Tomorrow

Need more data for TPs?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:57 AM  
**To:** james@mychamplain.net  
**Subject:** Tomorrow

We are all set for tomorrow. 11:30 AM fifth floor conference room in Montpelier. I will send press release and calendar invites soon. Thank you!

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:03 AM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Tomorrow

Need more data for TPs?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:57 AM  
**To:** james@mychamplain.net  
**Subject:** Tomorrow

We are all set for tomorrow. 11:30 AM fifth floor conference room in Montpelier. I will send press release and calendar invites soon. Thank you!

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 4:42 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** <http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20160124/OPINION06/160129795>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 4:42 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: social media help

Done! Feel free to share my Op-Ed to show he has support from different corners if you like. It is well known I didn't support Act 64, for example.

Keep up the great job.

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 4:12 PM  
**To:** robb.kidd@sierraclub.org; amybeth@together.net; James Ehlers; pburns@vpig.org; Eric Becker  
**Subject:** social media help

Hey all, we just posted this video from the press conference last week of the Governor talking about Vermont's proud history of using divestment in the past. Here are the links if you want to share/retweet:

<https://www.facebook.com/Governor.Peter.Shumlin/videos/vb.155136287867671/953006971413928/?type=2&theater>

<https://twitter.com/GovPeterShumlin/status/696796135877431296>

See you out there!

Scott Coriell  
Office of the Governor  
(802) 353-1449  
[scott.coriell@vermont.gov](mailto:scott.coriell@vermont.gov)

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 1:36 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Cc:** Schuren, Alyssa  
**Subject:** Alyssa is copied --- RE: Press conf. Next week

Also, Neil Kammen at DEC is probably the foremost expert WRT to mercury impacts.

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:30 PM  
To: James Ehlers  
Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

Still working it. Let's definitely plan on Wednesday. Either 1130 a.m. in Burlington or noon in Montpelier. Just trying to nail down schedules. Do you have any info you can send me for the press release? Thanks again James!

-----Original Message-----

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:00 PM  
To: Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>  
Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

Any more word?

>> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference  
>> next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
>> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
>> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
>> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
>> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.  
>>  
>> Thanks!  
>>  
>> Scott  
>



## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 1:33 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week

Investing in Pollution Makes No Cents  
Time to divest from our own destruction, Vermont

Our Governor recently joined the growing call to divest public funds from coal and ExxonMobil. Some folks are asking why we should move away from these assets as the projections of climate change impacts are still contentious. I believe the real question should be: Given the horrendous impacts from the burning of fossil fuels that have already occurred and are still happening now, why have we stayed invested so long?

The burning of fossil fuels-especially coal-has resulted in the widespread destruction of Vermont's water quality and severe impairment of our fisheries. These impacts are well documented and widely accepted. Fossil-fuel combustion is responsible for acid rain, eutrophication, and mercury contamination of fish and of wildlife through the deposition of sulfates, nitrous oxides, and mercury. This threatens human health, destroys ecosystems, reduces property values, and damages our economies.

Acid pre-cursors, brought north in precipitation, accumulate in our most sensitive and remote lakes where the natural features of these waterbodies are not sufficient to buffer the effects, resulting in "dead" waterbodies where native species cannot survive.

In these areas, acidity can be an intense stressor with moderate to severe impacts. Based on a recent statistically-based survey, up to 16 percent of Vermont lakes manifest signs of acid stress, while 3 percent of lakes are acid-impaired. An additional 160 miles of streams are stressed or impaired due to acidity. It is coal burning-principally in the Midwest-that is the culprit.

Fossil-fuel combustion also contributes to the accelerated eutrophication of lakes and ponds, through the deposition of nitrogen oxides that enter aquatic systems. Eutrophication stimulates algal blooms, resulting in fish kills, loss of species diversity, and cyanobacteria outbreaks, which can and do produce neurotoxins dangerous to our health. The eutrophication issues on Lake Champlain, Lake Carmi, and Shelburne Pond are so severe that economic impacts are being felt in the surrounding communities.

Last, but not at all least, the deposition of mercury as a result of fossil fuel combustion has resulted in widespread environmental destruction. Over 90 percent of mercury contamination is from out-of-state sources, and again, it is the combustion of coal for energy production that is the offender. Despite this pollution coming from out of state, it is Vermonters who pay the price, both with tax dollars required for clean-up efforts and in economic losses to businesses dependent on our state's natural resources.

Mercury accumulates in lake sediments and the resulting water-soluble methyl-mercury biomagnifies in animal tissues at concentrations many times higher than in the water or air. Methyl-mercury is highly toxic and easily assimilated at the base of aquatic food chains. Through the processes of biomagnification, concentrations of methyl-mercury are passed up food chains, increasing to levels that pose significant threats to organisms feeding at the top of the food web, including humans. The physiological consequences of methyl-mercury contamination include organ and central nervous system damage.

A study by the National Academy of Sciences concluded that the children of women who consumed mercury-tainted fish during pregnancy showed the clearest evidence of poisoning. The primary health effect of methylmercury poisoning is impaired neurological development, though symptoms may include muscle weakness; lack of coordination; impairment of speech, hearing, walking and vision; and sensorial distortion. This same fish tissue however, is also the source of Omega-3 - a critical protein needed for brain development.

According to the Agency of Natural resources, all 174,175 Vermont acres of Lake Champlain have been impacted by atmospheric deposition of mercury, along with 66 miles of rivers and streams. Vermont's inland lakes are not immune, either, with 45,859 lake acres affected.

Vermonters have worked hard to protect and clean our state's greatest assets-our people and our places-and Vermonters have paid for much of this effort with their tax dollars. It's time to stop funding the problem and begin investing in solutions. As we move towards a cleaner environment with renewable energy, it is time to stop destroying our own waters and our health for want of pollution "profits". The time to invest our public funds in a clean water economy is now.

James Ehlers is the executive director of Lake Champlain International and a member of Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility's Public Policy Committee.

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:30 PM  
To: James Ehlers  
Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

Still working it. Let's definitely plan on Wednesday. Either 1130 a.m. in Burlington or noon in Montpelier. Just trying to nail down schedules. Do you have any info you can send me for the press release? Thanks again James!

-----Original Message-----

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:00 PM  
To: Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>  
Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

Any more word?

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:06 PM  
To: James Ehlers  
Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

If you could hold Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday is out for sure. I'll lay down the law.

> On Feb 5, 2016, at 4:03 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:  
>  
> Let them know who the boss is!!!  
>

> You want me to keep Wednesday and Thursday in play for now? Would  
> like to put my Tuesday sked back in order if possible tonight. Thanks.

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]

> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:51 PM

> To: James Ehlers

> Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

>

> Thanks James. As you can see our team is being difficult. I'll wrangle  
them

> and touch base on Monday. Have a good weekend!

>

>> On Feb 5, 2016, at 3:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>>

>> Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous  
>> standing commitments. Thanks!

>>

>> James

>>

>>

>> All the best,

>> James Ehlers

>> Executive Director

>> Connect with James

>>

>> Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

>>

>> Lake Champlain International, Inc.

>> Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

>> a 501(c)(3) organization

>> ... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the  
>> only option.

>> Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has

>> earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better

>> Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency,

>> accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these

>> internationally

> trusted organizations.

>>

>>

>>

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]

>> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM

>> To: James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis

>> Cc: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren

>> Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

>>

>> Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great  
>> day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on  
>> Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include  
>> it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!

>>

>> Scott

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott

>> Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM

>> To: James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb

>> <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael

>> <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis

>> <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>

>> Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren

>> <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>

>> Subject: Press conf. Next week

>>

>> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference  
>> next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
>> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
>> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
>> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
>> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.

>>

>> Thanks!

>>

>> Scott

>

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 1:30 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week

Still working it. Let's definitely plan on Wednesday. Either 1130 a.m. in Burlington or noon in Montpelier. Just trying to nail down schedules. Do you have any info you can send me for the press release? Thanks again James!

-----Original Message-----

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]  
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:00 PM  
To: Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>  
Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

Any more word?

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:06 PM  
To: James Ehlers  
Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

If you could hold Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday is out for sure. I'll lay down the law.

> On Feb 5, 2016, at 4:03 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>

> Let them know who the boss is!!!

>

> You want me to keep Wednesday and Thursday in play for now? Would

> like to put my Tuesday sked back in order if possible tonight. Thanks.

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]

> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:51 PM

> To: James Ehlers

> Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

>

> Thanks James. As you can see our team is being difficult. I'll wrangle them

> and touch base on Monday. Have a good weekend!

>

>> On Feb 5, 2016, at 3:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>>

>> Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous

>> standing commitments. Thanks!

>>  
>> James  
>>  
>>  
>> All the best,  
>> James Ehlers  
>> Executive Director  
>> Connect with James  
>>  
>> Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award  
>>  
>> Lake Champlain International, Inc.  
>> Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
>> a 501(c)(3) organization  
>> ... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the  
>> only option.  
>> Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has  
>> earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better  
>> Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency,  
>> accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these  
>> internationally  
> trusted organizations.

>>  
>>  
>>  
>>

>> -----Original Message-----  
>> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
>> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
>> Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

>>  
>> Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great  
>> day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on  
>> Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include  
>> it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!

>>  
>> Scott

>>

>> -----Original Message-----  
>> From: Coriell, Scott  
>> Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb  
>> <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael  
>> <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis  
>> <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren  
>> <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
>> Subject: Press conf. Next week

>>

>> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference  
>> next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
>> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
>> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
>> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
>> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.  
>>  
>> Thanks!  
>>  
>> Scott  
>

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 1:00 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week

Any more word?

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:06 PM  
To: James Ehlers  
Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

If you could hold Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday is out for sure. I'll lay down the law.

> On Feb 5, 2016, at 4:03 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>

> Let them know who the boss is!!!

>

> You want me to keep Wednesday and Thursday in play for now? Would  
> like to put my Tuesday sked back in order if possible tonight. Thanks.

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:51 PM  
> To: James Ehlers  
> Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

>

> Thanks James. As you can see our team is being difficult. I'll wrangle  
them

> and touch base on Monday. Have a good weekend!

>

>> On Feb 5, 2016, at 3:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>>

>> Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous  
>> standing commitments. Thanks!

>>

>> James

>>

>>

>> All the best,

>> James Ehlers

>> Executive Director

>> Connect with James

>>

>> Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award



>>  
>> Lake Champlain International, Inc.  
>> Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
>> a 501(c)(3) organization  
>> ... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the  
>> only option.  
>> Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has  
>> earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better  
>> Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency,  
>> accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these  
>> internationally  
> trusted organizations.

>>  
>>  
>>  
>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
>> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
>> Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week  
>>

>> Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great  
>> day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on  
>> Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include  
>> it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!

>>  
>> Scott  
>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott  
>> Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb  
>> <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael  
>> <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis  
>> <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren  
>> <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
>> Subject: Press conf. Next week  
>>

>> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference  
>> next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
>> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
>> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
>> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
>> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.

>>  
>> Thanks!  
>>  
>> Scott

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 4:19 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week

You da Man!

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:06 PM  
To: James Ehlers  
Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

If you could hold Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday is out for sure. I'll lay down the law.

> On Feb 5, 2016, at 4:03 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>

> Let them know who the boss is!!!

>

> You want me to keep Wednesday and Thursday in play for now? Would

> like to put my Tuesday sked back in order if possible tonight. Thanks.

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]

> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:51 PM

> To: James Ehlers

> Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

>

> Thanks James. As you can see our team is being difficult. I'll wrangle

> them and touch base on Monday. Have a good weekend!

>

>> On Feb 5, 2016, at 3:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>>

>> Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous

>> standing commitments. Thanks!

>>

>> James

>>

>>

>> All the best,

>> James Ehlers

>> Executive Director

>> Connect with James  
>>  
>> Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award  
>>  
>> Lake Champlain International, Inc.  
>> Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
>> a 501(c)(3) organization  
>> ... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the  
>> only option.  
>> Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has  
>> earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better  
>> Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency,  
>> accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these  
>> internationally  
> trusted organizations.  
>>  
>>  
>>  
>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
>> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
>> Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week  
>>

>> Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great  
>> day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on  
>> Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include  
>> it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!  
>>

>> Scott  
>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott  
>> Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb  
>> <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael  
>> <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis  
>> <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren  
>> <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
>> Subject: Press conf. Next week  
>>

>> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference  
>> next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
>> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
>> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
>> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
>> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.  
>>

>> Thanks!

>>

>> Scott

>

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 4:06 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** Re: Press conf. Next week

If you could hold Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday is out for sure. I'll lay down the law.

> On Feb 5, 2016, at 4:03 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>

> Let them know who the boss is!!!

>

> You want me to keep Wednesday and Thursday in play for now? Would

> like to put my Tuesday sked back in order if possible tonight. Thanks.

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]

> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:51 PM

> To: James Ehlers

> Subject: Re: Press conf. Next week

>

> Thanks James. As you can see our team is being difficult. I'll wrangle

> them and touch base on Monday. Have a good weekend!

>

>> On Feb 5, 2016, at 3:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>>

>> Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous

>> standing commitments. Thanks!

>>

>> James

>>

>>

>> All the best,

>> James Ehlers

>> Executive Director

>> Connect with James

>>

>> Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

>>

>> Lake Champlain International, Inc.

>> Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

>> a 501(c)(3) organization

>> ... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the

>> only option.

>> Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has

>> earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better

>> Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency,

>> accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these  
>> internationally  
> trusted organizations.

>>  
>>  
>>  
>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
>> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
>> Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

>>  
>> Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great  
>> day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on  
>> Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include  
>> it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!

>>  
>> Scott

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Coriell, Scott  
>> Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
>> To: James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb  
>> <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael  
>> <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis  
>> <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>  
>> Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren  
>> <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
>> Subject: Press conf. Next week

>>  
>> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference  
>> next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
>> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
>> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
>> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
>> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.

>>  
>> Thanks!

>>  
>> Scott

>

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 4:03 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week  
  
**Importance:** High

Let them know who the boss is!!!

You want me to keep Wednesday and Thursday in play for now? Would like to put my Tuesday sked back in order if possible tonight. Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 3:51 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** Re: Press conf. Next week

Thanks James. As you can see our team is being difficult. I'll wrangle them and touch base on Monday. Have a good weekend!

> On Feb 5, 2016, at 3:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>  
> Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous  
> standing commitments. Thanks!  
>  
> James  
>  
>  
> All the best,  
> James Ehlers  
> Executive Director  
> Connect with James  
>  
> Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award  
>  
> Lake Champlain International, Inc.  
> Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
> a 501(c)(3) organization  
> ... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the  
> only option.  
> Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has  
> earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better  
> Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency,  
> accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these  
> internationally

trusted organizations.

>  
>  
>  
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM  
> To: James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
> Cc: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
> Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

>  
> Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great  
> day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on  
> Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include  
> it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!

>  
> Scott

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott  
> Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
> To: James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb  
> <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael  
> <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>  
> Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren  
> <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
> Subject: Press conf. Next week

>  
> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference next  
> week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.

>  
> Thanks!

>  
> Scott

>



## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 3:51 PM  
**To:** James Ehlers  
**Subject:** Re: Press conf. Next week

Thanks James. As you can see our team is being difficult. I'll wrangle them and touch base on Monday. Have a good weekend!

> On Feb 5, 2016, at 3:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>

> Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous  
> standing commitments. Thanks!

>

> James

>

>

> All the best,

> James Ehlers

> Executive Director

> Connect with James

>

> Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

>

> Lake Champlain International, Inc.

> Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

> a 501(c)(3) organization

> ... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the

> only option.

> Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has

> earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better

> Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency,

> accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

>

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]

> Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM

> To: James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis

> Cc: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren

> Subject: RE: Press conf. Next week

>

> Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great

> day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on

> Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include

> it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!

>  
> Scott  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Coriell, Scott  
> Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
> To: James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb  
> <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael  
> <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>  
> Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren  
> <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
> Subject: Press conf. Next week  
>  
> Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference next  
> week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's  
> environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the  
> Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use  
> the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone?  
> If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.  
>  
> Thanks!  
>  
> Scott  
>

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 3:50 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
**Cc:** Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week

Whatever you need. Just let me know so I can re-arrange previous standing commitments. Thanks!

James

All the best,  
James Ehlers  
Executive Director  
Connect with James

Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

Lake Champlain International, Inc.  
Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
a 501(c)(3) organization

... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 10:52 AM  
**To:** James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
**Cc:** Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week

Hey all, I forgot that Tuesday is the NH primary, which isn't a great day for a press conference if we want press to show up. Would noon on Wednesday work instead? Let me know today if you can so I can include it on the weekly schedule. Thanks!

Scott

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
**To:** James Ehlers <james@mychamplain.net>; Markowitz, Deb <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>; Snyder, Michael <Michael.Snyder@vermont.gov>; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>

Cc: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
Subject: Press conf. Next week

Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone? If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.

Thanks!

Scott

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2016 12:00 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Cc:** Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** RE: Press conf. Next week

Got it. Let me know who is writing remarks for Guv so I can be sure we are on same page. Thanks, Scott.

James

All the best,  
James Ehlers  
Executive Director  
Connect with James

Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

Lake Champlain International, Inc.  
Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.  
a 501(c)(3) organization

... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Coriell, Scott [mailto:Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:45 AM  
**To:** James Ehlers; Markowitz, Deb; Snyder, Michael; Porter, Louis  
**Cc:** Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** Press conf. Next week

Hey all, I think we've all been in touch about a press conference next week with the Governor on coal's negative effects on Vermont's environment. It's looking like 12pm on Tuesday works well for the Governor. I'm thinking the Leahy center is a good venue. We could use the room that looks out onto lake Champlain. Sound good to everyone? If so, I'll work on details and circulate tomorrow.

Thanks!

Scott=

## Coriell, Scott

---

**From:** James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2016 9:35 AM  
**To:** Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; Markowitz, Deb; Ross, Chuck; Smith, Megan; 'Cook, Steve'; Porter, Louis  
**Cc:** Gray, Laura; Coriell, Scott; Twigg, George; 'Pero, Haley (Sanders)'; tom\_berry@leahy.senate.gov  
**Subject:** Swanton and Missisquoi make National Geographic for ... intersex fish, manure pollution, and a defunct dam

“Just south of the refuge, an abandoned dam blocks sturgeon, walleye and other fish species from reaching important spawning grounds in Lake Champlain. In the summer, manure from farm fields upstream trickles into the river, causing smelly algae blooms in Missisquoi Bay.”

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/02/160203-feminized-fish-endocrine-disruption-hormones-wildlife-refuges/>

All the best,

*James Ehlers*

Executive Director

[Connect](#) with James



Winner of the Prestigious U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Award

**Lake Champlain International, Inc.**

Clean Water. Healthy Fish. Happy People.

a 501(c)(3) organization

*... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.*

Lake Champlain International, a Top-Rated Nonprofit Award winner, has earned the Guidestar Exchange Seal and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau, illustrating the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness as set forth by these internationally trusted organizations.