

From: Mishaan, Jessica
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2016 11:18 AM
To: tscher@arsquared.org
Subject: response to public records act request

Mr. Scher,

Please find the email below from Sarah London, Counsel to Governor Shumlin.

Thank you,

Jessica Mishaan | Paralegal
Office of the Governor
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-0101
802.828.3333

Mr. Scher,

Attached please find a partial production in response to your request dated June 15, 2016. A conference call passcode has been redacted (1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(25)). We will be slightly delayed in producing an additional staff member's records due to vacation schedules, but will follow up again within ten days.

Thank you,
Sarah London

E-Mail Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
---------	---------	-------------	---------	--------

[HTML](#)

From: "Eric Becker" <ericbecker350@gmail.com>
Date: 1/20/2012 10:08:35 PM
To: "GovernorVT@state.vt.us" <GovernorVT@state.vt.us>
Cc:
Subject: Vermont Yankee: The fight isn't over

Thank you for your leadership on Vermont Yankee and encourage you to continue to stand up for the interests of Vermonters in this matter.

I'm disappointed that Judge Murtha sided with Entergy Louisiana in this round, but I'm not ready to give up and I trust that you aren't either. It took political courage to stand up to that multi-billion dollar corporation, and your willingness to do it is one more reason why I'm proud to call Vermont home.

Entergy Louisiana has shown no interest in Vermont's people or our environment. I do not accept the idea that a plant riddled with problems will continue to operate – and store highly radioactive waste – on the banks of the Connecticut River for another 20 years.

Please continue to do everything in your power to hold Entergy accountable and retire this plant.

Thank you,

Eric Becker
P.O. Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072

Close

February 23, 2012

Eric Becker
PO Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072-0092

Dear Eric,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Vermont Yankee Nuclear power plant. As I said when the court opinion was issued, I do not agree with Judge Murtha's decision. We as a state have had many important and legitimate concerns with Entergy Louisiana and its operation of Vermont Yankee that are not reflected in the opinion. I support the Attorney General's work in getting a positive result on appeal. Meanwhile, my administration will be focusing on the state's continuing authority over Vermont Yankee

The Department of Public Service has drafted a Comprehensive Energy Plan that will prepare Vermont for a post-Yankee future. This Plan provides a significant piece of the roadmap to protecting our environment, guides Vermont toward a secure and sustainable energy future, and helps to create a clean energy economy that grows jobs here in Vermont.

Again, thank you for your letter. With Vermonters' collective common sense, I am confident we will succeed in leading the United States in renewable energy and energy efficiency innovation. If I can be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

PS/lg

E-Mail Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
---------	---------	-------------	---------	--------

[HTML](#)

From: "Eric Becker" <ericbecker350@gmail.com>
Date: 6/12/2012 9:53:45 AM
To: "GovernorVT@state.vt.us" <GovernorVT@state.vt.us>
Cc:
Subject: Please Protect Vermonters from Toxic Chemicals

Dear Governor Shumlin,

I think we can agree that toxic chemicals don't belong in our consumer products. But dangerous chemicals linked to cancer, learning disabilities, and reproductive harm are found in many products we use every day. The fact is that the health and economic costs of toxic chemicals burden every family and business in Vermont.

Our nation's chemical regulatory system, the Toxic Substances Control Act, is ineffective and outdated. It's almost impossible for parents and retailers to get trustworthy information about the chemicals lurking in so many everyday consumer products. Here in Vermont, there is strong support for better chemical regulations among parents, policy makers, and health care professionals. But we can't solve this problem alone.

We need your administration to do all it can to protect our families from toxic chemicals. We need to identify chemicals of concern, and keep the worst chemicals out of consumer products – especially those aimed at children. Getting Vermonters the information we need to make informed decisions has got to be a priority.

A recent Chicago Tribune investigation uncovered how the chemical industry regularly lied to oversight committees, teamed up with Big Tobacco and even infiltrated fire fighter organizations to keep their dangerous, toxic products on store shelves. No doubt you remember the deceitful tactics they used in Vermont when the state was working to ban one class of toxic flame retardants in 2009.

The fact of the matter is that industry has wildly misrepresented scientific data for decades to convince regulators their products are effective. In fact, these toxic flame retardants do virtually nothing to prevent fires, and actually make the smoke from fires more deadly. Further, the chemicals migrate from our furniture, electronics, and other products into our bodies. The chemicals are linked to cancer, developmental disabilities, and reproductive problems.

Vermont has taken important steps to ban a number of toxic chemicals, but new chemicals of concern come to light each year. We can't keep battling chemicals one at a time. We need a better precautionary system, so we can have confidence that the products we bring into our homes are safe for our families. I urge your administration to do all it can to protect Vermonters from toxic chemicals.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Eric Becker

Strafford

Close

June 14, 2012

Eric Becker
PO Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072-0092

Dear Eric,

Thank you for sharing your concern about toxic chemicals in consumer products. I appreciate your vigilance and your interest in the nature of some chemical toxicants in our environment.

Vermont has several laws that regulate chemical content of some consumer products. Some of these laws are aimed specifically at children's products:

Bisphenol A (BPA) is a synthetic chemical that has adverse health effects at low doses. Title 18, Chapter 29 of the Vermont Statutes limits the use of BPA in certain products. Effective July 12, 2012, the manufacture, sale or distribution of infant or baby formula stored in a plastic container or jar containing BPA is barred. Beginning July 1, 2014, the manufacture, sale or distribution of infant or baby formula stored in a can containing BPA is barred. Also effective July 1 of this year, the manufacture, sale or distribution of a reusable food or beverage container containing BPA is barred.

Phthalates are chemicals that are added to plastics, and are associated with adverse health effects. Title 18, Chapter 29 of the Vermont Statutes restricts phthalate concentrations in children's toys and items intended for use in the mouth. Since July 1, 2009, the manufacture, sale or distribution of any toy or a child care article (pacifier, teether, etc.) intended for use by children under 3 years of age containing di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP) or benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP) in concentrations greater than 0.1% is barred. The manufacture, sale or distribution of any toy or item intended for use in the mouth by children under the age of 3 cannot contain diisononyl phthalate (DINP), diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP), or di-n-octyl phthalate (DnOP) at concentrations greater than 0.1%.

Flame Retardants - Exposure to some polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) flame retardants is associated with health concerns. Some PBDEs are regulated in Title 9, Chapter 80 of the Vermont Statutes. Since July 1, 2010, the Vermont Statutes forbid the sale of a retail product containing octabromodiphenyl ether (octaDBE) or pentabromodiphenyl ether (pentaBDE) in concentrations greater than 0.1% by weight. The statutes also forbid the sale of mattresses, mattress pads, upholstered furniture, televisions and computers containing decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE) in concentrations greater than 0.1%.

Safe Cleaning Products - Most recently, Vermont passed Act 68, protecting the health of school children by requiring the use of safe cleaning products. Starting on July 1, 2012, distributors and manufacturers of cleaning products can sell to schools only

environmentally preferable cleaning products. This will improve indoor air quality and likely reduce adverse health effects such as the aggravation of asthma.

I encourage all Vermonters to make informed consumer purchases. To avoid exposure to BPA, consider alternatives to plastics and cans, such as glass. Avoid phthalate exposure by purchasing toys made from natural materials such as wood, rather than toys made from soft plastics. To reduce exposure to flame retardants, purchase garments made from natural fibers such as cotton which are not as inherently flammable as synthetic fabrics such as polyester.

While we work to protect citizens in Vermont, our Congressional delegation is working hard to address this issue at the national level. Senators Patrick Leahy and Bernie Sanders both support the federal Safe Chemicals Act (S.847). They co-sponsored S.847, which would require the chemical industry to demonstrate the health and environmental safety of chemicals used in consumer products.

While we are aware of many offensive chemicals in our environment, we strive to address those most pertinent to children's health in our statutes. As our knowledge grows about the dangers of some chemical toxicants, so do our regulations. In the meantime, I encourage you to stay informed and make choices that limit your exposure to chemicals of concern.

Please don't hesitate to contact my office if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

PS/lg

E-Mail Viewer

[Message](#)[Details](#)[Attachments](#)[Headers](#)[Source](#)[HTML](#)

From: "Eric Becker" <ericbecker350@gmail.com>
Date: 6/27/2012 9:10:56 AM
To: "GovernorVT@state.vt.us" <GovernorVT@state.vt.us>
Cc:
Subject: Thank you for opposing tar sands

Governor Shumlin,

Thank you for opposing the use of tar sands. I appreciate having a Governor who understands that certain energy is simply too dirty to consider, under any circumstances. I know I can count on you to oppose tar sands being moved through Vermont, and I wanted to let you know I'm with you.

Thank you,

Eric Becker

Strafford, VT

[Close](#)

E-Mail Viewer

[Message](#)[Details](#)[Attachments](#)[Headers](#)[Source](#)[HTML](#)

From: "Eric Becker" <ericbecker350@gmail.com>
Date: 1/16/2013 10:21:38 AM
To: "GovernorVT@state.vt.us" <GovernorVT@state.vt.us>
Cc:
Subject: Please support investments in affordable heat

I'm sure you've heard that the Thermal Efficiency Task Force recently came out with its recommendations. I wanted to let you know that I support adoption of this plan, which will help Vermonters lower their energy bills by expanding programs that make it easier and more affordable for us to make our homes more efficient and to switch to clean, renewable, affordable fuels, like solar hot water and wood pellets. I hope you will as well.

The plan will save \$1,000 a year for the typical weatherized home through efficiency alone. Statewide savings for Vermonters and Vermont businesses will total \$1.4 billion, and result in a reduction in global warming pollution equivalent to taking over 1,200,000 cars off the road for a year. Fuel prices have doubled in the past decade, and that's not just a statistic – it's something that I live every time I pay my heating bill.

Please adopt this plan and help Vermonters invest in efficiency and renewable heating. We can't go another year without a comprehensive plan and the needed resources to tackle this issue.

Given the state of the climate and the economy, we can't afford not to make this investment.

Thank you.

Eric Becker
P.O. Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072

[Close](#)

February 13, 2013

Eric Becker
PO Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072-0092

Dear Eric,

Thank you for your support of the Thermal Efficiency Task Force's recommendations for funding thermal energy and weatherization investments. Vermont continues to lead the nation in preparing our environment and economy for a climate change future, promoting renewable energy development, and saving Vermonters money through energy efficiency.

Though we are national leaders in electric energy efficiency, creating jobs and saving money by helping Vermonters cut down on electric usage, we can do a better job developing thermal energy efficiency options for keeping our homes and buildings warm during the winter. We currently heat about sixty percent of our homes with traditional heating oil – a growing expense for Vermonters, and a huge cost to our environment. Meanwhile, the federal government continues to reduce its contribution to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), an assistance program that Vermont is committed to maintaining.

I believe that we must save energy and money by investing further in thermal energy and weatherization. As part of my 2014 balanced budget, I proposed several critical energy investments, including \$6 million for LIHEAP, \$6 million for thermal energy efficiency, and \$5 million for the Clean Energy Development Fund. My administration is committed to moving forward with innovative, cost-effective, and environmentally smart energy policy that will benefit all Vermonters, and I believe that this proposal will ensure continued progress.

Thank you again for your support. I look forward to working together on these issues moving forward.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

PS/dr

E-Mail Viewer

[Message](#)[Details](#)[Attachments](#)[Headers](#)[Source](#)[HTML](#)

From: "Eric Becker" <ericbecker350@gmail.com>
Date: 8/27/2013 2:59:42 PM
To: "GovernorVT@state.vt.us" <GovernorVT@state.vt.us>
Cc:
Subject: Please build on Vermont's solar success

Thank you for your support of solar in Vermont. With utilities telling their customers they can't go solar any longer and proposing "fixes" to Vermont's net metering law that would drive up the cost of solar and put the brakes on the industry, we need your leadership more than ever.

Please work with the legislature to expand net metering without increasing the cost of solar in Vermont. We need to be moving even faster towards solar and other renewables, not slower. Ordinary Vermonters and Vermont businesses installing their own renewable power must be a big part of our clean energy future.

Eric Becker
P.O. Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072

[Close](#)

August 28, 2013

Eric Becker
PO Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072-0092

Dear Eric,

Thank you for contacting me, and for your support of renewable energy in Vermont. As you know, I believe strongly in our state's net metering program, one of the best ways for Vermonters to reduce their environmental impact and help move our state towards our green energy future, while at the same time lowering their energy bills. Under my leadership, we have nearly tripled the amount of net metered energy capacity since the beginning of 2011.

I have heard, and do understand, the concerns some electric utility officials in Vermont have about the potential impact of net metering. However, I want you to know that I am committed to continuing the strong growth of net metering projects, as well as other renewable energy projects in Vermont. Our net metering program supports distributed solar energy and other clean technologies, reduces transmission costs for utility customers, and cuts greenhouse gas emissions. Net metering also supports green jobs in Vermont. For all of these reasons, I, and those in my administration, will continue to work with legislators and stakeholders to continue net metering and reach our renewable energy goals.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

PS/cw

E-Mail Viewer

[Message](#)[Details](#)[Attachments](#)[Headers](#)[Source](#)[HTML](#)

From: "Eric Becker" <ericbecker350@gmail.com>
Date: 1/16/2014 7:41:40 PM
To: "GovernorVT@state.vt.us" <GovernorVT@state.vt.us>
Cc:
Subject: Please Veto S.82

Dear Gov. Shumlin,

I'm writing to ask you to veto S.82, the campaign finance bill. This bill started out last year as a real reform bill that would have reestablished commonsense limits on campaign contributions and significantly increased transparency around elections. But the bill you have before you does neither.

I know you have supported genuine campaign finance reform legislation in the past. I'm asking you to stand up for real reform once again by vetoing this flawed bill.

S.82 makes the problem of money in politics worse. Among its drawbacks, it would:

- Double the amount of money that corporations, PACs and wealthy individuals can give to statewide candidates from \$2,000 to \$4,000
- Quintuple the amount that PACs, corporations and the rich can give to political parties from \$2,000 to \$10,000
- Allow unlimited contributions from political parties to candidates
- Fail to substantially improve disclosure requirements (adding just two new reports over a two-year period and filing to collect occupation or employer info)
- Do nothing to stop corporations from giving directly to candidates, and
- Fail to require fat cat funders of Super PACs to appear in their own ads

In vetoing this bill, you can send it back to legislators with ideas to improve it. There are positive aspects of the bill that should be retained while strengthening the disclosure provisions and contribution limits.

Please demonstrate your leadership and commitment to real campaign finance reform.

Please veto this bill. Thank you.

Eric Becker
P.O. Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072

[Close](#)

January 29, 2014

Eric Becker
PO Box 92
Strafford, VT 05072-0092

Dear Eric,

Thank you for your advocacy. I share your concern about the influence of money in politics. While the new law does update limits set in 1981, I signed S.82 because it adds transparency to Vermont elections and ensures that we have campaign finance limits on the books. S.82 will allow the Secretary of State to require online campaign filings, requires Super PACs to disclose media buys, and increases the number of reporting filings. In addition, it increases public financing, which is one of the best resources for candidates.

I will certainly keep your thoughts in mind as we continue our work to ensure elections in Vermont are fair. Please don't hesitate to contact my office if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

PS/jk



STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Friends,

Today and tomorrow we're expecting some significant snowfall that could drop over a foot of snow in some areas of the state, especially in the southern counties. While this is winter in Vermont and we expect heavy snow from time to time, everyone should exercise good Vermont common sense. Remember to:

- Be a good neighbor – Check in on elderly or other neighbors who may need assistance.
- Check heating vents to make sure they are clear of snow – Blocked vents can cause deadly carbon monoxide (CO) to enter the home.
- Travel with caution and be sure to give plow trucks plenty of room – Visibility can be greatly reduced in the area immediately around an active plow truck.
- Sign up for alerts at <http://vtalert.gov>

Stay safe,

Governor Peter Shumlin

Please do not reply to this email. [Contact the Executive Office of the Governor](#)

To unsubscribe from Governor Shumlin's email list click [Here](#)

Executive Office of the Governor • 109 State Street, Pavilion • Montpelier, Vermont 05609 • 802-828-3333

January 26, 2015

Allen, Susan

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 11:57 AM
To: Springer, Darren; Allen, Susan
Subject: Bennington/Pownal? FW: RELEASE: EPA Adds Sites to National Priorities List to Reduce Risk to Public Health and Environment

From: U.S. EPA Media Relations [mailto:noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 11:52 AM
To: james@mychamplain.net
Subject: RELEASE: EPA Adds Sites to National Priorities List to Reduce Risk to Public Health and Environment



CONTACT:
Mollie Lemon (News media only)
lemon.mollie@epa.gov
(202) 343-9859
(202) 564-4355

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 6, 2016

EPA Adds Sites to National Priorities List to Reduce Risk to Public Health and Environment

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is adding five and proposing to add eight hazardous waste sites to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL). These are sites with known or threatened hazardous waste releases that could pose risks to public health and the environment.

"Cleaning up hazardous waste sites is vitally important to the health of America's communities," said Mathy Stanislaus, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management. "Our goal is to give communities the best opportunity for productive use of a site after it is cleaned up."

A site's addition to the NPL helps address potential adverse human health impacts. Academic research shows that investment in Superfund cleanups reduces the incidence of congenital abnormalities in infants by as much as 25 percent for those living within approximately a mile and a quarter of a site. Cleanups involving lead-contaminated soil have contributed to documented reduced blood-lead levels in children. If left unaddressed, elevated blood-lead levels may result in irreversible neurological deficits, such as lowered intelligence and attention-related behavioral problems.

"Adding a site to the NPL generates new jobs and creates stronger local economies that will strengthen communities for years to come," continued Assistant Administrator Stanislaus. "A study by researchers at Duke University and the University of Pittsburgh found that once a site has all cleanup remedies in place and is deleted from the NPL, nearby property values increased 18.6-24.5 percent as compared to their pre-NPL proposal values. Moreover, cleanups increase

local communities' and state governments' tax revenue, and help to create jobs during and after cleanup. For example, at 454 of the 850 sites supporting use or reuse activities, EPA found, at the end of fiscal year 2015, that approximately 3,900 businesses had ongoing operations that were generating annual sales of more than \$29 billion and employing more than 108,000 people."

Currently, more than 850 Superfund sites nationwide have some type of actual or planned reuse underway. For example, in the town of Corinna, Maine, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, local officials and stakeholders worked together to integrate a reuse plan for the Eastland Woolen Mill Superfund site. The 22-acre site is a former textile mill that operated from 1909 to 1996. Disposal practices resulted in extensive contamination of soil, groundwater and numerous private drinking water wells. With EPA support, this collaboration resulted in the Corinna Village Center Reuse Plan that focuses on mixed-use redevelopment of downtown Corinna and includes commercial, residential and recreational areas.

EPA responds to requests from states, tribes and communities to propose a site for NPL addition when non-NPL response options have not proved viable. Prior to adding a site to the NPL, the agency works closely with states and tribes and seeks public comment. For each of the 13 sites announced today, EPA has either received letters of state officials' concurrence supporting the NPL listing or, after working closely with the state, received no objection to adding the site to the NPL. Community partnerships are also critical to Superfund site cleanups. EPA's goal is to work with community partners at every site by establishing an effective process with the necessary tools and information needed to fully explore future uses before the cleanup remedy's selection. This approach gives the Agency the best chance of ensuring remedies are consistent with a site's likely future use.

Under Superfund law, only sites EPA adds to the NPL are eligible to receive federal funding for long-term, permanent cleanup. The list serves as the basis for prioritizing both enforcement actions against potentially responsible parties and long-term EPA Superfund cleanup funding. The Superfund program operates on the principle that polluters should pay for the cleanups rather than passing the costs on to taxpayers. EPA searches for parties legally responsible for contaminating a site, and holds those parties accountable for cleanup costs.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Comprehensive Environmental, Response, Compensation and Liability Act, the law creating the Superfund program. The Superfund law gives EPA the authority to clean up hazardous substance releases and directs EPA to update the NPL. EPA and its partners continue to discover new sites qualifying for the NPL. These sites are the result of past industrial practices as well as other activities.

The sites in today's rules potentially affect drinking water, groundwater, soil, wetlands, and fishing for human consumption. Contaminants found at the sites include arsenic, mercury, uranium, cadmium, copper, manganese, zinc, aluminum, chromium, lead, trichloroethane (TCA) and trichloroethylene (TCE).

The following five sites have been added to the NPL:

- * Illinois - Old American Zinc Plant (former zinc smelter) in Fairmont City.
- * Iowa - PCE Former Dry Cleaner (former dry cleaner) in Atlantic.
- * Nebraska - Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Co (former gas plant manufacturer) in Norfolk.
- * New Jersey - Former Kil-Tone Company (former pesticides manufacturer) in Vineland.
- * New Mexico - Lea and West Second Street (ground water plume) in Roswell.

The following eight sites have been proposed for addition to the NPL:

- * California - Argonaut Mine (former hard rock mining area) in Jackson.
- * Colorado - Bonita Peak Mining District (former hard rock mining area) in San Juan County.
- * Indiana - Riverside Ground Water Contamination (ground water plume) in Indianapolis.
- * New York - Wappinger Creek (site of various former industrial operations) in Dutchess County.
- * Ohio - Valley Pike VOCs (former tire and heavy duty truck molding manufacturer) in Riverside.
- * Puerto Rico - Dorado Ground Water Contamination (ground water contamination) in Dorado.

* Texas - Eldorado Chemical Co., Inc (former cleaning products manufacturer) in Live Oak.

* West Virginia - North 25th Street Glass and Zinc (former glass and zinc manufacturer) in Clarksburg.

For Federal Register notices and supporting documents for the final and proposed sites:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/current-npl-updates-new-proposed-npl-sites-and-new-npl-sites>

For information about how a site is listed on the NPL:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/basic-npl-information>

For information on the Superfund Redevelopment Initiative:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative>

For information on the 35th Anniversary of Superfund:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-35th-anniversary>

For information about the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), the law establishing the Superfund program:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-cercla-overview>

R065

If you would rather not receive future communications from Environmental Protection Agency, let us know by clicking [here](#).
Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460 United States

Dudley, Jahala

From: Dudley, Jahala
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 11:19 AM
To: Allen, Susan
Subject: FW: JD, for some reason my emails to Sue are bouncing back ... can you share with SA, please? Comments on 2nd Draft RAPs.pdf
Attachments: Comments on 2nd Draft RAPs.pdf

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 11:19 AM
To: Dudley, Jahala <Jahala.Dudley@vermont.gov>
Subject: JD, for some reason my emails to Sue are bouncing back ... can you share with SA, please? 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

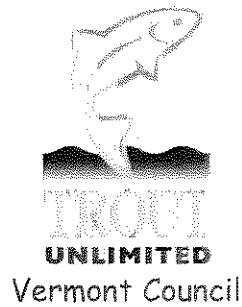
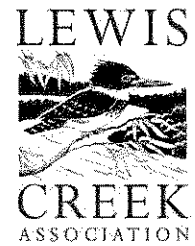
Lake Champlain International, Inc.

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.



March 21, 2016

Secretary Chuck Ross
VT Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets
116 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Sent via electronic mail

The 2nd Draft RAPs conflict with the legislative intent of Act 64 by exempting a category of farmers from the RAPs.

The 2nd Draft RAPs section 3.1, which defines the applicability of the Required Agricultural Practices, violates the plain language of Act 64 because it fails to include all farms under the purview of the RAPs. Under the Act, “Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) shall be management standards to be followed by *all persons engaged in farming* in this State.” 6 V.S.A. § 4810(b) (emphasis added). The Act further mandates that “the Secretary shall amend by rule the required agricultural practices in order to improve water quality in the State [and] assure practices on *all farms* eliminate adverse impacts to water quality.” 6 V.S.A. § 4810a(a) (emphasis added). Under Act 64, “farming” means cultivating the land for food or fiber, raising animals or bees, producing maple syrup, operating greenhouses, and managing agricultural or fuel products from the farm. 6 V.S.A. §4802(2) (incorporating farming definition from 10 V.S.A. § 6001(22)). The *only* size limitation in the statutory definition of farming relates to horses (four or more equines).

The Act does not authorize AAFM to exempt categories of farms from the RAPs, whether for concerns about agency resources or for other reasons. AAFM may distinguish between farms that are subject to the small farm certification and those that are only subject to the RAPs (which are all remaining farms). 6 V.S.A. § 4810(a)(1). This would not bring every backyard chicken coop under the realm of the RAPs because a parcel of land is not a “farm” unless it is “devoted primarily to farming.” 2nd Draft RAPs at 2 § 2.12; *see also* 10 V.S.A § 6001(22) (designating multiple activities that qualify as farming), and would lawfully address AAFM’s concerns about having sufficient resources to administer the RAPs.

AAFM has committed to regulating all farming operations under the RAPs within the Vermont Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL Phase I Implementation Plan (Phase I Plan) and in the Revised Secretary’s Decision from Conservation Law Foundation’s petition to require mandatory pollution controls in Missisquoi Bay basin. “The Phase I Plan commits to ... increasing the base regulatory standards in the RAPs (formerly called Accepted Agricultural Practices (AAPs prior to Act 64 of 2015), which are applicable to all farming operations regardless of size or type.”²

Further, as some farmers in the State have pointed out, leaving regulation of smaller farms to municipal bodies is an invitation for inconsistent regulation and unfairness across the State, where some small farms may be subject to meaningful water quality requirements and others remain exempt. This would also be an abdication of authority by AAFM, the agency charged with implementing the RAPs under Act 64, and could impose substantial burdens on municipal governments that may lack the resources and expertise to develop agricultural regulatory systems where AAFM has failed to.

We are extremely concerned that despite the continued decline of Lake Champlain, the 2nd Draft RAPs limit AAFM’s authority to regulate farms. Currently, the “Accepted Agricultural

² Revised Secretary’s Decision, In re: CLF Petition to Require Mandatory Pollution Control Best Management Practices for Agricultural Non-Point Sources Identified in the Missisquoi Bay Basin, AAFM Docket #: 2014-6-04 ARM, pg. 10.

phosphorus levels over time” should be changed to “immediately implement practices to reduce phosphorus.” To allow farmers to continue to apply manure despite soil analyses demonstrating 20 ppm phosphorus levels will directly lead to increased phosphorus loading into Vermont’s waterways. In addition, the wording “eliminating or reducing” is in conflict. AAFM should require farmers to eliminate manure application once soils are saturated with phosphorus, as indicated by a 20 ppm soil test.

- Section 6.03(f) should require a standard form for record keeping on all farms. These records should be provided to the Secretary on an annual basis – not just “upon request” – so that records are incorporated into the public domain. For Medium and Large Farm Operations, AAFM should establish and implement an IT system designed to track the transport and application of manure and other agricultural wastes, similar to the electronic manifest system developed for hazardous waste. Once developed, users of the system would be able to create manifests electronically and transmit them through the system.
- Under 6.04(a), AAFM should establish specific standards for each of the mentioned conservation practices, as mandated by Act 64. See 6 V.S.A. § 4810a(10) (stating that AAFM shall “[e]stablish standards for soil conservation practices”). The wording “considered and implemented as practicable” should be changed to “implemented as practicable.” That is, the sentence should read: Conservation practices, including reduced tillage, conservation tillage, avoiding mechanical activities on saturated soils, addition of organic matter using manure, green manures and compost, sod and legume rotations, and the use of cover crops shall be implemented as practicable). The inclusion of the word “considered” unnecessarily weakens AAFM’s position; qualifying implementation with “as practicable” ensures AAFM’s ability to require actual action where practicable, as opposed to mere consideration.
- Under 6.04(c), the word “minimize” should be changed to “prevent” and the wording “reduce or eliminate” should be changed to “eliminate.” Gully erosion is a severe form of soil erosion caused by water moving in rills, which concentrate to form larger and more persistent erosion channels.⁴ Gully erosion is, by definition, problematic for healthy soils and waterways – regardless of whether discharges to waters are apparent. Grassed waterways should be strongly encouraged to mitigate gully erosion.
- Under 6.04(d), the first sentence should be revised to read: “annual croplands shall be required to be planted to cover crops.” Extreme weather conditions should be the only reason for allowing an exemption. Qualifying the cover crop requirement by including the phrase, “as soil, weather conditions, and generally accepted agronomic practices allow” puts too much discretion in the hands of the regulated community to determine whether conditions may or may not allow for cover cropping. In

⁴ Environmental Protection Agency, *National Management Measures to Control Nonpoint Pollution from Agriculture* (July 2003), <http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-10/documents/chap4c.pdf>.

erosion (or soil loss at T) is equivalent to 1.3 large dump trucks per acre per year.⁹ Agricultural regulations should not defend such obvious and significant phosphorus discharges into Lake Champlain.

Buffers Zones are Inappropriately Defined

Under Vermont statute, a buffer is defined as an “undisturbed area consisting of trees, shrubs, ground cover plants, duff layer, and generally uneven ground surface....” 10 V.S.A. § 1422(10). Undisturbed, vegetated buffers are critical for providing wildlife habitat, infiltrating pollutants, mitigating flood and erosion hazards, and serving as water temperature controls. The 2nd Draft RAPs’ list of authorized activities in buffer zones, including grazing, fertilizer application, and harvesting completely warps the definition and purpose of a buffer. See 2nd Draft RAPs at 17 § 6.07(d), (e), and (g). The result is that agricultural buffers will serve as phosphorus sources rather than sinks and lead to water quality degradation.

In addition, adjacent surface waters, including tributaries and intermittent streams should be buffered from croplands and other agricultural land uses by a minimum of 50 feet and from ditches by 20 feet to reflect best available science. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation river corridor procedures must inform land use guidance, similar to all other land use sectors in Vermont. The guidelines provided in Act 64 are *minimum* distances with the further requirement that buffers must “adequately address water quality needs” on a site-specific basis. 6 V.S.A. § 4810a(a)(6)(B). We are not aware of any data or studies showing that the proposed buffers in the 2nd draft RAPs are sufficient to protect water quality and reduce sediment loss. Moreover, stream buffers should be comprised of woody vegetation with deep roots, whenever possible, and then grasses or other perennial vegetation demonstrated to aid sediment filtering and erosion reduction.

AAFM Should Take Action Now to Address Tile Drains

The State lacks much-needed information on tile drains specific to Vermont. We do not know the extent of existing tile drainage systems, but estimates range upwards of 50 percent of agricultural fields in some watersheds. In addition, tile drains are being installed at an extremely high rate in the Lake Champlain Basin, particularly Franklin County, yet there are not practices in place to ensure that the systems do not result in the discharge of more phosphorus into the lake. Existing research demonstrates there is significant cause for concern.^{10,11}

Until research is completed that demonstrates tile drains can be utilized in Vermont without causing unacceptable contributions of phosphorus pollution, continuing to allow

⁹ Sullivan, P., *Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas, Sustainable Soil Management*, <http://soilandhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/01aglibrary/010117attraoilmanual/010117attra.html>

¹⁰ King, K.W., Williams, M.R., and N.R. Fausey. 2015. Contributions of Systematic Tile Drainage to Watershed-Scale Phosphorus Transport. *J. of Environ. Qual.* 44: 486-494.

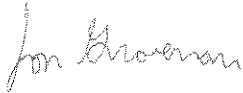
¹¹ Kleinman, P.J., Smith, D.R., Bolster, C.H., and Z.M. Easton. 2015. Phosphorus Fate, Management, and Modeling in Artificially Drained Systems. *J. of Environ. Qual.* 44: 460-466.



Crea Lintilhac
Director
Lintilhac Foundation




Lauren Hierl
Political Director
Vermont Conservation Voters



Jon Groveman
Policy and Water Program Director
Vermont Natural Resources Council



Mark Nelson
Chair
Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club



James Ehlers
Executive Director
Lake Champlain International



Lori Fisher
Executive Director
Lake Champlain Committee

cc: House Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources, House Committee on Agriculture and Forest Products, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, and Senate Committee on Agriculture

Dudley, Jahala

From: Dudley, Jahala
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 4:02 PM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Jahala

It was such a good time! Have a good weekend and see you next week.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 3:53 PM
To: Dudley, Jahala <Jahala.Dudley@vermont.gov>
Subject: Jahala

Hey Jahala!

Thanks for the good company yesterday. What an entertaining evening! Hope you survived in fine fashion.

See you next week around the House. Hope you have a good weekend.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 1:41 PM
To: Trombley, Shana
Subject: RE: Shana, June 24th 6-8 pm LCI FDD Awards, Sheraton, SBTV

Thank you, Shana!

From: Trombley, Shana [mailto:Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 1:30 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Porter, Louis; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Shana, June 24th 6-8 pm LCI FDD Awards, Sheraton, SBTV

Hi James,

Thank you for the invite. Unfortunately, the Governor is not available on Friday, June 24th. He will be disappointed to miss it!

Best Wishes,

Shana

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 1, 2016, at 1:07 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Shana,
We would love to have the Governor join us for this being his last opportunity.

Also, the VT Warden Service is to receive our Annual Heritage Award.

LP, can we talk about making sure you, the Colonel, and Joyal are there.

Darren, you should come too ... so you can show us all how to dress smartly.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2016 12:01 PM
To: Trombley, Shana
Cc: juliana@champlain.ngo
Subject: RE: Shana, Governor's Cup

9-12, Shana ...

Governor generally has always been there for the last hour ... but if you can swing 10-12 that would be fun!

From: Trombley, Shana [mailto:Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2016 11:59 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Shana, Governor's Cup

James,

Can you remind me of the timing around this event? Thx

-Shana

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 9:14 AM
To: Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>
Cc: juliana@champlain.ngo; eric@mychamplain.net
Subject: RE: Shana, Governor's Cup

Shana,
Thank you. The 20th it is. Appreciate your assistance. See you soon.

James

From: Trombley, Shana [mailto:Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 3:18 PM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Shana, Governor's Cup

Sorry it took a little while to coordinate with Welch's team. Looks like the only date in May that will work is May 20th. How does that sound?

Shana

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 12:22 PM
To: Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>

Cc: juliana@champlain.ngo
Subject: Shana, Governor's Cup

Shana,
Thank you for looking into a May date that works for both the Governor and the Congressman. Please let me know how we can assist.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 9:14 AM
To: Trombley, Shana
Cc: juliana@champlain.ngo; eric@mychamplain.net
Subject: RE: Shana, Governor's Cup

Shana,
Thank you. The 20th it is. Appreciate your assistance. See you soon.

James

From: Trombley, Shana [mailto:Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 3:18 PM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Shana, Governor's Cup

Sorry it took a little while to coordinate with Welch's team. Looks like the only date in May that will work is May 20th. How does that sound?

Shana

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 12:22 PM
To: Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>
Cc: juliana@champlain.ngo
Subject: Shana, Governor's Cup

Shana,
Thank you for looking into a May date that works for both the Governor and the Congressman. Please let me know how we can assist:

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 12:22 PM
To: Trombley, Shana
Cc: juliana@champlain.ngo
Subject: Shana, Governor's Cup

Shana,
Thank you for looking into a May date that works for both the Governor and the Congressman. Please let me know how we can assist.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 8:48 PM
To: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Cc: eric@mychamplain.net
Subject: RE: LCI Awards Ceremony ... June 26th at Sheraton at 7 pm.

Understood, Shana. Thank you. He told me I could come to Cape Breton with him ... I am working out childcare
😊

From: Trombley, Shana [mailto:Shana.Trombley@state.vt.us]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 1:20 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Springer, Darren
Cc: eric@mychamplain.net
Subject: RE: LCI Awards Ceremony ... June 26th at Sheraton at 7 pm.

Hi James

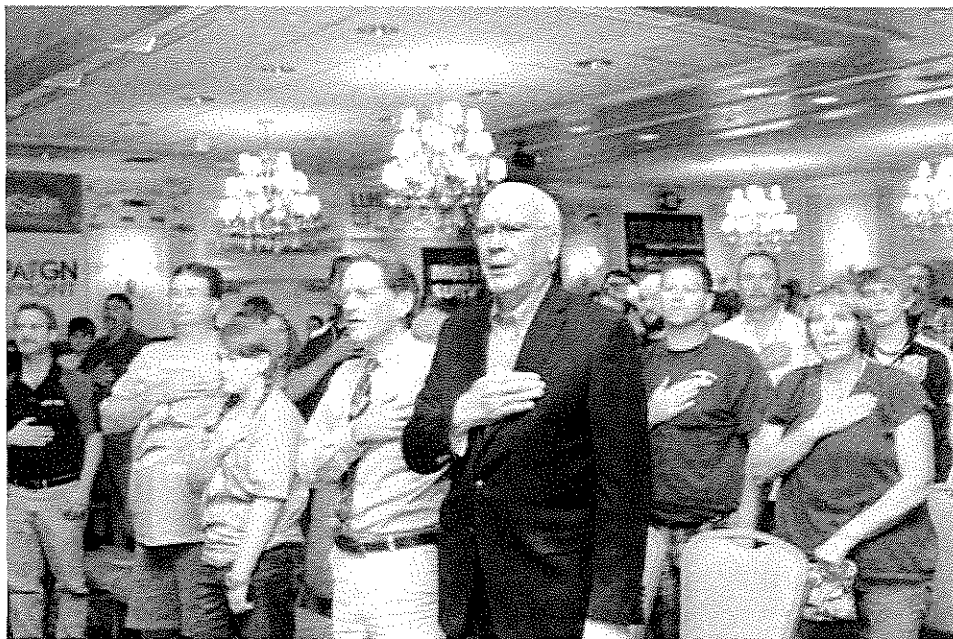
The Governor has enjoyed this event in the past. Unfortunately, he is not available on the 26th. I mentioned this to Louis yesterday when we spoke about the Father's Day Derby. I'm sorry that it isn't going to work out this year. Best of luck with the event.

Shana

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 12:31 PM
To: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Cc: eric@mychamplain.net
Subject: LCI Awards Ceremony ... June 26th at Sheraton at 7 pm.

Let me know if your "boss" wants to participate ... Senator Leahy has enjoyed participating! Governor participated a few years back.

Friendly, enthusiastic audience of 400+ happy Vermonters.



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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 1:09 PM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Pearce, Beth; Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura
Subject: Coal Production Plummets to Lowest Level in 35 Years - The New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/11/business/energy-environment/coal-production-decline.html? r=1>

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 11:06 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: FW: Biggest US coal company funded dozens of groups questioning climate change | Environment | The Guardian

FYI, Laura

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 11:05 AM
To: 'Lueders-Dumont, Tim'
Subject: RE: Biggest US coal company funded dozens of groups questioning climate change | Environment | The Guardian

Sure thing, Tim! Thank you for the ongoing consideration.

From: Lueders-Dumont, Tim [mailto:Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 10:57 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Biggest US coal company funded dozens of groups questioning climate change | Environment | The Guardian

Thanks for sending along James.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 10:55 AM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries <TRE.VPICInquiries@vermont.gov>
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim <Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov>; Pearce, Beth <Beth.Pearce@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>; Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: Biggest US coal company funded dozens of groups questioning climate change | Environment | The Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jun/13/peabody-energy-coal-mining-climate-change-denial-funding>

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 10:55 AM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Pearce, Beth; Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura
Subject: Biggest US coal company funded dozens of groups questioning climate change | Environment | The Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jun/13/peabody-energy-coal-mining-climate-change-denial-funding>

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.

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 3:19 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jun/13/peabody-energy-coal-mining-climate-change-denial-funding>

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 1:49 PM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Between 3 and 4?

I will be in Montpelier from 4 until I get kicked out of town

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:36 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Will you call me when you have a chance? Thanks!

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Cc: Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM

To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>;
Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>

Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 2:20 PM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yep!

On Jun 13, 2016, at 1:49 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Between 3 and 4?

I will be in Montpelier from 4 until I get kicked out of town

From: Gray, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:36 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Will you call me when you have a chance? Thanks!

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Cc: Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM

To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana
<Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 1:49 PM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Between 3 and 4?

I will be in Montpelier from 4 until I get kicked out of town

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:36 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Will you call me when you have a chance? Thanks!

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Cc: Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:36 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Will you call me when you have a chance? Thanks!

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Cc: Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 4:35 PM
To: Gray, Laura; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 11:36 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: Can you send me Recchia's email? Please.

Chris.Recchia@vermont.gov

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 11:35 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: Can you send me Recchia's email? Please.

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 11:05 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: RE: op-ed?

Great news! Thanks for letting me know.

How are you?

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:58 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: op-ed?

<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/06062016/washington-dc-pension-fund-announces-divestment>

Great news. \$6.4 billion pension. Divested from direct holdings which amounts to \$6.5 million.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:56 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: op-ed?

No, I did not. Been immersed in sewage and lead issues ... and our forum last night.

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:44 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: op-ed?

Working on something. Did you see DC divested?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 6:06 PM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: op-ed?

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.

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:58 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: op-ed?

<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/06062016/washington-dc-pension-fund-announces-divestment>

Great news. \$6.4 billion pension. Divested from direct holdings which amounts to \$6.5 million.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:56 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: op-ed?

No, I did not. Been immersed in sewage and lead issues ... and our forum last night.

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:44 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: op-ed?

Working on something. Did you see DC divested?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 6:06 PM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: op-ed?

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:56 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: RE: op-ed?

No, I did not. Been immersed in sewage and lead issues ... and our forum last night.

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:44 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: op-ed?

Working on something. Did you see DC divested?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 6:06 PM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: op-ed?

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.

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:44 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: op-ed?

Working on something. Did you see DC divested?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 6:06 PM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: op-ed?

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.

Gray, Laura

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

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.

Gray, Laura

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 6:06 PM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: op-ed?

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:55 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: RE: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Well, instead of being pissed, let's make them rewrite the story. I am not going back to DC for a while or anywhere else until July so let me know how I can help.

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:50 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Haha they were just thumbs up!

I am good now that the leg is outta town! Kind of pissed the media said we lost on divestment when it's still in play.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Could not tell what symbols you used.

Lovely. You?

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:43 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

👍👍👍👍👍👍 yes. How are ya?

On May 19, 2016, at 11:29 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Don't forget ... the US Navy divested from coal a century ago.

Any profits gleaned at this point by Vermonters should come with a sense of responsibility for the destruction wreaked upon the coal-mining communities and the lasting impacts to the waters of the world, our fisheries, and the women and the children of the planet, literally.

http://www.triplepundit.com/2016/05/really-happening-u-s-coal-collapsing/?utm_source=WEEKLY+TriplePundit+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=60677404cb-

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

Connect with James

<image001.jpg>

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.

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:50 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Haha they were just thumbs up!

I am good now that the leg is outta town! Kind of pissed the media said we lost on divestment when it's still in play.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Could not tell what symbols you used.

Lovely. You?

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:43 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

👍👍👍👍👍👍 yes. How are ya?

On May 19, 2016, at 11:29 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Don't forget ... the US Navy divested from coal a century ago.

Any profits gleaned at this point by Vermonters should come with a sense of responsibility for the destruction wreaked upon the coal-mining communities and the lasting impacts to the waters of the world, our fisheries, and the women and the children of the planet, literally.

http://www.triplepundit.com/2016/05/really-happening-u-s-coal-collapsing/?utm_source=WEEKLY+TriplePundit+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=60677404cb-Weekly_May_29_20145_23_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1d50d22c4a-60677404cb-220297349#

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director,
[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: RE: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Could not tell what symbols you used.

Lovely. You?

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:43 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

👍👍👍👍👍👍 yes. How are ya?

On May 19, 2016, at 11:29 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Don't forget ... the US Navy divested from coal a century ago.

Any profits gleaned at this point by Vermonters should come with a sense of responsibility for the destruction wreaked upon the coal-mining communities and the lasting impacts to the waters of the world, our fisheries, and the women and the children of the planet, literally.

http://www.triplepundit.com/2016/05/really-happening-u-s-coal-collapsing/?utm_source=WEEKLY+TriplePundit+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=60677404cb-Weekly_May_29_20145_23_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1d50d22c4a-60677404cb-220297349#

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director
[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:43 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

👍👍👍👍👍👍👍 yes. How are ya?

On May 19, 2016, at 11:29 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Don't forget ... the US Navy divested from coal a century ago.

Any profits gleaned at this point by Vermonters should come with a sense of responsibility for the destruction wreaked upon the coal-mining communities and the lasting impacts to the waters of the world, our fisheries, and the women and the children of the planet, literally.

http://www.triplepundit.com/2016/05/really-happening-u-s-coal-collapsing/?utm_source=WEEKLY+TriplePundit+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=60677404cb-Weekly_May_29_20145_23_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1d50d22c4a-60677404cb-220297349#

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director
[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:29 AM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Pearce, Beth; Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura; Eric Becker; 'Don Turner'; jwillhoit@leg.state.vt.us; Austin Davis
Subject: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Don't forget ... the US Navy divested from coal a century ago.

Any profits gleaned at this point by Vermonters should come with a sense of responsibility for the destruction wreaked upon the coal-mining communities and the lasting impacts to the waters of the world, our fisheries, and the women and the children of the planet, literally.

http://www.triplepundit.com/2016/05/really-happening-u-s-coal-collapsing/?utm_source=WEEKLY+TriplePundit+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=60677404cb-Weekly_May_29_20145_23_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1d50d22c4a-60677404cb-220297349#

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.

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 2:14 PM
To: James Ehlers

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/14/opinion/after-bankruptcies-coals-dirty-legacy-lives-on.html?action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=opinion-c-col-right-region®ion=opinion-c-col-right-region&WT.nav=opinion-c-col-right-region&r=0>

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 4:52 PM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: FW: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 4:52 PM
To: TRE.VPICInquiries@vermont.gov
Cc: 'Lueders-Dumont, Tim'; Springer, Darren (Darren.Springer@vermont.gov); beth.pearce@vermont.gov
Subject: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

Released today: new report by InfluenceMap on the obstructive spending of Big Oil.

Our new report on the obstructive spending of Big Oil was featured in an [article in Bloomberg](#) today at 12:00pm GMT: "[Trying to Put a Price on Big Oil's 'Climate Obstruction' Efforts](#)", with inputs from ExxonMobil and WSPA with a Yale University academic commenting on the methodology.

Press Release

April 7th 2016 - for immediate release

Exxon, Shell, oil trade bodies spending \$114m to obstruct climate policy

Despite the recent Paris agreement on global warming, the fossil fuel industry is still systematically trying to stall progress, and using shareholder funds to do so

Research suggests [ExxonMobil](#) spent \$27m and [Shell](#) \$22m to obstruct climate legislation in 2015, with the American Petroleum Institute and two smaller trade associations spending a further \$74m[1] on behalf of the entire industry.

The report from London based non-profit InfluenceMap forensically analysed the amounts being spent by a representative sample of the most powerful entities in the global oil and gas industry, looking at a range of activities influencing policy makers and manipulating the public discourse on climate change, including spending on PR, social media and advertising.

Bill McKibben, Founder and Senior Advisor 350.org: *"It's remarkably useful to see exactly how much Exxon and its brethren are still spending to bend the climate debate. There's a shamelessness here that hopefully will be harder to maintain in the full light of day."*

The American Petroleum Institute is one of the most well funded and consistently climate-obstructive lobbying forces in the United States, with a total budget in excess of \$200m. The study estimates, through a forensic analysis of its IRS filings and careful study of its lobbying, PR, media and advertising activities, that \$65m of this is geared towards opposing ambitious climate policy. Its CEO Jack Gerard received annual compensation of just over \$14m in 2013[2], probably one of the world's highest paid lobbyists. In the run up to COP21 last year, he dismissed the Paris process as a "narrow political ideology"[3].

Peter Shumlin, Governor of the US State of Vermont: *"We now know that Exxon knew about climate change impacts for decades, and kept the public in the dark while they lobbied to prevent meaningful action. This report shows that while the world came together in Paris to embrace climate action in 2015, Exxon was doubling down with Big Tobacco tactics and obstruction. We cannot change this corporation by engaging with it, we must instead bring change from the outside by using economic pressure and divesting from Exxon."*

A recent news release by Walden Asset Management[4] noted that so far in 2016 alone, fifteen shareholder resolutions have been filed by US investors with fossil fuel companies concerning engagement with policy, likely largely motivated by climate policy lobbying. Zevin Asset Management was among the investors filing

these resolutions.

Sonia Kowal, President, Director of Socially Responsible Investing, Zevin

Asset Management: *"As long-term investors in public equities, we are supporting and pressing for greater disclosure of how companies may be influencing critical areas of public policy and their use of corporate resources for this purpose both directly and through their trade associations. We are concerned that these influencing activities may not be aligned with the long term health of our portfolio as a whole."*

[1] The report found obstructive spending for three trade associations: the API (\$65m) the WSPA (\$6m) and the APPEA (\$3m). A portion of this trade association funding (\$9m) was attributed to Shell and ExxonMobil, which is included in their totals also.

[2] API IRS Form 990, 2013

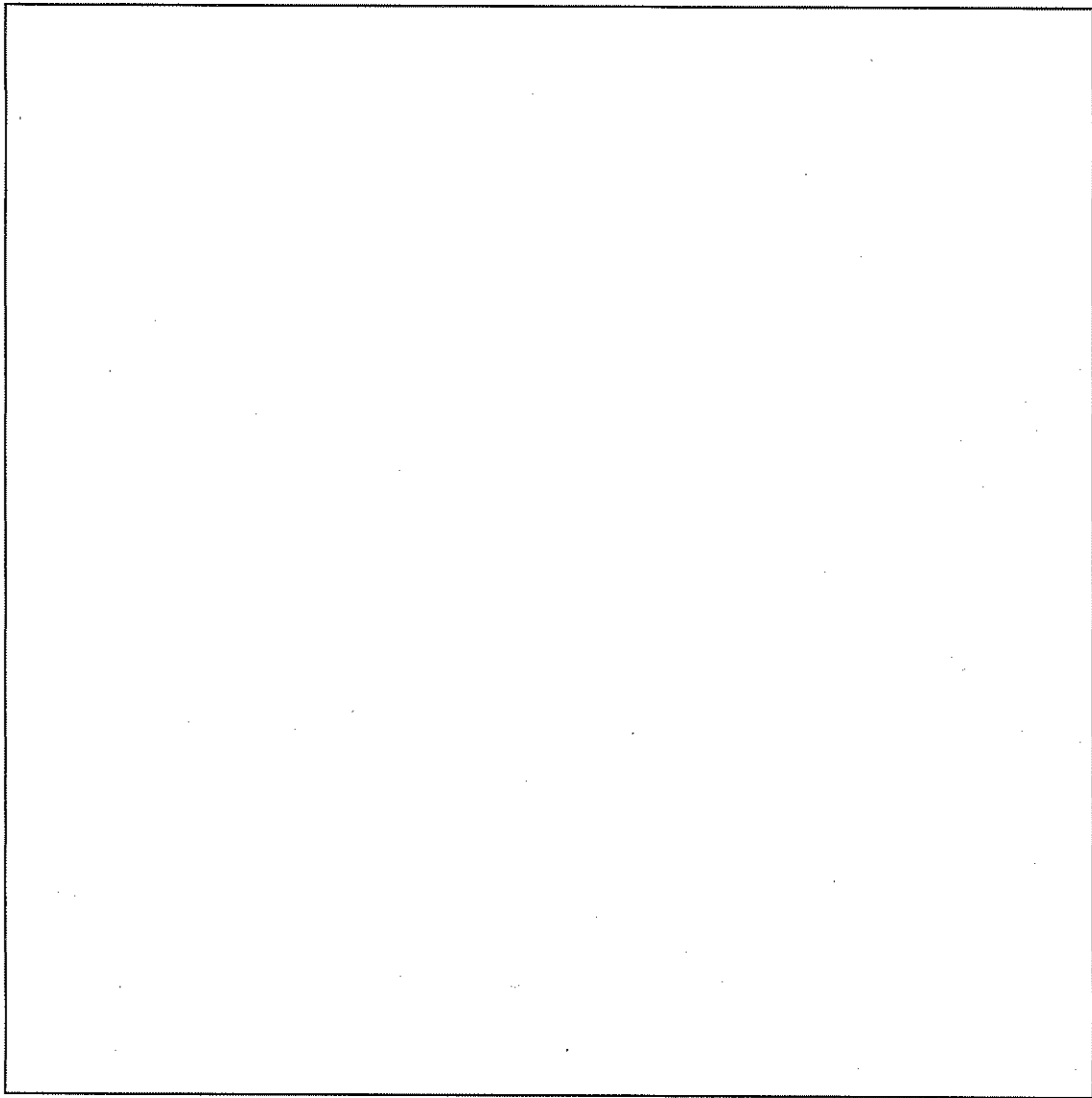
[3] API press release, April 2015

[4] Walden Asset Management press release, January 2016

- ENDS -

Download the report [here](#).

Media information, including testimonials, is [here](#).



*ExxonMobil and Shell contribute \$9m between them to the three trade associations and this figure has been taken away from the grand total spend.

Suggested Tweets:

How much is #bigoil spending to bend the #climate debate? New @InfluenceMap report examines industry: <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

#Bigoil shelling out \$114m to obstruct climate policy, new report breaks down how: <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

Despite #ParisAgreement, Exxon spent \$27m and Shell \$22m in 2015 to obstruct #climate policy according to new report <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

How much does #bigoil spend on obstructive #climate lobbying? \$114 per year according to new report by @InfluenceMap <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

Press Contacts

Dylan Tanner
Executive Director,
InfluenceMap
Mobile: 44 7910 765485
dylan.tanner@influencemap.org

Thomas O'Neill
Research Director,
InfluenceMap
Mobile: 44 7468 433360
thomas.oneill@influencemap.org

InfluenceMap is a neutral and independent UK-based non-profit whose remit is to map, analyze and score the extent to which corporations are influencing environmental policy. Our data is in use by CDP, ShareAction, the UN PRI and a range of investors concerned with corporate performance environmental, social and governance issues.



Gray, Laura

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.laflamme@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

For a thriving New England



Gray, Laura

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

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:42 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura
Subject: FW: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

From: Lueders-Dumont, Tim [mailto:Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:31 PM
To: Lauren Hierl; Golonka, Thomas
Cc: James Ehlers; Johanna iJoeyi Miller; Pearce, Beth; Considine, Matt; Golonka, Thomas
Subject: RE: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

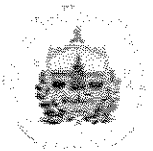
Lauren, James, and Johanna:

I will forward this to Beth as well. Beth met with 350VT, Sierra Club, and VPIRG yesterday to work on some general planning and issues for the subcommittee. She would be happy to sit down with you as well to address any issues or questions you have.

As one point of clarity, the new date to give a status update as to the progress to complete an analysis is May 3rd rather than May 2nd. The Senate will not be available on May 2nd because it is a Monday (*via communication from Senator White and Senator Pollina.*)

While the subcommittee chair is yet to be elected, the Treasurer's Office is confident, at the VPIC level, that Chair of VPIC Tom Golonka will oversee a thoughtful, thorough, and inclusive process.

Thank you very much.



Tim Lueders-Dumont
Policy Director
Office of the State Treasurer
109 State Street, 4th Floor
Montpelier, VT 05609-6901
(cell) 802-595-3197
(desk) 802-828-1451
www.vermonttreasurer.gov

From: Lauren Hierl [mailto:lhierl@vermontconservationvoters.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2016 12:17 PM
To: Golonka, Thomas <Thomas.Golonka@partner.vermont.gov>
Cc: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>; Johanna iJoeyi Miller <jmiller@vnrc.org>; Lueders-Dumont, Tim <Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov>; Pearce, Beth <Beth.Pearce@vermont.gov>; Considine, Matt

<Matt.Considine@vermont.gov>

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> 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 13th and 26th 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 13th.

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

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

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:40 PM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: FW: World coal giant Peabody faces bankruptcy as industry implodes

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:33 PM
To: TRE.VPICInquiries@vermont.gov
Cc: 'Lueders-Dumont, Tim'; Springer, Darren
Subject: AEP: World coal giant Peabody faces bankruptcy as industry implodes

Creditor Protection = Taxpayer Liability ?

Sounds like gambling to the average taxpayer and investor ... And who will pay for all the existing environmental damage to our waters, fisheries, food, and forests?

"Some hedge funds and private equity groups are already snapping up distressed assets, betting on a rebound as the commodity cycle bottoms out."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/03/16/world-coal-giant-peabody-faces-bankruptcy-as-industry-implodes/>

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.

Gray, Laura

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 iJoeyi 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; 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> 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 13th and 26th 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 13th.

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

From: Lauren Hierl [<mailto:lhierl@vermontconservationvoters.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2016 11:38 AM
To: tgolonka@montpelier-vt.org
Cc: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>; Johanna Joeyl Miller <jmiller@vnrc.org>; Lueders-Dumont, Tim <Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov>; 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

Gray, Laura

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.my Champlain.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.

Gray, Laura

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!



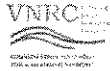
350 Vermont
retweeted your Tweet.

[View](#)



James Ehlers @James_Ehlers

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



April 2, 2016

Dear VPIC Chair Tom Goloska,

We are writing to express our sincere hope for a fair and objective analysis of divestment fund cost and Excess Model assets by VPIC, a position shared by Governor Sissano, the Vermont House of Representatives expressed in H.R. 33, and by a majority of Vermont Senators. We appreciate Treasurer Pierce's efforts to examine and move this process forward. We hope the analysis undertaken by the Divestment Subcommittee will be an open-minded and fact-based process to develop recommendations that have Vermont merit divest its investments in coal and 3 stocks held in a way that meets the fiduciary responsibility of VPIC and protects its pension holders from the anticipated carbon liability.

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 and VTDigger.org,¹ 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 at that point as an expensive way to approach something that would have no real impact."
- "The difficult part would be screening that no future investment manager buys any of these in the future, whether it's equities or bonds, and making restrictions on our 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 regard to what investment managers we'd be able to work with. We may need to guard of some of the ones we have."
- "I'm very concerned about what cost it means for the structure of VPIC."

We ask that given your apparent strong concerns about divestment, you consider resigning 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 those 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.

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

Settings | Help | Opt-out | Download app

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

Gray, Laura

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2016 12:34 PM
To: Gray, Laura; Austin Davis; Coriell, Scott; Springer, Darren
Subject: Coal miners protest in northeastern China, claiming unpaid wages | Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-coal-protests-idUSKCN0WF0JH>

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 9:33 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: FW: Register for the Women's Leadership Council Event featuring Anna Roosevelt

From: United Way of Chittenden County [mailto:info@unitedwaycc.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 8:57 PM
To: James
Subject: Register for the Women's Leadership Council Event featuring Anna Roosevelt

**United Way
of Chittenden County**



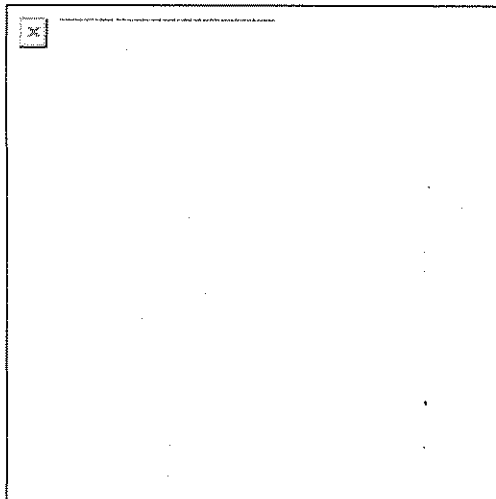
If you haven't already, remember to register!

United Way of Chittenden County
Women's Leadership Council invites
you to an evening with

**ANNA ELEANOR
ROOSEVELT**

**President & CEO of
Goodwill Industries of Northern New England**

Granddaughter of
President Franklin D. Roosevelt
and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 5:30-7:30PM
ELLEY-LONG MUSIC CENTER AT SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE
LITE FARE & CASH BAR ♦ \$100*

PURCHASE TICKETS AT ANNAROSEVELT.EVENTBRITE.COM

Proceeds from this fundraising event support programs that improve financial stability of

women and families in Chittenden County.

**Sponsored tickets are available for those who otherwise cannot afford to attend. Champions of WLC (donors who make a gift of \$500.00+ to United Way or one of its Impact Areas in 2015) may contact Ruthann Hackett for a special discount code to receive \$25.00 off the event ticket price. For more information contact Ruthann Hackett at 802-861-7831 or ruthann@unitedwaycc.org.*

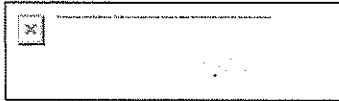
ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Anna Eleanor Roosevelt (known as Anne) is the President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Northern New England, a not-for-profit social enterprise with over 2,000 employees serving Maine, New Hampshire and northern Vermont. Goodwill operates diverse retail, health care and workforce services that help individuals and families find stability through work while extending a hundred year practice of letting nothing go to waste. Anne joined Goodwill in 2011 from The Boeing Company in Chicago, where she had held the position of Vice President, Global Corporate Citizenship. Anne's career has encompassed leadership positions in philanthropy, public policy, politics, the arts and higher education. In 2013, Anne was presented with the Queen's Commissioners Medal of Merit of The Province of Zeeland in The Netherlands, in recognition of her work carrying forward the legacy and values of her grandparents through the annual joint presentation of the Four Freedoms Awards. Currently, Anne chairs The Roosevelt Institute Board of Directors, serves on the Board of the Maine Community Foundation. She is a Fellow at the Center for Corporate Citizenship at Boston College. Anne holds a Bachelor of Arts from Stanford University, and a Master of Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The United Way of Chittenden County Women's Leadership Council is a unique movement of women working together to create change. The Council harnesses the power of women to engage, educate and empower others to become leaders and actively participate in the betterment of our community.

Special thanks to our generous event sponsor:



United Way of Chittenden County ♦ 412 Farrell Street, Suite 200
South Burlington, VT 05403 ♦ www.unitedwaycc.org

Gray, Laura

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.

Gray, Laura

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

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 10:47 AM
To: Gray, Laura; Austin Davis
Subject: FW: India introduces car sales tax to combat pollution | World news | The Guardian

Wrong Austin ...

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 10:46 AM
To: Gray, Laura (Laura.Gray@vermont.gov); Austin, John (John.Austin@vermont.gov)
Subject: India introduces car sales tax to combat pollution | World news | The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/feb/29/india-introduces-car-sales-tax-to-combat-pollution>

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 10:46 AM
To: Gray, Laura; Austin, John
Subject: India introduces car sales tax to combat pollution | World news | The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/feb/29/india-introduces-car-sales-tax-to-combat-pollution>

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 4:50 PM
To: Gray, Laura; ddeen@ctriver.org; Carolyn Partridge; Dylan Giambatista; Kate Webb; 'Kesha Ram'
Cc: juliana@champlain.ngo
Subject: Note the number of drinking water violations that repeat year after year, like atrazine in Manchester

<http://www.drinkingwater.vt.gov/pc.../pdf/2014annualreport.pdf>

<http://www.drinkingwater.vt.gov/wqmo.../2013annualreport.pdf>

<http://www.drinkingwater.vt.gov/wqmo.../2012annualreport.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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 4:57 PM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: Arsenic in Derby; Uranium in Ludlow; Atrazine in Manchester; Cyanide in Dorset; E. Coli in Highgate; Coliform in Cabot, Milton, Richmond, Waterbury, Stowe -- list goes on --- Water Quality Compliance Reports --- 2003-2014

Importance: High

Who's getting the "flint job" in Vermont?

680 violations in 2014.

16 water systems with 29 violations that have cease operation as a public water system since January 1, 2014.

17 systems were referred to CED Enforcement Division in 2014 for enforcement action.

Here is just a sample ... links to full annual reports below. What is abysmal is for how long these issues having been taking place at some facilities.

Check out the coliform and E. coli violations ... It's not the burrito you ate.

Vio Type: 02

Vio Name: MCL, AVERAGE

Analyte/Group Code 1005

Analyte/Group Name: ARSENIC

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005625	BEEBE PLAIN WATER SYSTEM	A	142	C	7/1/2014
VT0005625	BEEBE PLAIN WATER SYSTEM	A	142	C	4/1/2014
VT0005625	BEEBE PLAIN WATER SYSTEM	A	142	C	1/1/2014

Number of Systems: 1

Number of Violations: 3

Population: 142

Vio Type: 02

Vio Name: MCL, AVERAGE

Analyte/Group Code 4006

Analyte/Group Name: COMBINED URANIUM

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	10/1/2013

VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	7/1/2014
VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	4/1/2014
VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	1/1/2014

Number of Systems: 1 Number of Violations: 4 Population: 180

Vio Type: 03 Vio Name: MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR
 Analyte/Group Code 2050 Analyte/Group Name: ATRAZINE

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005023	MANCHESTER MHP	A	100	C	4/1/2014

Number of Systems: 1 Number of Violations: 1 Population: 100

Vio Type: 03 Vio Name: MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR
 Analyte/Group Code CCYN Analyte/Group Name: CDS FOR CYANIDE

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005104	BLOOMFIELD WATER SYSTEM	A	50	C	10/1/2013
VT0005152	ELMORE WATER DISTRICT	A	32	C	10/1/2013
VT0005153	HYDE PARK FIRE DISTRICT 1	A	275	C	10/1/2013
VT0005623	SNOW MOUNTAIN VILLAGE	A	210	C	4/1/2014
VT0008318	JK ADAMS COMPANY	A	30	NTNC	4/1/2014

Number of Systems: 5 Number of Violations: 5 Population: 597

[2014 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2013 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2012 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2011 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2010 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2009 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2008 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2007 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2006 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2005 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2004 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2003 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 11:07 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: RE: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

Roger. Thanks, anyway! Guess just need to leave extra time to get to you guys then today!!

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 11:05 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

I actually live in Montpelier. I heard they were bad though!

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:28 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

Sure thing! Hey quick personal question ... how were the roads heading to Montpelier?

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:14 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

Wow. You know it's bad when the NYT is writing an editorial. Thanks for sharing!

On Feb 16, 2016, at 10:03 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

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."

Gray, Laura

From: Gray, Laura
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:14 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

Wow. You know it's bad when the NYT is writing an editorial. Thanks for sharing!

On Feb 16, 2016, at 10:03 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

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."

Gray, Laura

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>
Date: February 16, 2016 at 10:03:13 AM EST
To: "Gray, Laura" <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

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."

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:03 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: FW: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

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."

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 10:06 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: Laura --- Branding Tradition: a Bittersweet Tale of Capitalism at Work

“Governments at all levels should put an end to the subsidies and tax credits that make technology and energy artificially cheap while making job creation artificially expensive. Without those supports industrial syrup production would not appear to be more ‘efficient’, and traditional, labor-intensive syrup would actually be cheaper. Those same systemic supports are a major reason that small farms almost everywhere are being displaced by huge monocultural farms and feedlots, local businesses by big box stores, and factory workers by robots.”

<http://www.counterpunch.org/2016/02/12/branding-tradition-a-bittersweet-tale-of-capitalism-at-work/>

Gray, Laura

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.

Gray, Laura

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

Gray, Laura

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

Gray, Laura

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=

Gray, Laura

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.

Gray, Laura

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 8:51 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: RE: Discussion with Gov. Shumlin Wednesday

See you soon, Laura.

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: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:16 PM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: Discussion with Gov. Shumlin Wednesday

Hi all,

Please join Gov. Shumlin for a discussion on divestment.

When: Wednesday, February 3 at 10:15 a.m.

Where: Governor's Ceremonial Office, statehouse.

Please let me know if you are able to attend.

Thanks!

Laura

Laura Gray

Director of Special Projects

Office of Gov. Peter Shumlin

109 State Street, Pavilion

Montpelier, VT 05609

Office: (802)828-3333

Cell: (802)558-2260

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 10:55 AM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Pearce, Beth; Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura
Subject: Biggest US coal company funded dozens of groups questioning climate change | Environment | The Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jun/13/peabody-energy-coal-mining-climate-change-denial-funding>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Gray, Laura
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Yes

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 8:29 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

June?

On Jun 10, 2016, at 4:35 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

18-20

From: Gray, Laura [mailto:Laura.Gray@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:46 AM
To: James Ehlers; Trombley, Shana; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

When is the fishing derby you were talking about?

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>; Trombley, Shana <Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Public Signing for Sewage Notification ... Any thoughts?

Mishaan, Jessica

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

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 1:58 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Cc: Porter, Louis
Subject: RE: Shana, June 24th 6-8 pm LCI FDD Awards, Sheraton, SBTV

Help hand out some awards ... inspire the audience with your oratory skills ... look pretty

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 1:56 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Porter, Louis
Subject: RE: Shana, June 24th 6-8 pm LCI FDD Awards, Sheraton, SBTV

You need me to do anything or just swing by?

Darren M. Springer
Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
(802) 522-2082 (cell)
Darren.Springer@vermont.gov

Please note: My email address has changed to Darren.Springer@vermont.gov.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 1:41 PM
To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Cc: Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Shana, June 24th 6-8 pm LCI FDD Awards, Sheraton, SBTV

Darren?

From: Trombley, Shana [mailto:Shana.Trombley@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 1:30 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Porter, Louis; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Shana, June 24th 6-8 pm LCI FDD Awards, Sheraton, SBTV

Hi James,

Thank you for the invite. Unfortunately, the Governor is not available on Friday, June 24th. He will be disappointed to miss it!

Best Wishes,

Shana

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 1, 2016, at 1:07 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Shana,

We would love to have the Governor join us for this being his last opportunity.

Also, the VT Warden Service is to receive our Annual Heritage Award.

LP, can we talk about making sure you, the Colonel, and Joyal are there.

Darren, you should come too ... so you can show us all how to dress smartly.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 10:56 AM
To: 'Ancel, Charlotte'
Cc: Springer, Darren; 'Castonguay, Josh'; Warren Coleman
Subject: RE: Charlotte

Thank you, Charlotte!

From: Ancel, Charlotte [mailto:Charlotte.Ancel@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Monday, May 30, 2016 8:38 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Springer, Darren; Castonguay, Josh
Subject: Re: Charlotte

James – will call you tomorrow to give you an update.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2016 2:11 PM
To: Charlotte Ancel <charlotte.ancel@greenmountainpower.com>
Cc: "Springer, Darren" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, "Castonguay, Josh" <josh.Castonguay@greenmountainpower.com>
Subject: Charlotte

Charlotte,
How we doing on biogas pilot progress?

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:29 AM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Pearce, Beth; Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura; Eric Becker; 'Don Turner'; jwillhoit@leg.state.vt.us; Austin Davis
Subject: It's Really Happening: The Collapse of U.S. Coal

Don't forget ... the US Navy divested from coal a century ago.

Any profits gleaned at this point by Vermonters should come with a sense of responsibility for the destruction wreaked upon the coal-mining communities and the lasting impacts to the waters of the world, our fisheries, and the women and the children of the planet, literally.

http://www.triplepundit.com/2016/05/really-happening-u-s-coal-collapsing/?utm_source=WEEKLY+TriplePundit+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=60677404cb-Weekly+May+29+20145+23+2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1d50d22c4a-60677404cb-220297349#

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 11:07 AM
To: Adrienne Wojciechowski; john_dowd@leahy.senate.gov; Fowler, Mark;
bob.rogan@mail.house.gov; emily_rampone@sanders.senate.gov; Katie Thomas;
Michaeleen Crowell
Cc: Twigg, George; Springer, Darren; Fiermonte, Phil (Sanders)
Subject: Excellent opportunity for the excise tax -- Teflon Toxin Contamination Has Spread Throughout the World

Importance: High

Timing seems right for the public to support an excise tax at the manufacturer level on chemical companies and pharma as we discussed during my DC visit ... Water Quality Restoration Fund ala the Sportfish Restoration Fund with revenues directly infused into water, wastewater, and stormwater as well as brownfields remediation and Superfund sites.

Mechanism already in place for Pittman Robertson, Wallop Breaux, Dingell Johnson ...

Penny per pill!

Let me know how I can help. I am willing to use my diverse network to go nationwide to enlist support from a cross section of constituents. Just need a lead sponsor. Thoughts?

<https://theintercept.com/2016/04/19/teflon-toxin-contamination-has-spread-throughout-the-world/>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 4:24 PM
To: 'Ancel, Charlotte'
Cc: Copans, Jon; 'Castonguay, Josh'; jforcier@fcevt.com; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Meeting

Excellent. Thank you, All!

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

From: Ancel, Charlotte [mailto:Charlotte.Ancel@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 3:03 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Copans, Jon; Castonguay, Josh; jforcier@fcevt.com
Subject: Re: Meeting

Josh and I will be there too! Sounds like we are all set.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 19, 2016, at 8:59 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

>

> Jon,

> Thank you. I can be there.

>

> Charlotte,

> Please do what you can for you, John, and Josh to attend. Thank you.

>

>

>

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

> **From:** Copans, Jon [mailto:Jon.Copans@vermont.gov]

> **Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2016 10:25 PM

> **To:** James Ehlers

> **Subject:** Meeting

>

> How about April 27 at 3:00 in Montpelier at the Public Service

> Department for the meeting to discuss the biogas pilot?

> I have all the state players lined up for that date and time. I've
> also emailed Charlotte.

> Thx,

> Jon

>

> Sent from my iPhone=

>

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Springer, Darren
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 11:03 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Fwd: Gov. Shumlin Statement on Peabody Energy Bankruptcy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Coriell, Scott" <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>
Date: April 13, 2016 at 10:56:16 AM EDT
To: "Coriell, Scott" <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>
Subject: Gov. Shumlin Statement on Peabody Energy Bankruptcy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 2016

Gov. Shumlin Statement on Peabody Energy Bankruptcy

MONTPELIER – Gov. Peter Shumlin issued the following statement on the bankruptcy of Peabody Energy, America's largest private coal company. The Governor has called for Vermont to divest from coal and Exxon Mobil assets. The House has passed a resolution supporting the Governor's position and 17 Senators have signed a letter to the Vermont Pension Investment Committee (VPIC) in support of that resolution. A VPIC subcommittee considering divestment is meeting today.

"On the same day that VPIC is meeting to consider divestment, there is breaking news that should make their decision much easier. Today, America's largest private coal company has filed for bankruptcy, making clear what we already know to be true: Coal is a terrible financial investment. Today's news is just the latest shoe to drop. The Dow Jones U.S. Coal Index eight years ago was valued near 750. Today it is valued around 34. And earlier this year, America's second largest coal company went bankrupt.

"Coal will continue to lose value as more businesses, governments, and others recognize the terrible impacts it has on our economy, environment, and humanity. There is absolutely no reason Vermont should be in the business of owning coal stocks. I hope VPIC will make the responsible decision and move forward with divestment, and I look forward to hearing their recommendations to the Legislature on May 3."

###

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Springer, Darren
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 5:01 PM
To: Gray, Laura
Subject: Fwd: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: April 7, 2016 at 4:51:53 PM EDT
To: <TRE.VPICInquiries@vermont.gov>
Cc: "Lueders-Dumont, Tim" <Tim.Lueders-Dumont@vermont.gov>, "Springer, Darren" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, <beth.pearce@vermont.gov>
Subject: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

Released today: new report by InfluenceMap on the obstructive spending of Big Oil.

Our new report on the obstructive spending of Big Oil was featured in an [article in Bloomberg](#) today at 12:00pm GMT: "Trying to Put a Price on Big Oil's 'Climate Obstruction' Efforts", with inputs from ExxonMobil and WSPA with a Yale University academic commenting on the methodology.

Press Release

April 7th 2016 - for immediate release

Exxon, Shell, oil trade bodies spending \$114m to obstruct climate policy

Despite the recent Paris agreement on global warming, the fossil fuel industry is still systematically trying to stall progress, and using shareholder funds to do so

Research suggests ExxonMobil spent \$27m and Shell \$22m to obstruct climate legislation in 2015, with the American Petroleum Institute and two smaller trade associations spending a further \$74m[1] on behalf of the entire industry.

The report from London based non-profit InfluenceMap forensically analysed the amounts being spent by a representative sample of the most powerful entities in the global oil and gas industry, looking at a range of activities influencing policy makers and manipulating the public discourse on climate change, including spending on PR, social media and advertising.

Bill McKibben, Founder and Senior Advisor 350.org: *"It's remarkably useful to see exactly how much Exxon and its brethren are still spending to bend the climate debate. There's a shamelessness here that hopefully will be harder to maintain in the full light of day."*

The American Petroleum Institute is one of the most well funded and consistently climate-obstructive lobbying forces in the United States, with a total budget in excess of \$200m. The study estimates, through a forensic analysis of its IRS filings and careful study of its lobbying, PR, media and advertising activities, that \$65m of this is geared towards opposing ambitious climate policy. Its CEO Jack Gerard received annual compensation of just over \$14m in 2013[2], probably one of the world's highest paid lobbyists. In the run up to COP21 last year, he dismissed the Paris process as a "narrow political ideology"[3].

Peter Shumlin, Governor of the US State of Vermont: *"We now know that Exxon knew about climate change impacts for decades, and kept the public in the dark while they lobbied to prevent meaningful action. This report shows that while the world came together in Paris to embrace climate action in 2015, Exxon was doubling down with Big Tobacco tactics and obstruction. We cannot change this corporation by engaging with it, we must instead bring change from the outside by using economic pressure and divesting from Exxon."*

A recent news release by Walden Asset Management^[4] noted that so far in 2016 alone, fifteen shareholder resolutions have been filed by US investors with fossil fuel companies concerning engagement with policy, likely largely motivated by climate policy lobbying. Zevin Asset Management was among the investors filing these resolutions.

Sonia Kowal, President, Director of Socially Responsible Investing, Zevin Asset Management: *"As long-term investors in public equities, we are supporting and pressing for greater disclosure of how companies may be influencing critical areas of public policy and their use of corporate resources for this purpose both directly and through their trade associations. We are concerned that these influencing activities may not be aligned with the long term health of our portfolio as a whole."*

[1] The report found obstructive spending for three trade associations: the API (\$65m) the WSPA (\$6m) and the APPEA (\$3m). A portion of this trade association funding (\$9m) was attributed to Shell and ExxonMobil, which is included in their totals also.

[2] API IRS Form 990, 2013

[3] API press release, April 2015

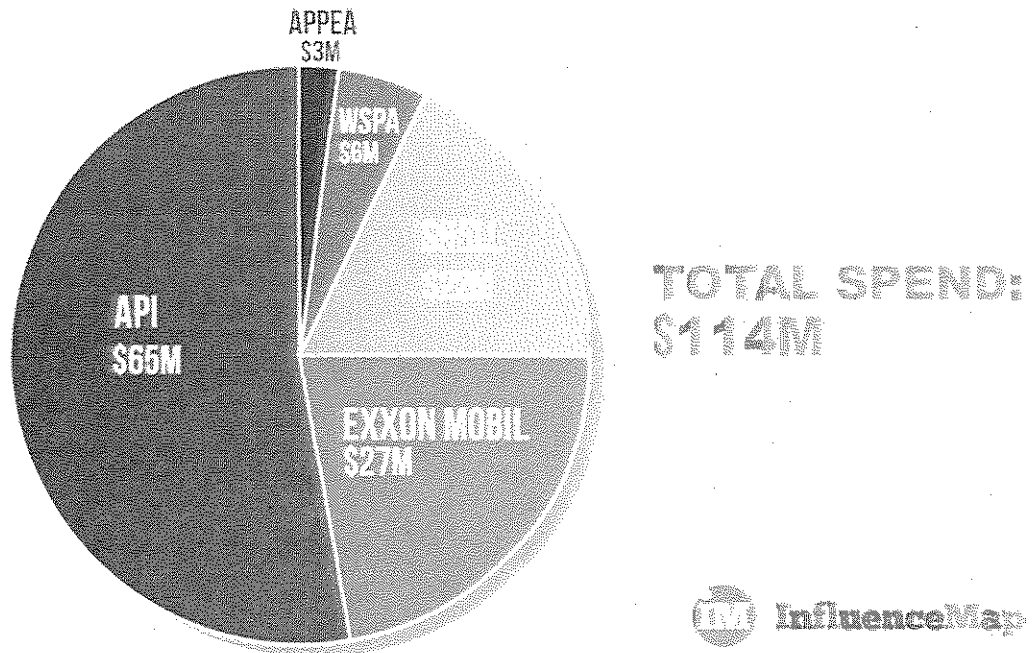
[4] Walden Asset Management press release, January 2016

- ENDS -

Download the report [here](#).

Media information, including testimonials, is [here](#).

How much big oil spends on obstructive climate lobbying:



*ExxonMobil and Shell contribute \$9m between them to the three trade associations and this figure has been taken away from the grand total spend.

Suggested Tweets:

How much is #bigoil spending to bend the #climate debate? New @InfluenceMap report examines industry: <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

#Bigoil shelling out \$114m to obstruct climate policy, new report breaks down how: <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

Despite #ParisAgreement, Exxon spent \$27m and Shell \$22m in 2015 to obstruct #climate policy according to new report <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

How much does #bigoil spend on obstructive #climate lobbying? \$114 per year according to new report by @InfluenceMap <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

Press Contacts

Dylan Tanner
Executive Director,
InfluenceMap
Mobile: 44 7910 765485
dylan.tanner@influencemap.org

Thomas O'Neill
Research Director,
InfluenceMap
Mobile: 44 7468 433360
thomas.oneill@influencemap.org

InfluenceMap is a neutral and independent UK-based non-profit whose remit is to map, analyze and score the extent to which corporations are influencing enviromental policy. Our data is in use by CDP, ShareAction, the UN PRI and a range of investors concerned with corporate performance environmental, social and governance issues.



Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 4:02 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

Thank you

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:04 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Fwd: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Coriell, Scott" <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>
Date: April 7, 2016 at 10:02:54 AM EDT
To: "Coriell, Scott" <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

FYI.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Dylan Tanner, InfluenceMap <dylan.tanner@influencemap.org>
Date: Thu, Apr 7, 2016 at 9:21 AM
Subject: Big oil spending at least \$114m per year to obstruct climate policy

Released today: new report by InfluenceMap on the obstructive spending of Big Oil.

Our new report on the obstructive spending of Big Oil was featured in an [article in Bloomberg](#) today at 12:00pm GMT: "*Trying to Put a Price on Big Oil's 'Climate Obstruction' Efforts*", with inputs from ExxonMobil and WSPA with a Yale University academic commenting on the methodology.

Press Release

April 7th 2016 - for immediate release

Exxon, Shell, oil trade bodies spending \$114m to obstruct climate policy

Despite the recent Paris agreement on global warming, the fossil fuel industry is still systematically trying to stall progress, and using shareholder funds to do so

Research suggests ExxonMobil spent \$27m and Shell \$22m to obstruct climate legislation in 2015, with the American Petroleum Institute and two smaller trade associations spending a further \$74m[1] on behalf of the entire industry.

The report from London based non-profit InfluenceMap forensically analysed the amounts being spent by a representative sample of the most powerful entities in the global oil and gas industry; looking at a range of activities influencing policy makers and manipulating the public discourse on climate change, including spending on PR, social media and advertising.

Bill McKibben, Founder and Senior Advisor 350.org: *"It's remarkably useful to see exactly how much Exxon and its brethren are still spending to bend the climate debate. There's a shamelessness here that hopefully will be harder to maintain in the full light of day."*

The American Petroleum Institute is one of the most well funded and consistently climate-obstructive lobbying forces in the United States, with a total budget in excess of \$200m. The study estimates, through a forensic analysis of its IRS filings and careful study of its lobbying, PR, media and advertising activities, that \$65m of this is geared towards opposing ambitious climate policy. Its CEO Jack Gerard received annual compensation of just over \$14m in 2013[2], probably one of the world's highest paid lobbyists. In the run up to COP21 last year, he dismissed the Paris process as a "narrow political ideology"[3].

Peter Shumlin, Governor of the US State of Vermont: *"We now know that Exxon knew about climate change impacts for decades, and kept the public in the dark while they lobbied to prevent meaningful action. This report shows that while the world came together in Paris to embrace climate action in 2015, Exxon was doubling down with Big Tobacco tactics and obstruction. We cannot change this corporation by engaging with it, we must instead bring change from the outside by using economic pressure and divesting from Exxon."*

A recent news release by Walden Asset Management^[4] noted that so far in 2016 alone, fifteen shareholder resolutions have been filed by US investors with fossil fuel companies concerning engagement with policy, likely largely motivated by climate policy lobbying. Zevin Asset Management was among the investors filing these resolutions.

Sonia Kowal, President, Director of Socially Responsible Investing, Zevin Asset Management: *"As long-term investors in public equities, we are supporting and pressing for greater disclosure of how companies may be influencing critical areas of public policy and their use of corporate resources for this purpose both directly and through their trade associations. We are concerned that these influencing activities may not be aligned with the long term health of our portfolio as a whole."*

[1] The report found obstructive spending for three trade associations: the API (\$65m) the WSPA (\$6m) and the APPEA (\$3m). A portion of this trade association funding (\$9m) was attributed to Shell and ExxonMobil, which is included in their totals also.

[2] API IRS Form 990, 2013

[3] API press release, April 2015

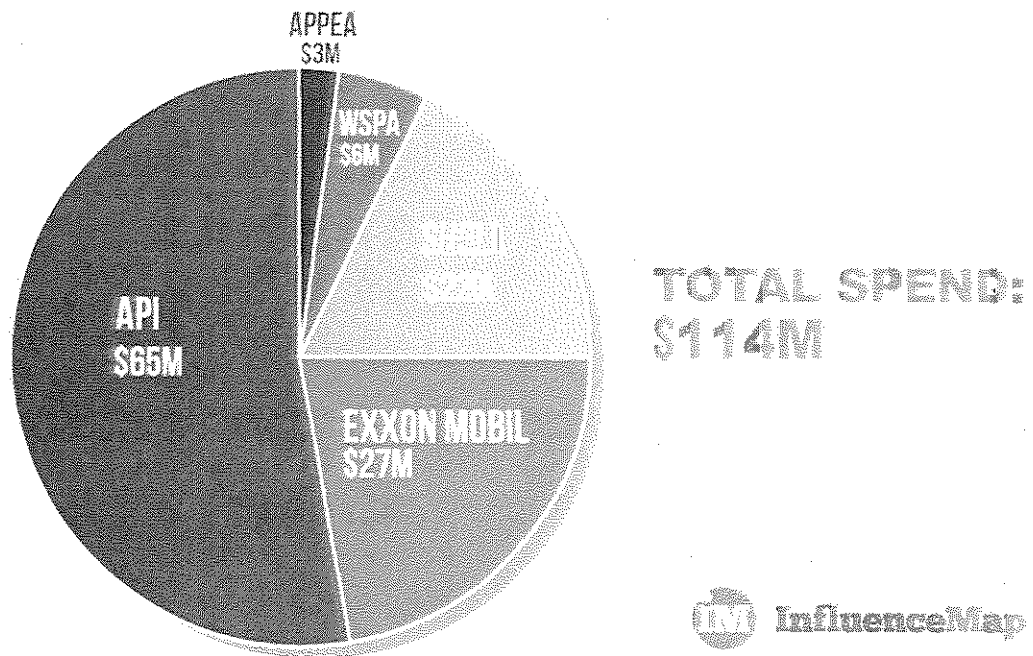
[4] Walden Asset Management press release, January 2016

- ENDS -

Download the report [here](#).

Media information, including testimonials, is [here](#).

How much big oil spends on obstructive climate lobbying:



*ExxonMobil and Shell contribute \$9m between them to the three trade associations and this figure has been taken away from the grand total spend.

Suggested Tweets:

How much is #bigoil spending to bend the #climate debate? New @InfluenceMap report examines industry: <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

#Bigoil shelling out \$114m to obstruct climate policy, new report breaks down how: <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

Despite #ParisAgreement, Exxon spent \$27m and Shell \$22m in 2015 to obstruct #climate policy according to new report <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

How much does #bigoil spend on obstructive #climate lobbying? \$114 per year

according to new report by @InfluenceMap <http://bit.ly/2366k8K>

Press Contacts

Dylan Tanner
Executive Director,
InfluenceMap
Mobile: 44 7910 765485
dylan.tanner@influencemap.org

Thomas O'Neill
Research Director,
InfluenceMap
Mobile: 44 7468 433360
thomas.oneill@influencemap.org

InfluenceMap is a neutral and independent UK-based non-profit whose remit is to map, analyze and score the extent to which corporations are influencing environmental policy. Our data is in use by CDP, ShareAction, the UN PRI and a range of investors concerned with corporate performance environmental, social and governance issues.



You are receiving this email because you are a friend of InfluenceMap.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

InfluenceMap · 40 Bermondsey Street · London, Lnd SE1 3UD · United Kingdom

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:43 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: ANR, needs to step up and fulfill its regulatory role, Bro --- FW: CSO Draft Rule Joint Comments
Attachments: CSO Rule LCI-CLF-CRWC Final Comments.pdf
Importance: High

Enough is enough!

Seriously, though.

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.laflamme@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

For a thriving New England



Mishaan, Jessica

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

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 1:29 PM
To: Ancel, Charlotte; Castonguay, Josh; 'Dostis, Robert'; Copans, Jon
Cc: Powell, Mary; Conor T. Kennedy; Springer, Darren; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; jforcier@fcevt.com
Subject: Announcing our 2016 US Water Prize Winners: DC Water, for its Walter F. Bailey Bioenergy Facility

Early-Bird registration deadline for the One Water Summit is extended until April 15. Register today and join us to celebrate our US Water Prize winners in Atlanta.



US WATER PRIZE **2016**

US Water Alliance Announces 2016 US Water Prize Winners:

DC Water, Dow, and Emory University

Awards ceremony to take place June 8, 2016 during the One Water Summit in Atlanta, GA.

April 6, 2016 - Washington, DC - The US Water Alliance today announced that three organizations have been named as winners of the 2016 US Water Prize: **DC Water**, for its Walter F. Bailey Bioenergy Facility; **Dow**, for its Minimal Liquid Discharge technology; and, **Emory University**, for its WaterHub campus-scale water reclamation project.

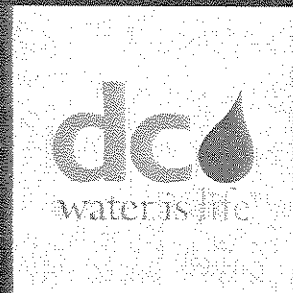
Radhika Fox, CEO of US Water Alliance said: "While the challenges facing the water sector are great, our capacity of innovation and positive solutions is greater. That's why the US Water Alliance created the US Water Prize--the first of its kind recognition program that celebrates outstanding achievement in driving towards a sustainable water future. We congratulate our 2016 US Water Prize Winners--DC Water, Dow, and Emory University. They are true visionaries in the one water movement."

Jim Clark, senior vice president at Black & Veatch and chair of the US Water Alliance's recognition committee, which selects the US Water Prize winners, said: "Congratulations to all of our winners--this is a truly remarkable group of one water leaders. DC Water is utilizing novel technologies to change biosolids into energy, Dow is creating breakthrough technology to reuse water, and Emory is showing us what is possible when major anchor institutions like universities invest in water reuse. Our three 2016 winners are nothing short of incredible."

DC Water

Walter F. Bailey Bioenergy Facility

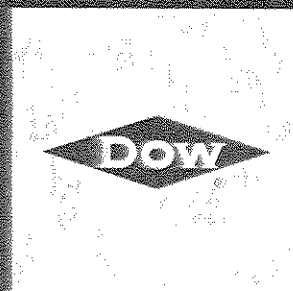
"DC Water is honored to be recognized by the US Water Alliance's 2016 US Water Prize for the Walter F. Bailey Bioenergy Facility. The project is a crowning achievement for DC Water and exemplifies a shift from treating used water as waste to leveraging it as a resource. This innovative facility is one water at work--generating renewable power, producing exceptional quality biosolids, reducing our carbon footprint, increasing plant efficiency, and ultimately saving ratepayer dollars. This is an award dedicated to extraordinary people--the members of our team who transformed innovative ideas into reality, and a Board of Directors that after years of careful oversight and review, had the courage to make an extraordinary investment in the future." -**George Hawkins, General Manager and CEO of DC Water**



Dow

Minimal Liquid Discharge

"Winning the US Water Prize is a true honor. Dow has a company-wide commitment to the circular economy model--one that emphasizes the need to reduce, reuse, and reclaim our limited water resources. Dow, together with our partners and collaborators, are proud to be recognized by the US



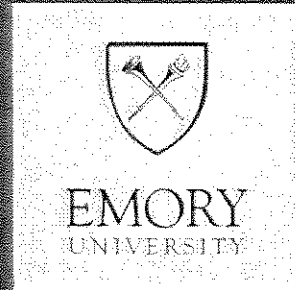
Water Alliance for bringing our collaborative spirit, innovations, and practical technologies to help address the global water challenge."

-Snehal Desai, Global Business Director of Dow Water & Process Solutions

Emory University

WaterHub: Campus-scale water reclamation system

"We are gratified for this recognition from the US Water Alliance for the WaterHub at Emory. Through this project, we've shown how universities can play an important role in advancing sustainability nationwide. Not only has the WaterHub had tremendous impact on how we think about water and how it is utilized on campus, it has also become a national model for those seeking innovative technology to address the global need for water conservation and sustainable solutions." **-Matthew Early, Vice President for Emory University Campus Services**



The US Water Alliance thanks our esteemed Independent Review Panel for their time, expertise, and guidance through the process:

- Paul Bowen, Director of Sustainable Operations, The Coca-Cola Company;
- Robert Glennon, Regents' Professor and Morris K. Udall Professor of Law & Public Policy, University of Arizona;
- Bill Reilly, Senior Advisor to TPG Capital and former Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency; and,
- Dave White, President of Ecosystem Services Exchange and former Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service at USDA-NRCS.

[Read more about the award-winning projects.](#)

Join us for the celebration!

US Water Prize Ceremony

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

Atlanta, GA

The 2016 US Water Prize will be presented to the winning organizations during a special awards ceremony at the [One Water Summit](#). Register today and help us celebrate these award-winning "one water" achievements!

Early-bird registration has been extended until April 15.

Register

US Water Alliance, 1816 Jefferson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20036

[SafeUnsubscribe™ james@mychamplain.net](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by info@uswateralliance.org in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:33 PM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Springer, Darren
Subject: AEP: World coal giant Peabody faces bankruptcy as industry implodes

Creditor Protection = Taxpayer Liability ?

Sounds like gambling to the average taxpayer and investor ... And who will pay for all the existing environmental damage to our waters, fisheries, food, and forests?

“Some hedge funds and private equity groups are already snapping up distressed assets, betting on a rebound as the commodity cycle bottoms out.”

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/03/16/world-coal-giant-peabody-faces-bankruptcy-as-industry-implodes/>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 11:57 AM
To: Springer, Darren; Allen, Susan
Subject: Bennington/Pownal? FW: RELEASE: EPA Adds Sites to National Priorities List to Reduce Risk to Public Health and Environment

From: U.S. EPA Media Relations [mailto:noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 11:52 AM
To: james@mychamplain.net
Subject: RELEASE: EPA Adds Sites to National Priorities List to Reduce Risk to Public Health and Environment



CONTACT:
Mollie Lemon (News media only)
lemon.mollie@epa.gov
(202) 343-9859
(202) 564-4355

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 6, 2016

EPA Adds Sites to National Priorities List to Reduce Risk to Public Health and Environment

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is adding five and proposing to add eight hazardous waste sites to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL). These are sites with known or threatened hazardous waste releases that could pose risks to public health and the environment.

"Cleaning up hazardous waste sites is vitally important to the health of America's communities," said Mathy Stanislaus, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management. "Our goal is to give communities the best opportunity for productive use of a site after it is cleaned up."

A site's addition to the NPL helps address potential adverse human health impacts. Academic research shows that investment in Superfund cleanups reduces the incidence of congenital abnormalities in infants by as much as 25 percent for those living within approximately a mile and a quarter of a site. Cleanups involving lead-contaminated soil have contributed to documented reduced blood-lead levels in children. If left unaddressed, elevated blood-lead levels may result in irreversible neurological deficits, such as lowered intelligence and attention-related behavioral problems.

"Adding a site to the NPL generates new jobs and creates stronger local economies that will strengthen communities for years to come," continued Assistant Administrator Stanislaus. "A study by researchers at Duke University and the University of Pittsburgh found that once a site has all cleanup remedies in place and is deleted from the NPL, nearby property values increased 18.6-24.5 percent as compared to their pre-NPL proposal values. Moreover, cleanups increase

local communities' and state governments' tax revenue, and help to create jobs during and after cleanup. For example, at 454 of the 850 sites supporting use or reuse activities, EPA found, at the end of fiscal year 2015, that approximately 3,900 businesses had ongoing operations that were generating annual sales of more than \$29 billion and employing more than 108,000 people."

Currently, more than 850 Superfund sites nationwide have some type of actual or planned reuse underway. For example, in the town of Corinna, Maine, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, local officials and stakeholders worked together to integrate a reuse plan for the Eastland Woolen Mill Superfund site. The 22-acre site is a former textile mill that operated from 1909 to 1996. Disposal practices resulted in extensive contamination of soil, groundwater and numerous private drinking water wells. With EPA support, this collaboration resulted in the Corinna Village Center Reuse Plan that focuses on mixed-use redevelopment of downtown Corinna and includes commercial, residential and recreational areas.

EPA responds to requests from states, tribes and communities to propose a site for NPL addition when non-NPL response options have not proved viable. Prior to adding a site to the NPL, the agency works closely with states and tribes and seeks public comment. For each of the 13 sites announced today, EPA has either received letters of state officials' concurrence supporting the NPL listing or, after working closely with the state, received no objection to adding the site to the NPL. Community partnerships are also critical to Superfund site cleanups. EPA's goal is to work with community partners at every site by establishing an effective process with the necessary tools and information needed to fully explore future uses before the cleanup remedy's selection. This approach gives the Agency the best chance of ensuring remedies are consistent with a site's likely future use.

Under Superfund law, only sites EPA adds to the NPL are eligible to receive federal funding for long-term, permanent cleanup. The list serves as the basis for prioritizing both enforcement actions against potentially responsible parties and long-term EPA Superfund cleanup funding. The Superfund program operates on the principle that polluters should pay for the cleanups rather than passing the costs on to taxpayers. EPA searches for parties legally responsible for contaminating a site, and holds those parties accountable for cleanup costs.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, the law creating the Superfund program. The Superfund law gives EPA the authority to clean up hazardous substance releases and directs EPA to update the NPL. EPA and its partners continue to discover new sites qualifying for the NPL. These sites are the result of past industrial practices as well as other activities.

The sites in today's rules potentially affect drinking water, groundwater, soil, wetlands, and fishing for human consumption. Contaminants found at the sites include arsenic, mercury, uranium, cadmium, copper, manganese, zinc, aluminum, chromium, lead, trichloroethane (TCA) and trichloroethylene (TCE).

The following five sites have been added to the NPL:

- * Illinois - Old American Zinc Plant (former zinc smelter) in Fairmont City.
- * Iowa - PCE Former Dry Cleaner (former dry cleaner) in Atlantic.
- * Nebraska - Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Co (former gas plant manufacturer) in Norfolk.
- * New Jersey - Former Kil-Tone Company (former pesticides manufacturer) in Vineland.
- * New Mexico - Lea and West Second Street (ground water plume) in Roswell.

The following eight sites have been proposed for addition to the NPL:

- * California - Argonaut Mine (former hard rock mining area) in Jackson.
- * Colorado - Bonita Peak Mining District (former hard rock mining area) in San Juan County.
- * Indiana - Riverside Ground Water Contamination (ground water plume) in Indianapolis.
- * New York - Wappinger Creek (site of various former industrial operations) in Dutchess County.
- * Ohio - Valley Pike VOCs (former tire and heavy duty truck molding manufacturer) in Riverside.
- * Puerto Rico - Dorado Ground Water Contamination (ground water contamination) in Dorado.

* Texas - Eldorado Chemical Co., Inc (former cleaning products manufacturer) in Live Oak.

* West Virginia - North 25th Street Glass and Zinc (former glass and zinc manufacturer) in Clarksburg.

For Federal Register notices and supporting documents for the final and proposed sites:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/current-npl-updates-new-proposed-npl-sites-and-new-npl-sites>

For information about how a site is listed on the NPL:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/basic-npl-information>

For information on the Superfund Redevelopment Initiative:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative>

For information on the 35th Anniversary of Superfund:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-35th-anniversary>

For information about the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), the law establishing the Superfund program:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-cercla-overview>

R065

If you would rather not receive future communications from Environmental Protection Agency, let us know by clicking [here](#).
Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460 United States

Mishaan, Jessica

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

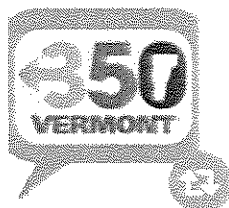
... because a swimmable, drinkable, fishable Lake Champlain is the only option.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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!



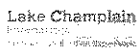
350 Vermont
retweeted your Tweet.

[View](#)



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 Tom Golebski,

We are writing to express our sincere hope for a fair and objective analysis of divestment from coal and like-to-Mobil assets by VPIC, a position shared by Governor Shaheen, the Vermont House of Representatives as expressed in HJR 33, and by a majority of Vermont Senators. We appreciate Treasurer Benzel's efforts to expedite and move 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 direct 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 future.

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 and VT-Digger.org,¹ including:

- "Divestment, although it may sound good to certain people, is very difficult to do, as it will add layers of cost that I don't know how prepared we are for something like this."
- "...we are at that point as an expensive way to approach something that would have minimal impact."
- "The difficult part would be screening that as future investment manager buys any of these in the future, whether it's equities or bonds, and making restrictions on our managers to do so. We've had managers tell us they wouldn't do business with the state if we put these types of restraints 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 those 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.

¹ <http://watchdog.org/259834/divestment-very-difficult-to-do/>
<http://vtdigger.org/2016/03/19/vpic-chair-costs-dont-are-divestment/>

Settings | Help | Opt-out | Download app

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

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: VPIC Divestment Subcommittee Letter

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2016 1:43 PM
To: Springer, Darren <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 iJoeyi Miller'; 'Lueders-Dumont, Tim'; 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 13th and 26th 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 13th.

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

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

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Saturday, April 02, 2016 2:49 PM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Springer, Darren
Subject: Can coal companies afford to clean up coal country?

washingtonpost.com

Can coal companies afford to clean up coal country?

By [Steven Mufson](#) and [Joby Warrick](#) April 1 at 9:58 AM

A worsening financial crisis for the nation's biggest coal companies is sparking concerns that U.S. taxpayers could be stuck with hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in cleanup costs across a landscape of shuttered mines stretching from Appalachia to the northern Plains.

Worries about huge liabilities associated with hundreds of polluted mine sites have mounted as Peabody Energy, the world's largest publicly traded coal company, was forced to appeal to creditors for an extra 30 days to pay its debts. Two of the four other biggest U.S. coal companies have declared bankruptcy in the past six months.

Under a 1977 federal law, coal companies are required to clean up mining sites when they're shut down. But the industry's plummeting fortunes have raised questions about whether companies can fulfill their obligations to rehabilitate vast strip mines in Western states — many of which are on federally owned property — as well as mountaintop-removal mining sites in the East.

A number of smaller companies have defaulted or skimmed on cleanup obligations, leaving behind abandoned strip mines and denuded mountains. Some are simply eyesores, unhealed scars on the landscape that can be seen for miles. Others are perpetual sources of water pollution, slowly leaking acidic and otherwise toxic wastes into streams and groundwater supplies.

Now coal giants are facing outcomes similar to those experienced by some of the smaller companies. Several are struggling to make payments on debts for ill-timed multibillion-dollar acquisitions of their rivals in recent years. On top of that, they have been financially squeezed by competition from cheap natural gas and declining U.S. and Chinese demand for coal.

With some of the country's largest coal companies in bankruptcy, about 120,000 retired miners and their families in West Virginia could lose their pension and health care accounts. For many families in this region, this means losing their only regular source of income. (Jorge Ribas/The Washington Post)

The biggest coal companies typically pay third parties to ensure that mine sites are cleaned up in the event of financial hardship. But in recent years, many coal companies have relied on a cheaper technique called "self-bonding," pledging only their own names and financial wherewithal to guarantee their cleanup obligations.

With mounting losses and debt loads, the companies do not have enough money to pay for all their obligations, and self-bonding is “not worth [the] paper [it’s] written on,” Steve Jakubowski, a bankruptcy lawyer with the firm Robbins, Salomon & Patt, said in an email. In a bankruptcy, where Alpha Natural Resources is now, a judge can decide which creditors are paid and how much — and state and federal governments could be left holding the bag for reclamation costs.

“There is a lot of liability out there and a lot of uncertainty,” said Shannon Anderson, a lawyer with the Power River Basin Resource Council, a Wyoming nonprofit group that supports tougher rules for cleaning up mine sites.

Peabody alone has cleanup obligations of nearly \$1.4 billion guaranteed by self-bonding, according to statements filed by the company last year with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Arch Coal and Alpha — the nation’s second- and fourth-largest coal companies — have self-guaranteed liabilities exceeding \$485 million and \$640 million, respectively, in reclamation costs.

The coal giants are currently in no condition to spend those amounts. Arch and Alpha filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection last year. Peabody stock prices have fallen by more than 97 percent over the past year, and the coal behemoth’s market value at Thursday’s closing price was less than \$44.3 million. Barclays Capital said the company’s debt-to-capital ratio was a towering 88 percent.

Bankruptcy restructuring could provide coal companies with a way of escaping obligations to restore land.

It wouldn’t be the first time the federal government covered the costs of corporations’ environmental pollution. Something similar happened during the 2010 General Motors bailout, when the federal government injected money into an independent trust that took on the cleanup of about 60 contaminated sites.

Obama administration officials have voiced concern recently about the reliability of self-bonding agreements for some of the biggest coal operations in the Powder River Basin, an area that straddles the Wyoming and Montana border and contains some of the biggest coal mines in the world. The Interior Department sent a letter last month to Wyoming regulators warning that self-bonding agreements for two of Alpha Coal’s mines had fallen “below the amount necessary to assure that the operator will faithfully comply with all rules and regulations” if the company goes out of business.

In Illinois, environmental groups and industry experts are closely watching three Peabody mines with cleanup obligations of \$92 million covered by self-bonding. Howard A. Learner, executive director of the Environmental Law and Policy Center, urged state officials in a blog post to force the troubled company to buy surety bonds to “make sure that our taxpayers aren’t holding the financial bag.” Selling surety bonds is similar to paying insurance premiums to cover the cleanup costs. But it might be too late for Peabody to find anyone interested in taking that risk.

“If state officials don’t step up now, their next step might be standing in line in the federal bankruptcy court to protect Illinois taxpayers,” Learner said.

Jakubowski, the bankruptcy expert, said the coal companies will have a hard time wriggling out of cleanup costs linked to mines that continue to operate, and Anthony Young, an analyst at the Macquarie Group, a global investment banking firm, said he expects that as much as 90 percent of Peabody’s mines, mostly in Wyoming’s Powder River Basin, will continue to operate.

But cleanup costs tied to mines that have shut down or will shut down in bankruptcy — most likely those such as Alpha’s in the Appalachians and Midwest — could end up being billed to taxpayers.

How the big coal companies got to this point is a lesson in hubris and overreach. Alpha bought rival Massey Energy for \$7 billion. Arch Coal — whose top executives received \$8 million in bonuses the day before filing for bankruptcy, according to a report by Energy and Environment News — bought International Coal for \$3.4 billion. Peabody paid \$5.1 billion for Macarthur Coal. And Walter Energy bought Western Coal for \$3.3 billion.

In 2011, when the merger wave picked up speed, natural gas prices were at a healthy \$4 a thousand cubic feet, there was an international commodity boom and China's economy was speeding ahead. Now commodity prices have slumped, China has slowed and natural gas prices hover around \$2 a thousand cubic feet.

"I understand what management was thinking at time," Young said. "Obviously, they didn't stress-test their balance sheets. It has cost people their companies and many people their jobs."

Pavel Molchanov, an energy analyst at the advisory firm Raymond James, said the entire industry is in long-term decline because of efforts to reduce coal use and slow climate change.

"It really is striking that virtually every large U.S. coal producer is bankrupt or on the cusp of bankruptcy," Molchanov said.

The financial crisis highlights what environmental groups say are deep inadequacies in cleanup requirements for coal companies. Often, activists say, mining companies are simply given a pass after meeting the most rudimentary requirements to cover up open pits with dirt and rock. Some environmental groups are pressing for legislation requiring "contemporaneous reclamation" — forcing mining companies to clean up after each phase of mining rather than waiting for the entire project to be completed.

A report last fall by the Natural Resources Defense Council said barely 10 percent of the 450 square miles of land torn up by mining in Montana, North Dakota and Wyoming met reclamation requirements for final bonding release.

"States are not holding the line on what is required," said Sharon Buccino, director of the NRDC's Land and Wildlife Program. "You're left with a trashed landscape and contaminated water."

Meanwhile, because of the financial crisis, taxpayers and coal communities face the real possibility that even minimum cleanup requirements will not be met, which Buccino said is "exactly why self-bonding should be limited."

"We should not have to sacrifice the health of the land and its residents to the financial health of coal companies," she said.

Steven Mufson covers the White House. Since joining The Post, he has covered economics, China, foreign policy and energy.

Mishaan, Jessica

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Ancel, Charlotte <Charlotte.Ancel@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 1:19 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Copans, Jon; Castonguay, Josh; jforcier@fcevt.com; Conor T. Kennedy; Springer, Darren; Dylan Giambatista; Powell, Mary
Subject: Re: 21st Century Solutions Partnership Meeting
Attachments: image001.jpg

Importance: High

On it James and looking forward to it.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 9:52 AM
To: Charlotte Ancel <charlotte.ancel@greenmountainpower.com>
Cc: "Copans, Jon" <Jon.Copans@vermont.gov>, "Castonguay, Josh" <Josh.Castonguay@greenmountainpower.com>, "jforcier@fcevt.com" <jforcier@fcevt.com>, "Conor T. Kennedy" <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>, "Springer, Darren" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, Dylan Giambatista <dgiambatista@leg.state.vt.us>, Mary Powell <Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com>
Subject: 21st Century Solutions Partnership Meeting

Charlotte,

I had a good meeting with Jon Copans regarding our partnership objectives. Jon would like for us to meet with the key people within the respective agencies to continue to advance the pilots. Could you please coordinate that with Jon for us with a goal of meeting in April? From the private sector, I recommend you, Josh, John Forcier, and myself. Jon will coordinate the agency reps participation.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 12:19 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura; Allen, Susan
Subject: Yesterdays, BFP ... another version of the divestment piece

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/story/opinion/my-turn/2016/03/30/opinion-pollution-investments-make-cents/82436796/>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 9:52 AM
To: Ancel, Charlotte
Cc: Copans, Jon; Castonguay, Josh; jforcier@fcevt.com; Conor T. Kennedy; Springer, Darren; Dylan Giambatista; Powell, Mary
Subject: 21st Century Solutions Partnership Meeting
Importance: High

Charlotte,

I had a good meeting with Jon Copans regarding our partnership objectives. Jon would like for us to meet with the key people within the respective agencies to continue to advance the pilots. Could you please coordinate that with Jon for us with a goal of meeting in April? From the private sector, I recommend you, Josh, John Forcier, and myself. Jon will coordinate the agency reps participation.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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: Monday, March 28, 2016 3:57 PM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Springer, Darren; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; White, Jeanette
Subject: Rockefeller Family Fund Divests from ExxonMobil, Fossil Fuel

maritime-executive.com

Rockefeller Family Fund Divests from ExxonMobil, Fossil Fuel

By MarEx 2016-03-24 19:27:28

The Rockefeller Family Fund has issued a statement announcing its intent to divest from fossil fuels. The process will be completed as quickly as practically possible.

The statement singled out ExxonMobil, as it has been accused of covering up the role of fossil fuels in climate change and interfering in government efforts to take action on global warming, fearing that it would limit the company's profits.

The fund was founded by relatives of John D. Rockefeller, the co-founder of Standard Oil, and the statement states: "While the global community works to eliminate the use of fossil fuels, it makes little sense—financially or ethically—to continue holding investments in these companies. There is no sane rationale for companies to continue to explore for new sources of hydrocarbons. The science and intent enunciated by the Paris agreement cannot be more clear: far from finding additional sources of fossil fuels, we must keep most of the already discovered reserves in the ground if there is any hope for human and natural ecosystems to survive and thrive in the decades ahead.

"We would be remiss if we failed to focus on what we believe to be the morally reprehensible conduct on the part of ExxonMobil. Evidence appears to suggest that the company worked since the 1980s to confuse the public about climate change's march, while simultaneously spending millions to fortify its own infrastructure against climate change's destructive consequences and track new exploration opportunities as the Arctic's ice receded.

"Appropriate authorities will determine if the company violated any laws, but as a matter of good governance, we cannot be associated with a company exhibiting such apparent contempt for the public interest.

"To operationalize this decision, the Board has instructed its advisors, effective immediately, to eliminate holdings of ExxonMobil, and all coal, and tar sands-based companies outside the portions of the portfolio managed by third parties, and to keep exposures for these three categories of investment below 1 percent across the entire portfolio. The Family Fund's Finance Committee will soon be entering the second phase of its divestment work, which will entail seeking suitable alternatives to certain commingled funds now held. The field of Socially Responsible Investing is dynamic and growing and we are confident that a variety of options will soon emerge for mid-sized endowments such as ours.

“Needless to say, the Rockefeller family has had a long and profitable history investing in the oil industry, including ExxonMobil. These are not decisions, therefore, that have been taken lightly or without much consideration of their import. But history moves on, as it must. Indeed, it is past time for all people of good will to do everything in their collective power to make our new path one that recognizes the deep interdependence between humanity’s future and the health of our natural systems.”

ExxonMobil Denies Wrongdoing

ExxonMobil has denied any wrongdoing and has defended its record on climate change. The company states that it has reported information about the business risks posed by climate change for many years in its reports.

The company confirmed has received a subpoena from the New York Attorney General’s Office for “documents relating to climate change.” The U.S. Department of Justice has requested that the FBI determine whether an investigation is warranted, but no official investigation has been ordered to date.

The opinions expressed herein are the author's and not necessarily those of The Maritime Executive.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 8:31 AM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Lueders-Dumont, Tim; Springer, Darren
Subject: EDITORIAL | Wall Street's Retreat From King Coal

nytimes.com

Wall Street's Retreat From King Coal

The Editorial Board March 26, 2016

The grave environmental damage from coal-fired power plants has done nothing to deter the Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell, from decrying a “war on coal” and orchestrating his own war against the Obama administration’s climate change agenda. But he and other coal-state Republicans would be foolish to ignore the growing consensus on Wall Street that King Coal, for all its legendary political power, has turned into a decidedly bad investment.

JPMorgan Chase announced this month that it would no longer finance new coal-fired power plants in the United States or other advanced nations, joining Bank of America, Citigroup and Morgan Stanley in retreating from a fuel that provides about one-third of the nation’s electricity and accounts for about one-quarter of the carbon emissions that feed global warming.

Cleaner and cheaper natural gas is fast becoming the preferred investment, a blunt marketplace reality that is sure to weaken coal’s grip on the planet as much as moral and environmental concerns. Last week’s announcement by Peabody Energy, the world’s largest private-sector coal company, that it may have to seek bankruptcy protection, just as three other major coal producers have done recently, provided a dramatic confirmation of this trend.

Main Street also seems to be getting the message. Two weeks ago, Gov. Kate Brown of Oregon signed ambitious legislation — agreed to by environmentalists, consumer groups and power producers — that requires the state’s two largest utilities to stop importing out-of-state coal-generated power by 2030 and to use renewable energy to meet half of the demand of their customers by 2040. Oregon’s only in-state coal-fired plant will close by 2020.

Even so, Mr. McConnell persists in his campaign to block the administration’s clean power rule, the centerpiece of Mr. Obama’s plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by steering power producers away from dirty coal-fired plants to cleaner sources of energy. Ever ready with new and more mischievous strategies, Mr. McConnell has encouraged court challenges to the rule and has gone so far as to tell Republican-led states to ignore it, further deepening his party’s sorry retreat into science denial.

Though reeling now, the coal industry insists it will rebound by selling more to markets like China. But this is little comfort to workers who can read the markets better than Mr. McConnell can. Rather than encouraging obstruction, the senator, who received \$273,850 in campaign contributions from the coal industry for his 2014

re-election, should be taking the lead in crafting government programs to help the industry, miners and communities as they face a hard period of inevitable transition.

Even as the administration cracks down on coal — in recent weeks it has also suspended new coal leasing on federal lands — it has called for job training and other assistance to ease the pain. These are the types of creative adjustments that Mr. McConnell and his colleagues should be tackling, instead of clinging to King Coal's fading past.

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

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 5:16 PM
To: Copans, Jon
Cc: 'Dostis, Robert'; 'Castonguay, Josh'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Digester Support Data -- see attached maps --- solid waste, manure, and sewage/septage fuel sources

Jon,
Any WWTF data I would get would come from DEC ... can we enlist their support and cut out the middleman?

Josh,
Talk tomorrow?

James

From: Castonguay, Josh [mailto:Josh.Castonguay@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 12:24 PM
To: Copans, Jon; James Ehlers
Cc: Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Digester Support Data -- see attached maps --- solid waste, manure, and sewage/septage fuel sources

Hi Jon – attached is an initial poster that we used for the St Albans digester – this is a start but does not show the additional feedstocks that we are talking about for this project – it should at least give you a basis for the flow.

James may have something a little more comprehensive showing the wastewater plants in addition to what we show here. I don't yet have a \$ flow for the proposed project here but could show something related to our digester project. James and I can circle up on that one as well.

Also happy to join a call if it would be helpful to walk through any of this.

Regards,
Josh

From: "Copans, Jon" <Jon.Copans@vermont.gov>
Date: Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 8:52 AM
To: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>, GMP End User <josh.castonguay@greenmountainpower.com>
Cc: "Dostis, Robert" <Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com>
Subject: RE: Digester Support Data -- see attached maps --- solid waste, manure, and sewage/septage fuel sources

Hi James and Josh,

As you may know, I've been tasked with taking a look at this concept and coordinating a response from others including ANR, AAFM, and BGS. As we review the memo, we have a few core questions that would help us understand this proposal better:

Specifically, is there a document or diagram that shows the flow of source materials into the digester and the flow of materials out of the digester? Also the flow of dollars and the flow of energy, at least in concept?

I'd be happy to get on the phone to talk this over in more detail if you need more clarity on what we are looking for.

Thanks,

Jon

Jon Copans, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Public Service Department
(802) 828-3088 or by cell at (802) 249-5199
jon.copans@vermont.gov
Visit the Department at: <http://publicservice.vermont.gov/>

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:57 PM
To: Copans, Jon <Jon.Copans@vermont.gov>
Cc: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>; Conor T. Kennedy <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>; 'Diane Lanpher' <dianelanpher@hotmail.com>; Warren Coleman <warren@mmrvt.com>; Dylan Giambatista <dgiambatista@leg.state.vt.us>; Castonguay, Josh <Josh.Castonguay@greenmountainpower.com>; Ancel, Charlotte <Charlotte.Ancel@greenmountainpower.com>
Subject: Digester Support Data -- see attached maps --- solid waste, manure, and sewage/septage fuel sources
Importance: High

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 10:19 AM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Springer, Darren; Lueders-Dumont, Tim
Subject: As Coal Prospects Decline, a Colorado Town Reconsiders Marijuana

nytimes.com

As Coal Prospects Decline, a Colorado Town Reconsiders Marijuana

Jack Healy March 23, 2016

HOTCHKISS, Colo. — This mountain town of coal miners and organic farmers wasted no time in saying no to marijuana. After Colorado's 2012 vote legalizing marijuana, local leaders concerned about crime and the character of their tranquil downtown twice voted to ban the recreational and medical pot shops springing up in other towns.

But then coal crumbled. One mine here in the North Fork Valley has shut down amid a wave of coal bankruptcies and slowdowns, and another has announced that it will go dark. The closings added to a landscape of layoffs and economic woes concussing mining-dependent towns from West Virginia to Wyoming. And as Hotchkiss searches for a new economic lifeline, some people are asking: What about marijuana?

"If we could get it legalized right now, we could create some jobs, and we need the tax revenue," said Thomas Wills, a town trustee who runs a used-book store and supports allowing some marijuana stores. "Downtown's not going to be all flashing green crosses and dancing marijuana leaves. You can make it as unobtrusive as you want."

Next month, Hotchkiss will vote on whether to undo its ban and welcome marijuana shops and the traffic and taxes that could come with them. With cannabis sales soaring to nearly \$1 billion across Colorado, and big states such as California poised to embrace legalization, wary towns like Hotchkiss are looking at the economics of marijuana and starting to reconsider.

"It's an evolving discussion in a lot of communities," said Kevin Bommer, deputy director of the Colorado Municipal League, which tracks local debates on the issue. Six Colorado towns are voting in April on whether to scrap their prohibitions on marijuana stores, and in January, another narrowly voted to lift a moratorium and approve wholesale marijuana growers.

Though 23 states and the District of Columbia now allow some forms of recreational or medical marijuana, legalization is still a checkerboard, with marijuana retailers and cultivations clustered in big cities such as Seattle or Washington and scattered randomly through rural areas.

As scores of cities and counties banned marijuana sales, they cited worries about public safety, property values, youth use and the image problems that might come with becoming their county's go-to source for legal marijuana. Others passed moratoriums to wait and see how legalization unfolded in neighboring towns that plunged in.

"There were a lot of questions and unknowns," said Mayor Joel Benson of Buena Vista, a town in Colorado's central mountains that allows medical marijuana and is weighing whether to allow recreational sales. "It was really just to give people time to wrestle with the ins and outs."

Places like Pierce County, south of Seattle, discovered that simply banning dispensaries did not keep out marijuana. In February 2015, the police shut down an illegal grow house next to a day care center in Gig Harbor. The County Council passed a series of what it called tight regulations, and in December repealed its ban on marijuana sales and production in unincorporated corners of the county.

Here in Hotchkiss, the push to allow marijuana has touched off conversations about the soul of the town. It is tucked into a sunny mountain valley draped with peach orchards and vineyards. But the coal mines up the valley were an economic mainstay for generations, and people say that tourism and boutique agriculture cannot replace good-paying mining jobs. Unemployment here in Delta County is 5.3 percent higher than the statewide average of 3.2 percent.

"People have been tightening the belt or just plain moving away," said Robbie Winne, who runs the Rose, a secondhand clothing shop along Hotchkiss's main street. She said she supported the marijuana plan as a way to entice more visitors, or at least capture some traffic as people passed through on their way to ski towns.

Ms. Winne said that although pot was no panacea, at least it could perk up business and tax revenue. Colorado collected about \$135 million in taxes and fees from marijuana sales last year, and small governments have taken in millions from local sales taxes. In the tiny town of DeBeque, near the Utah border, officials told Colorado Public Radio that they were considering using the tax money from marijuana to start a scholarship fund or repair streets, curbs and gutters.

Wendell Koontz, a coal mine geologist and the mayor of Hotchkiss, said the price was not worth it. He said he worried about whether the three-person marshal's office and small town staff could deal with the complications of new marijuana businesses, and about the reputation of a place that proclaims itself the "Friendliest Town Around."

"There's a concern that kind of atmosphere could be lost," he said. "And once it's gone, it's gone."

Others say it is time for a bold move. Mary Hockenbery, a New Mexico transplant who runs an eclectic art gallery in an old church, has been a leading voice behind the initiative. Coal is not coming back, she said, and though she and others have tried to spruce up the main street with cosmetic measures like new flower boxes, the town needs more.

"We're dying," she said. "This town needs an infusion of cash. Anything will help."

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:57 PM
To: Copans, Jon
Cc: Springer, Darren; Conor T. Kennedy; 'Diane Lanpher'; Warren Coleman; Dylan Giambatista; Castonguay, Josh; Ancel, Charlotte
Subject: Digester Support Data -- see attached maps --- solid waste, manure, and sewage/septage fuel sources
Attachments: Vergennes30MinWithFarmInfo2.pdf; Marshfield15MileWithFarmInfo2.pdf
Importance: High

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:08 PM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Springer, Darren; Lueders-Dumont, Tim
Subject: As Coal's Future Grows Murkier, Banks Pull Financing

nytimes.com

As Coal's Future Grows Murkier, Banks Pull Financing

Michael Corkery March 20, 2016

On Wednesday the world's largest private-sector coal company, [Peabody Energy](#), said that it might have to file for bankruptcy protection, following a path already taken by three of the nation's other large coal companies.

Peabody has been trying to sell three of its mines in Colorado and New Mexico to raise cash. But the sale to Bowie Resource Partners appears to have stalled amid the difficult financing environment. Bowie did not comment. A Peabody spokesman said the company "stands ready to complete the sale of assets to Bowie."

Coal, like railroads, steel and other engines of the nation's industrial expansion in the 19th and early 20th centuries, helped drive Wall Street's profits for generations. More than a century later, the coal industry is in a free fall and the banks are pulling away.

"Given the state of the coal industry today, I think Mr. Morgan himself might make the same decision," said Jean Strouse, a biographer of the banker.

Some banks say they are trying to do their part to curtail climate change by moving away from coal projects and financing ventures that produce less carbon. But bankers also say there is a more basic reason for the shift: Lending to coal companies is too risky and could ultimately prove unprofitable.

Coal companies are being squeezed by competition from less expensive energy sources like natural gas and by stiffer regulations — pressures that show no signs of letting up.

As a result, even the most secure loans — like those made to companies emerging from bankruptcy, known as debtor-in-possession loans — are increasingly off limits for many banks, according to bankers and industry lawyers.

And it is not just big banks. Even many more daring investors like hedge funds and [private equity](#) firms, which are usually eager to pounce on industries in distress, are shying away from coal because of deep uncertainty about its future.

It is a starkly different scene in the oil industry, where investors are raising hundreds of millions of dollars to snap up the debt and equity of troubled companies that are struggling with an oversupply of oil. Despite the immediate stress, many investors expect the oil glut will burn off by next year and prices will rebound.

But in the coal country of Appalachia, it is unclear whether many unprofitable mines can ever make money again.

“There is certainly no \$40 billion titan looking to make a big play in coal right now,” said Marshall Huebner, co-leader of the insolvency and restructuring practice at Davis Polk & Wardwell who has represented several coal companies in recent bankruptcies.

Despite the challenges, the coal industry still powers roughly a third of the nation’s electricity. Industry officials say the business will eventually bounce back, once supplies burn off and demand for coal rebounds in places like China.

“Coal is part of our future, and I think the banks are taking a shortsighted view,” said Mike Duncan, president of the American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, an industry group. “They are ignoring a huge market and buying into rhetoric that just doesn’t work.”

Environmental groups, meanwhile, are hoping the banks’ reluctance will hasten the collapse of coal. Groups like the Rainforest Action Network have been pressuring banks for months to reduce coal lending.

“With much of the world committed to stabilizing the climate, we need the banks to follow quickly with measures to end coal financing altogether,” said Ben Collins, a senior campaigner at Rainforest Action Network.

But the banks’ retreat could inflict collateral damage on an industry that employs tens of thousands of workers and needs financing not only to keep operating, but also to clean up coal mines after they close. If coal companies are unable to pay for the mine reclamation, taxpayers could be on the hook for the cleanup costs.

As big American lenders pull back, a few foreign banks, like Deutsche Bank, have been willing to step in, industry officials say.

In its latest annual corporate responsibility report, Deutsche Bank said it was phasing out financing for projects that employ so-called mountaintop removal mining, which environmentalists say is particularly harmful. But the bank’s policy statement did not commit to the type of broad reduction in coal exposure that many American lenders have made in recent months.

In a statement, a bank spokeswoman said that Deutsche Bank is one of the “most prominent banks when it comes to clean energy financing.” She added that the bank “has very strict guidelines governing any financing decisions. We conduct a thorough and detailed analysis on a case-by-case approach, drawing on a deep understanding of wider socioeconomic and environmental trends.”

Even most American banks are not cutting off funding to the industry overnight, saying that for the moment coal remains a major source of energy, particularly outside the United States.

JPMorgan, for instance, is halting financing of new coal-fired plants in wealthy nations like the United States, but will continue to lend to such plants in the developing world, where in some places the coal market is still thriving. To receive financing, however, these plants need to use certain environmentally sound technologies, according the bank’s new policy.

Changes to the coal lending policy at Bank of America have created tension between senior leadership and rank-and-file bankers.

Senior leaders wanted the bank's energy lending strategy to reflect "a transition from a high-carbon to a low-carbon economy," said James Mahoney, who oversees public policy issues at the bank and worked on the new coal policy. It is part of Bank of America's current effort at "responsible growth" — which entails not taking undue risks like lending to a troubled industry, Mr. Mahoney said.

But the shift has been uncomfortable for some of the bankers serving the coal industry.

"It put them in a difficult position to say to the companies they have worked with for years, 'We are pulling back,' " Mr. Mahoney said. "It runs counter to everything we do as a client-focused company."

Speaking at an environmental conference at the United Nations in January, Bank of America's chief executive, Brian T. Moynihan, acknowledged the internal tensions around coal but said that the bank was trying to pull back gradually from the sector.

"When you have real clients involved, these decisions get difficult," Mr. Moynihan said. "But I think the view of the people working on it is: We have to help people make the transition."

That transition seemed to accelerate last week with the warning from Peabody that it would miss \$71 million in interest payments.

One of Peabody's best hopes for avoiding bankruptcy, analysts said, was the potential sale of three mines to Bowie Natural Resources.

Bowie is a rare breed of coal company. It has been expanding its operations, focusing largely on Utah, a state that still relies primarily on coal to generate electricity. Still, Bowie in recent weeks has apparently had trouble raising the full \$650 million in debt to acquire the mines.

In many debt deals, banks would cover the shortfall. But Deutsche Bank and Citigroup agreed only to make their best effort to raise the debt for Bowie. The banks did not commit any of their own money, as a traditional underwriter might do.

Those best efforts might not be enough.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:00 PM
To: TRE - VPIC Inquiries
Cc: Springer, Darren
Subject: Is It Game Over for Coal? | New Republic

<https://newrepublic.com/article/131738/game-coal>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 12:58 PM
To: Gray, Laura; Springer, Darren
Cc: Austin Davis; Eric Becker
Subject: Is It Game Over for Coal? | New Republic

<https://newrepublic.com/article/131738/game-coal>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:28 AM
To: Copans, Jon
Cc: Springer, Darren; Conor T. Kennedy; 'Diane Lanpher'; Warren Coleman; Dylan Giambatista
Subject: FW: Digester Support Data
Attachments: Vergennes30MinWithFarmInfo.pdf
Importance: High

From: Castonguay, Josh [mailto:Josh.Castonguay@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:15 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Ancel, Charlotte
Subject: FW: Digester Support Data

James, hot off the press – this is for Vergennes area – will get same loaded for Marshfield area.

Mishaan, Jessica

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

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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)**

[Register Now](#)

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

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 4:49 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: 21st Century Bio Gas Clean Water/Renewable Energy Solutions

Thanks!

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 4:32 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Conor T. Kennedy; John Campbell; Castonguay, Josh; Powell, Mary; Dostis, Robert; Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: 21st Century Bio Gas Clean Water/Renewable Energy Solutions

Let me check in with agency folks and see if they have made progress

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 15, 2016, at 4:20 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Team,
Anything I can be doing to help us meet our deadline tomorrow?

Ehlers

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 8:27 AM
To: Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: James Ehlers; John Campbell; Castonguay, Josh; Powell, Mary; Dostis, Robert; Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: 21st Century Bio Gas Clean Water/Renewable Energy Solutions

Let's aim for a week

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2016, at 8:20 AM, Conor T. Kennedy <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

That sounds great. When do you hope to hear back from folks? Week? Two weeks?

Conor Kennedy

Deputy Chief of Staff

President Pro Tempore John Campbell

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/>

From: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 9, 2016 8:09 AM

To: Conor T. Kennedy

Cc: James Ehlers; John Campbell; Castonguay, Josh; Powell, Mary; Dostis, Robert; Erika Wolffing

Subject: Re: 21st Century Bio Gas Clean Water/Renewable Energy Solutions

Thanks Conor,

I'm ready to share the document with our folks now. I'll plan to loop in Agency of Agriculture, ANR, Public Service, and BGS and ask that they review the document and work with this group to move us forward.

Sound good?

Thanks

Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2016, at 7:39 AM, Conor T. Kennedy <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Hi Everyone-

I think it will be useful to setup a rough timeline on when we would like to accomplish certain goals. We should begin thinking about our next meeting and the information that will be needed in order to move forward effectively/efficiently.

Darren, what are you thinking for timeline as far as looping in different agencies and staff? In the document, 21st Century Waste Management Initiative, there are key "open questions" and I believe that at some point we will need to make certain decisions regarding scope in order to move forward within the next few months. While we may be unable to achieve all the goals in the proposal, there are many possibilities that Senator Campbell believes are achievable.

I look forward to hearing everyone's thoughts. Thanks!

-Conor

Conor Kennedy

Deputy Chief of Staff

President Pro Tempore John Campbell

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/>

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>

Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2016 5:01 AM

To: 'Springer, Darren'

Cc: Conor T. Kennedy; John Campbell; 'Castonguay, Josh'; 'Powell, Mary'; 'Dostis, Robert'

Subject: RE: 21st Century Bio Gas Clean Water/Renewable Energy Solutions

Darren,

Fundamentally, it is ready. We will be filling in numbers all along the way. In order to keep things moving given the number of players that will need to be involved to pull this off, unless GMP thinks otherwise, it is my recommendation that we proceed calling this version 1.0. Thoughts?

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]

Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 8:18 PM

To: James Ehlers

Cc: ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us; John Campbell; Castonguay, Josh; Powell, Mary; Dostis, Robert

Subject: Re: 21st Century Bio Gas Clean Water/Renewable Energy Solutions

Thanks James,

On my end, if folks feel it is ready, I'd like to share concept with some of our agencies and get staff working with this team to move it forward.

Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 29, 2016, at 3:35 PM, James Ehlers
<james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Conor, John, and Darren,

The majority of the open questions, in my experience, involve state policy/regs when we discuss human waste, post-consumer food waste, and Ag viability. Scientifically, there is very little impeding the concept as a combined anaerobic digester and pyrolysis system does more to treat for prions and emerging contaminants than virtually all other current waste disposal methods (and without the benefit of producing locally, distributed RE). Again, people with a slew of letters after their names can substantiate this.

John and Darren,

What would you like of me next?

I will work with Josh to get an estimate of available feedstock. Ag officials could provide number of livestock in a particular radius. Health officials can inform us of what the current regs are so that we may bring those into the 21st Century, as well. Solid Waste officials should have numbers or at least per capita estimates within a given radius.

From: Dostis, Robert

[mailto:Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 3:47 PM

To: ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us

Cc: darren.springer@state.vt.us; James Ehlers (james@champlain.ngo); Castonguay, Josh; Diane Lanpher (dlanpher@leg.state.vt.us)

Subject: 21st Century Bio Gas

Conor et al,

Per our last meeting attached is a draft action plan for the bio-gas project with maps of the two towns we discussed. Clearly there's a lot of work that needs to be done to assess the feasibility. You'll note that we expanded the list of possible locations to include Rutland. Feedback welcome.

Thanks,

Robert

Robert Dostis
Green Mountain Power
802-279-1351 cell
802-655-8412 office
dostis@greenmountainpower.com

<image001.jpg>

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 4:11 PM
To: Kamman, Neil; Vose, Sarah
Cc: Schuren, Alyssa; Chen, Harry; Springer, Darren
Subject: Drones To Test The Waters

FYI

http://www.wateronline.com/doc/drones-to-test-the-waters-0001?sectionCode=NewsFeaturedItem&templateCode=Single&user=2821394&source=nl%3A45166&utm_source=et_10759433&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=WOL_2016-03-15&utm_term=F3F9B512-37EB-443A-B707-0D6C08049D8B&utm_content=Drones%2BTo%2BTest%2BThe%2BWaters

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 2:22 PM
To: Powell, Mary; Springer, Darren; Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: Biogas in Central VT FW: Bonnie

FYI

From: Bonnie Waninger [mailto:waninger@cvregion.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 1:55 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Bram Towbin
Subject: RE: Bonnie

James, thank you for taking the time to meet with me today.

I enjoy learning about new ideas and technologies, and assisting our communities to find paths forward. I'm looking forward to reading the white paper when it is ready for distribution.

Thanks again for the conversation.

Bonnie

Bonnie Waninger
Executive Director
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
29 Main Street, Suite 4
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Phone: (802) 229-0389
Web: www.centralvtplanning.org

CVRPC is hiring a Finance and Office Manager. The position advertisement and job description is available at www.centralvtplanning.org.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 12:40 PM
To: Bonnie Waninger
Cc: Bram Towbin
Subject: Bonnie

Bonnie,
Thank you for your time. I look forward to working with you.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 12:51 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Gray, Laura
Subject: FW: BC Water News: East -- Pollutant gone from water in Hoosick Falls, N.Y., governor says

From: BC Water News [mailto:East@mail.bcwaternews.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 11:25 AM
To: james@mychamplain.net
Subject: BC Water News: East -- Pollutant gone from water in Hoosick Falls, N.Y., governor says

[VIEW THIS EMAIL IN YOUR BROWSER](#)



Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Good morning, James



More than six weeks after declaring an environmental emergency in the upstate village of Hoosick Falls, New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo made his first visit Sunday, announcing that a new filter system had successfully cleared a toxic chemical known as PFOA from the municipal water supply. Cuomo is joined by New Hampshire Gov. Maggie Hassan and Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin in urging the EPA to issue PFOA guidelines for safe drinking water.

 [OPEN TODAY'S EDITION](#)

Some other stories making news across the East:

- \$4.24M verdict issued against Pa. gas driller
- Should water quality reports be clearer on safety?
- DEP plans revisions to N.J. flood mitigation, water protection rules
- Challenge to stormwater permits denied by Maryland's highest court
- Palmetto Pipeline plans stuck in limbo



Paulding County

BC WATERJOBS

Senior Engineer

Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District, Escondido, CA

Plant Maintenance Superintendent

City of Modesto, CA



VIEW ALL JOBS

New Readers

Today's new subscribers include: **Chelsea Mattioda**, community manager, Cleantech Open Northeast; **Wayne Gutowski**, system operation technician, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Have a great day!

BC Water News Team
Brown and Caldwell

Special Editions

1Water
WEFTEC 2014
StormCon 2014
Utility Management
• Infrastructure
• Optimization
• Workforce
College Edition: WaterU

10 Minutes With

David Gutierrez
Glen Gerads
Bobbi Larson
Theresa Connor

Specialty Pages

Field Notes
Water Agencies

Spread the word about *BC Water News* — help a friend or colleague subscribe, or send along your favorite videos, meetings or news tips. If you miss an issue of *BC Water News: East*, please let us know. To ensure that our daily e-mails reach you, please add east@mail.bcwaternews.com to the Contacts list in your address book.

This email was sent to you by: Brown and Caldwell
201 N. Civic Drive Walnut Creek, CA 94596
US

You are currently subscribed as: james@mychamplain.net

[Manage Subscription](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Global Unsubscribe](#) | [BC Water News](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [LinkedIn](#)



Mishaan, Jessica

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2016 12:34 PM
To: Gray, Laura; Austin Davis; Coriell, Scott; Springer, Darren
Subject: Coal miners protest in northeastern China, claiming unpaid wages | Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-coal-protests-idUSKCN0WF0JH>

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 4:26 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Dylan Giambatista; Conor T. Kennedy; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; 'John Campbell'
Subject: (Michigan Design Council) Launches First Annual Michigan Design Prize – A Water Based Challenge

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

From: glin-announce-request@mailman.great-lakes.net [mailto:glin-announce-request@mailman.great-lakes.net] On Behalf Of info@michigandesigncouncil.org
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 1:43 PM
To: glin-announce@mailman.great-lakes.net
Subject: [GLIN==>] MDC (Michigan Design Council) Launches First Annual Michigan Design Prize – A Water Based Challenge

A unique competition designed to recognize industrial designers (and budding designers) who live and work across Michigan.

The MDC, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the growth and retention of industrial designers in the state of Michigan, launched the first annual Michigan Design Prize at the beginning of this year.

The Michigan Design Prize is an annual competition celebrating exceptional Michigan industrial design talent. Participants tackle a singular design challenge linked to Michigan and larger societal issues. This year's challenge: Design a physical product solution that allows people to safely enjoy the benefits of Michigan's diverse water resources.

Applicants can address the challenge from a variety of angles, all of which are outlined on the website, and include such topics as: water quality, swimming recreation, and water and industry, just to name a few.

The Michigan Design Prize is open to individuals and teams. Participation is at the K-12, collegiate, and professional levels. All participants must be Michigan residents, students attending an accredited college or university (as well as international students with valid student visas) in the State of Michigan.

"Given Michigan is home to twenty percent of the world's fresh water, we are hoping to leverage our tremendous industrial design strength and target product design and innovation in the area of water. This unique design competition is an exciting opportunity to spotlight the vast industrial design talent here in Michigan and we are looking forward to evaluating the entries and awarding the winner in the fall of 2016", says Jeff DeBoer, MDC chairman.

Registration is now open. An application form, competition guidelines, and awards information is available on the MDC web site (www.michigandesigncouncil.org).

ABOUT THE MDC

The MDC, a standing advisory board focused on idea vetting, planning and implementation, was organized and incorporated in 2015. The group engages in activities in education, public relations, and business/professional development through a variety of projects.

For more information contact:
Michelle Zurowick
info@michigandesigncouncil.org
PO Box 652
Walled Lake, MI 48390-0652

***** glin-announce is hosted by the Great Lakes Information Network
(GLIN):

<http://www.glin.net>

To search the archive: <https://glc-lists.merit.edu/sympa/info/glin-announce/>

All views and opinions presented above are solely those of the author or attributed source and do not necessarily reflect those of GLIN or the Great Lakes Commission.

To unsubscribe from this listserv, please go to:
<https://glc-lists.merit.edu/sympa/info/glin-announce>
and select "Unsubscribe"

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: NY GOVERNOR CUOMO, VT GOVERNOR SHUMLIN AND NH GOVERNOR HASSAN URGE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW AND ISSUE NEW PFOA GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

From: Springer, Darren

Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 9:45 AM

To: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>

Subject: Re: NY GOVERNOR CUOMO, VT GOVERNOR SHUMLIN AND NH GOVERNOR HASSAN URGE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW AND ISSUE NEW PFOA GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

It's all about making sure committee sets expeditious date for report back before session ends...

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2016, at 9:34 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Let me know if there is anything I can do

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]

Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 9:34 AM

To: James Ehlers

Subject: Re: NY GOVERNOR CUOMO, VT GOVERNOR SHUMLIN AND NH GOVERNOR HASSAN URGE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW AND ISSUE NEW PFOA GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

Still haggling

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2016, at 9:30 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Enough is enough!!

Where are we on the letter this morning?

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 2:16 PM

To: james@mychamplain.net

Subject: Fwd: NY GOVERNOR CUOMO, VT GOVERNOR SHUMLIN AND NH GOVERNOR HASSAN URGE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW AND ISSUE NEW PFOA GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Coriell, Scott"
<Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>
Date: March 10, 2016 at 2:14:43 PM EST
To: "Coriell, Scott" <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: NY GOVERNOR CUOMO, VT GOVERNOR SHUMLIN AND NH GOVERNOR HASSAN URGE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW AND ISSUE NEW PFOA GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

FYI.

From: Press Office [<mailto:Press.Office@exec.ny.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 2:06 PM
To: Press Office <Press.Office@exec.ny.gov>
Subject: NY GOVERNOR CUOMO, VT GOVERNOR SHUMLIN AND NH GOVERNOR HASSAN URGE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW AND ISSUE NEW PFOA GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

<image002.jpg>

For Immediate Release: 3/10/2016

GOVERNOR

NY GOVERNOR CUOMO, VT GOVERNOR SHUMLIN AND NH GOVERNOR HASSAN URGE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW AND ISSUE NEW PFOA GUIDELINES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

Governors also call for full federal funding of programs to support state investments in modern and safe drinking water upgrades

*Governors to EPA Administrator McCarthy:
"PFOA contamination is not a state problem or a regional problem – it's a national problem that requires federal guidelines and a consistent, science-based approach."*

Today, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo of New York, Governor Peter Shumlin of Vermont, and Governor Maggie Hassan of New Hampshire officially requested that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conduct a review of the best available science regarding perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), in order to assess and ensure the safety of drinking water exposed to the contaminant. Additionally, the Governors called for full federal funding of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the Clean Water Revolving Fund, which are critical tools for supporting state efforts to upgrade drinking water infrastructure.

These requests, which were made in a letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, can be viewed [here](#). The text of that letter is also available below:

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

We write as Governors whose states are all in the midst of addressing local drinking water contamination involving the federally unregulated chemical perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). We are deeply concerned for the health and well-being of our communities grappling with this contaminant. In New York and New Hampshire, tests have indicated the presence of this chemical in public drinking water systems, and in New York and Vermont the chemical has been detected in several private wells. It is clear that PFOA contamination is not a state problem or a regional problem – it's a national problem that requires federal guidelines and a consistent, science-based approach.

The EPA's PFOA health advisory was recently lowered in one village in New York by the EPA's Regional Office, though the higher advisory remains in the rest of the country. We urge the EPA, under your leadership, to expeditiously review the best available science on this contaminant, and provide uniform guidance to states that our health and environmental officials can use in assessing the safety of our drinking water. In addition, we seek your help and support for additional drinking water testing and analysis in

communities exposed to PFOA.

We also are all strong supporters of full federal funding for water infrastructure. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund is a critical tool for states to invest in modern and safe drinking water upgrades. Unfortunately, over the last six years funding for this program, and its companion Clean Water Revolving Fund, have been flat or declining. This comes even as the American Society of Civil Engineers points out massive gaps between our water infrastructure needs and our investment. We should invest more in both the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the Clean Water Revolving Fund, and we look forward to working with you to make that happen.

We respectfully request your personal attention to the challenges created by PFOA contamination in our states. Consistency, accuracy, and uniformity are paramount. We look forward to your response and assistance as we work to identify the polluters responsible for this contamination, and hold them accountable for their actions. It is unacceptable to us that any community should have to be concerned about the safety of their drinking water. Families in our states are worried about potentially tragic short and long-term health impacts, not to mention the potential loss in property values for homes in affected areas. It has been our priority to ensure that residents are being provided clean and safe water immediately, and that our infrastructure be modernized to eliminate these concerns in the future.

Thank you,

###

Additional news available at www.governor.ny.gov
New York State | Executive Chamber
press.office@exec.ny.gov | 518.474.8418

Mishaan, Jessica

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

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Berry, Tom (Leahy) <Tom_Berry@leahy.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 11:04 AM
To: James Ehlers; Nelson, Jenny (Sanders); Fowler, Mark; Thomas, Katie (Sanders); Twigg, George; Pero, Haley (Sanders); Tracy, John (Leahy)
Cc: Bill Howland; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Farm Bureau Loses Case with EPA -- 20 percent of all cropland removed from production and converted to grassland or forest

Thanks. Yes, it was a very significant decision (though I guess that some may have a different take than the PA Farm Bureau). Thanks for sending.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 10:55 AM
To: Nelson, Jenny (Sanders) <Jenny_Nelson@sanders.senate.gov>; Berry, Tom (Leahy) <Tom_Berry@leahy.senate.gov>; Fowler, Mark <Mark.Fowler@mail.house.gov>; Thomas, Katie (Sanders) <Katie_Thomas@sanders.senate.gov>; Twigg, George <George.Twigg@mail.house.gov>; Pero, Haley (Sanders) <Haley_Pero@sanders.senate.gov>; Tracy, John (Leahy) <John_Tracy@leahy.senate.gov>
Cc: Bill Howland <WHowland@lcbp.org>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>
Subject: Farm Bureau Loses Case with EPA -- 20 percent of all cropland removed from production and converted to grassland or forest

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 10:51 AM
To: ckilian@clf.org; Elena Mihaly; Anthony Iarrapino
Cc: 'DiPietro, Laura'; chuck.ross@vermont.gov; Deb Markowitz; Curt Spalding; 'Stephen Perkins'; rstarr@leg.state.vt.us; Carolyn Partridge; ddeen@ctriver.org; Conor T. Kennedy; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; Kate Webb
Subject: Farm Bureau Loses Case with EPA -- 20 percent of all cropland removed from production and converted to grassland or forest

In order to meet its TMDL goals, EPA has projected that roughly 20 percent of all cropland in the Chesapeake Bay watershed will have to be removed from food production and be converted to grassland or forest.

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)



Lake Champlain
International
Clean Water • Healthy Fish • Happy People

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 3:53 PM
To: Springer, Darren
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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Gray, Laura; Austin Davis
Cc: Coriell, Scott; Springer, Darren
Subject: The legislation makes Oregon the first state to commit to ditching coal completely.

http://www.enn.com/top_stories/article/49409

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 6:26 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: Stanford Researchers Develop Financing Framework To Fund Critical Freshwater Projects

http://www.wateronline.com/doc/stanford-researchers-develop-financing-framework-critical-freshwater-projects-0001?sectionCode=NewsFeaturedItem&templateCode=Single&user=2821394&source=nl%3A45038&utm_source=et_10759433&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=WOL_2016-03-01&utm_term=F3F9B512-37EB-443A-B707-0D6C08049D8B&utm_content=Stanford%2BResearchers%2BDevelop%2BFinancing%2BFramework%2BTo%2BFund%2BCritical%2BFreshwater%2BProjects

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Dostis, Robert <Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 3:47 PM
To: ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us
Cc: Springer, Darren; James Ehlers (james@champlain.ngo); Castonguay, Josh; Diane Lanpher (dianpher@leg.state.vt.us)
Subject: 21st Century Bio Gas
Attachments: 21st Century Waste Management Initiative.pdf; Marshfield15Mile.pdf; Vergennes30Min.pdf

Conor et al,

Per our last meeting attached is a draft action plan for the bio-gas project with maps of the two towns we discussed. Clearly there's a lot of work that needs to be done to assess the feasibility. You'll note that we expanded the list of possible locations to include Rutland. Feedback welcome.

Thanks,

Robert

Robert Dostis
Green Mountain Power
802-279-1351 cell
802-655-8412 office
dostis@greenmountainpower.com



Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 4:52 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: Arsenic in Derby; Uranium in Ludlow; Atrazine in Manchester; Cyanide in Dorset; E. Coli in Highgate; Coliform in Cabot, Milton, Richmond, Waterbury, Stowe -- list goes on --- Water Quality Compliance Reports --- 2003-2014

Importance: High

Who's getting the "flint job" in Vermont?

680 violations in 2014.

16 water systems with 29 violations that have cease operation as a public water system since January 1, 2014.

17 systems were referred to CED Enforcement Division in 2014 for enforcement action.

Here is just a sample ... links to full annual reports below. What is abysmal is for how long these issues having been taking place at some facilities.

Check out the coliform and E. coli violations ... It's not the burrito you ate.

Vio Type: 02

Vio Name: MCL, AVERAGE

Analyte/Group Code 1005

Analyte/Group Name: ARSENIC

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005625	BEEBE PLAIN WATER SYSTEM	A	142	C	7/1/2014
VT0005625	BEEBE PLAIN WATER SYSTEM	A	142	C	4/1/2014
VT0005625	BEEBE PLAIN WATER SYSTEM	A	142	C	1/1/2014

Number of Systems: 1

Number of Violations: 3

Population: 142

Vio Type: 02

Vio Name: MCL, AVERAGE

Analyte/Group Code 4006

Analyte/Group Name: COMBINED URANIUM

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	10/1/2013

VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	7/1/2014
VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	4/1/2014
VT0005324	OKEMO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS	A	180	C	1/1/2014
Number of Systems: 1		Number of Violations: 4		Population: 180	

Vio Type: 03 Vio Name: MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR
 Analyte/Group Code 2050 Analyte/Group Name: ATRAZINE

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005023	MANCHESTER MHP	A	100	C	4/1/2014
Number of Systems: 1		Number of Violations: 1		Population: 100	

Vio Type: 03 Vio Name: MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR
 Analyte/Group Code CCYN Analyte/Group Name: CDS FOR CYANIDE

WSID	WS Name	Active	Population	System Type	Compliance Period
VT0005104	BLOOMFIELD WATER SYSTEM	A	50	C	10/1/2013
VT0005152	ELMORE WATER DISTRICT	A	32	C	10/1/2013
VT0005153	HYDE PARK FIRE DISTRICT 1	A	275	C	10/1/2013
VT0005623	SNOW MOUNTAIN VILLAGE	A	210	C	4/1/2014
VT0008318	JK ADAMS COMPANY	A	30	NTNC	4/1/2014
Number of Systems: 5		Number of Violations: 5		Population: 597	

[2014 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2013 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2012 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2011 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2010 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2009 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2008 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2007 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2006 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2005 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2004 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

[2003 Annual Water Quality Compliance Report](#)

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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>
Date: February 16, 2016 at 10:04:41 AM EST
To: "Coriell, Scott" <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>
Date: February 16, 2016 at 10:03:13 AM EST
To: "Gray, Laura" <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: EDITORIAL | How the Coal Industry Flattened the Mountains of Appalachia

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."

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 2:56 PM
To: Powell, Mary; Springer, Darren; 'Dostis, Robert'
Cc: 'John Campbell'
Subject: And we think we are the advanced economy --- Poo power: fuelling schools and teaching students a lesson | Teacher Network | The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/2016/feb/11/poo-power-fuelling-schools-and-teaching-students-a-lesson>

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Diane Lanpher <dianelanpher@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 2:08 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Springer, Darren; Dostis, Robert; Warren Coleman; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: Re: Reminder, meeting tomorrow, 16 Feb, 1:30 at Governor's Ceremonial Office

Thank you. I will an to attend.
Diane

Rep. Diane Lanpher
Addison-3
House Appropriations

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 15, 2016, at 1:36 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

The below link identifies every WWTF in the Basin, and includes performance history, upgrades needed for future compliance, and amount of sludge (fuel, in my world) generated. Of the 59 WWTF in Vermont discharging into Lake Champlain, 27 have new allocations as a result of the draft TMDLs. 18 of these require major upgrades to meet the new allocations. (See link below.) That is of economic development consequence, as well, not merely environmental nor legal.

This is what I would start with when crossing with grid needs/future demands and current transport infrastructure when assessing site selection, if I were left to do this on my own.

Lake Champlain Phosphorous Removal: Technologies and Cost for Point Source Phosphorus Removal - lc-wastewater-treatment-facilities-feasibility-study.pdf
<http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-09/documents/lc-wastewater-treatment-facilities-feasibility-study.pdf>

FYI, John Hollar is interested in learning more and potentially being involved in future discussions should you all decide that the greater Cabot region is a priority.

Pax

Ehlers

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 10:28 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: Darren--- Branding Tradition: a Bittersweet Tale of Capitalism at Work

“Governments at all levels should put an end to the subsidies and tax credits that make technology and energy artificially cheap while making job creation artificially expensive. Without those supports industrial syrup production would not appear to be more ‘efficient’, and traditional, labor-intensive syrup would actually be cheaper. Those same systemic supports are a major reason that small farms almost everywhere are being displaced by huge monocultural farms and feedlots, local businesses by big box stores, and factory workers by robots.”

<http://www.counterpunch.org/2016/02/12/branding-tradition-a-bittersweet-tale-of-capitalism-at-work/>

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 3:59 PM
To: Carolyn Partridge
Cc: 'Bradley Young'; Porter, Louis; Markowitz, Deb; Ross, Chuck; Dylan Giambatista; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Johnson, Justin; Springer, Darren; Linda Leehman; 'Frank Stanley'; Martin, Trey; ddeen@ctriver.org; Kate Webb
Subject: Carolyn --- Microsoft PowerPoint - Fish estrogenic endocrine disrupting chemicals - W~Cary Giguere~Fish and Estrogenic Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals
Importance: High

Carolyn,

Here is some of the supporting material I promised. It is my hope that the Agency of Ag was not intentionally misleading your committee. That said the personal attacks on USFWS and LCI give some of us pause. Please consider hearing from the actual USFWS scientists he attempted to malign, as well as the VT Fish and Wildlife scientists. The prevalence of atrazine in drinking water supplies and successful past litigation involving Syngenta and its contamination of public waters should give all of us concerned about the welfare of Vermonters good reason to thoroughly review the situation. And, if the Agency of Ag acknowledges its error, it is my hope you will have them back to correct the record. The stakes on this issue are too high for us to let it rest.

Thank you, Carolyn!

James

P.S. For some reason all of the pesticide usage data in the state since 2011 for which Ag is responsible is unavailable to the public.

From: Palmer, Eric [mailto:Eric.Palmer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 12:10 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: Microsoft PowerPoint - Fish estrogenic endocrine disrupting chemicals - W~Cary Giguere~Fish and Estrogenic Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals~2-3-2016.pdf

Hi James,

I assume you have already noticed that the MSQ1 site, above Swanton Dam, had higher percentages of intersex fish and similar levels of vitellogenin compared to the MSQ2 site below the dam.

TFM is applied at the Swanton Dam, and the dam is impassible to fish, so the MSQ1 fish would have had no exposure to TFM.

Here is the slide directly from Cary Giguere's presentation. From the audio recording of his testimony it seems clear that Cary knew where the TFM application point was located.

Eric

Summary Results: Missisquo (VT Specific Data)

Site Name	Site Description	% Intersex	Intersex
MSQ1	Missisquoi River 5km Upstream Swanton Dam Swanton- Highgate	72 %	
MSQ2	Missisquoi River 6km Downstream Swanton Dam Swanton- Refuge	65 %	
MSQ3	Gander/Goose Bay @ Lake Champlain	ND	

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2016/WorkGroups/House%20Agriculture/Agricultural%20Research/W~Cary%20Giguere~Fish%20and%20Estrogenic%20Endocrine%20Disrupting%20Chemicals~2-3-2016.pdf>

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 3:15 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Cc: 'Warren Coleman'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Tuesday at 1:30

1:30 on Tuesday in the Governor's Office ... see everyone then ... thank you.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 11:54 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Warren Coleman; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Tuesday at 1? Monday won't work for one of us already.

I can host at SH in Gov office

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2016, at 10:53 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Okay 1:30 then ///

Warren?

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:52 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Warren Coleman; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Tuesday at 1? Monday won't work for one of us already.

I'm free from 1:30 to 4:30 tues

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2016, at 10:39 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Springer, Darren (Darren.Springer@vermont.gov); Warren Coleman; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Meet Monday at 1?
Importance: High

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Springer, Darren
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 11:54 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Warren Coleman; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Tuesday at 1? Monday won't work for one of us already.

I can host at SH in Gov office

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2016, at 10:53 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Okay 1:30 then ///

Warren?

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:52 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Warren Coleman; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Tuesday at 1? Monday won't work for one of us already.

I'm free from 1:30 to 4:30 tues

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2016, at 10:39 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Springer, Darren (Darren.Springer@vermont.gov); Warren Coleman; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Meet Monday at 1?
Importance: High

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director
[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Warren Coleman <warren@mmrvt.com>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 11:53 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Dostis, Robert; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Warren? RE: Tuesday at 1? Monday won't work for one of us already.

Put me down as a tentative yes. I don't know the committee schedules next week yet.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2016, at 10:52 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Everyone else can do Tuesday at 1 ... you?

From: Dostis, Robert [<mailto:Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:47 AM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: RE: Tuesday at 1? Monday won't work for one of us already.

I can do Tuesday at 1:00

Robert

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:39 AM
To: Springer, Darren; Warren Coleman; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Tuesday at 1? Monday won't work for one of us already.
Importance: High

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Springer, Darren (Darren.Springer@vermont.gov); Warren Coleman; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Meet Monday at 1?
Importance: High

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director
[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:48 AM
To: Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; Markowitz, Deb
Cc: Ross, Chuck
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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:59 AM
To: 'Collins, Penny'
Cc: Springer, Darren; Conor T. Kennedy; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us
Subject: RE: 21st Century Renewable Energy Clean Water Solution

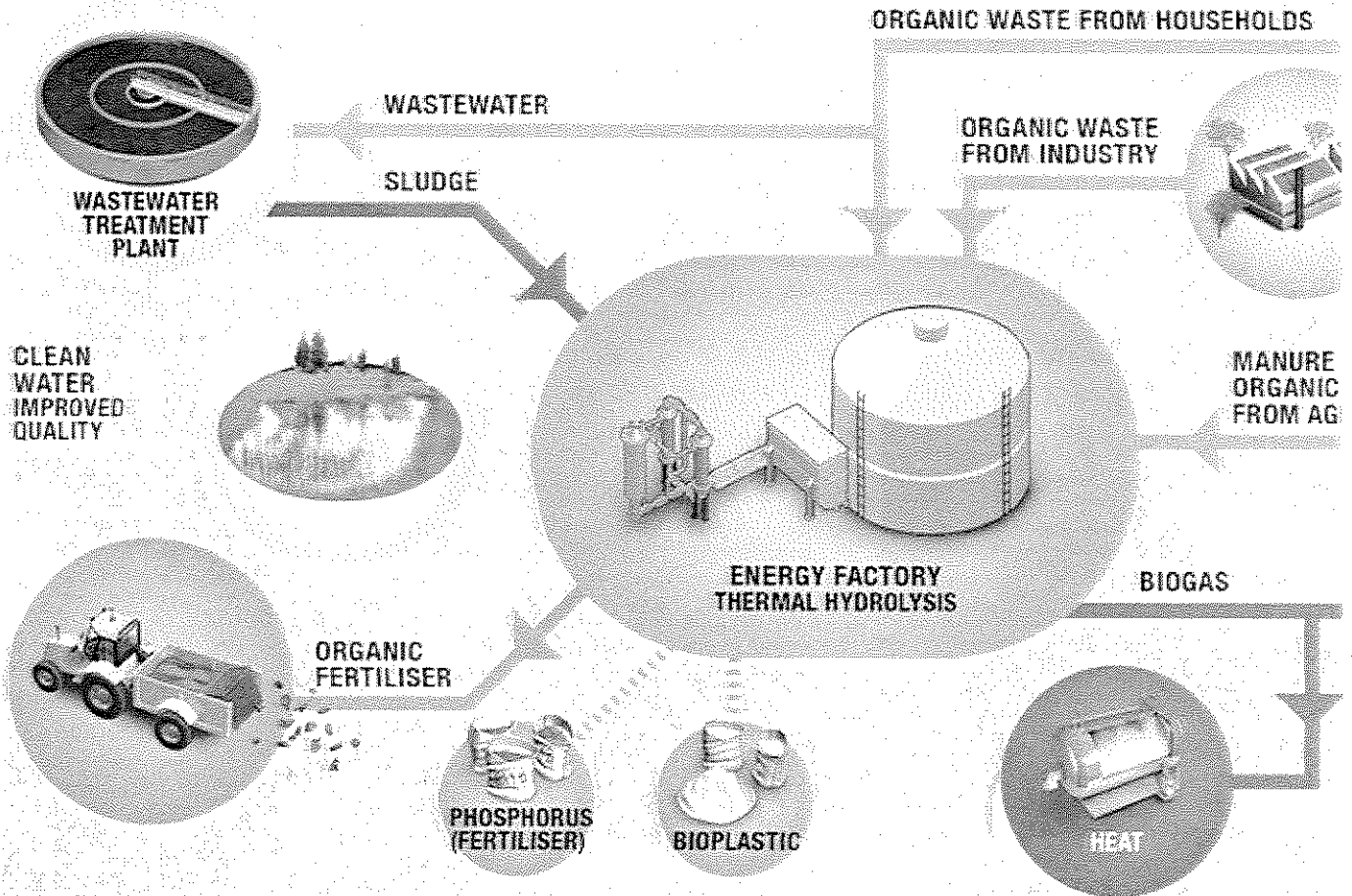
No, Penny. We will be calling in from his office.

From: Collins, Penny [mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:57 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Subject: RE: 21st Century Renewable Energy Clean Water Solution

James – are you and Senator Campbell coming to our Colchester office this morning?

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:54 AM
To: Dostis, Robert; Powell, Mary; Collins, Penny
Subject: 21st Century Renewable Energy Clean Water Solution



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.


Mishaan, Jessica

From: Warren Coleman <warren@mmrvt.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 5:43 PM
To: James Ehlers; Springer, Darren; 'Erika Wolffing'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; 'Dostis, Robert'; 'Diane Lanpher'; 'Dan Connor'
Cc: 'Collins, Penny'
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren Meet/call | public/private economic development strategies for renewable biogas from "wastewater" and solid organics

Ed Pcolar from Cabot and I will be on the call tomorrow. Thanks. --Warren

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:39 PM
To: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Erika Wolffing'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; 'Dostis, Robert'; 'Diane Lanpher'; 'Dan Connor'; Warren Coleman
Cc: 'Collins, Penny'
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren Meet/call | public/private economic development strategies for renewable biogas from "wastewater" and solid organics

Dial-In: 1-888-330-1716

Participant Code: 

Please let Penny or I know who will be participating by phone or in person. Thank you.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:30 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Collins, Penny; Erika Wolffing; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert; Diane Lanpher; Dan Connor; Warren Coleman
Subject: Re: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren Meet/call | public/private economic development strategies for renewable biogas from "wastewater" and solid organics

I'll need to join by phone, thanks James. If there is a call in number let me know.
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2016, at 11:20 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Done. Thank you, both.

Darren, please note time. If you plan on coming to Colchester, let me know. Perhaps good day to do divestment presser, as well.

Adding Diane Lanpher, Dan Connor, and Warren Coleman, in case they are interested in the discussion as they all have expressed past interest on behalf of the towns or clients they represent.

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:47 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Perfect Erika . . . Thanks so much.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:38 AM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for the dates, let's go ahead and book 10:00 on Thursday since this has been hard to nail down for everyone. Can we plan for a phone conference meeting? If I can get Senator Campbell there in person, I will do that but need to check with him. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 8:50 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Apologies for the delay . . . yesterday was a crazy board meeting day. Mary has onsite commitments in Colchester on Wed and Thurs and is out of town on Friday. If you could meet here in Colchester we can make a 10:00 on Thursday in person or by phone.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 9:05 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny

Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika and John, for your flexibility. I will endeavor to do the same.

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 7:33 PM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Unfortunately we're going to have a hectic schedule on the floor on Thursday so 1:00 is not going to work. Looking into next week, we can try to make Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday (before 11:30) morning work. I'm hoping those are large enough time blocks so that something will work for Mary's schedule. Let me know. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 3:25 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Any luck on this Erika . . . I will be unavailable much of tomorrow and was hoping to get Mary's schedule for Thursday confirmed today.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 3:10 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika.

Penny,
Can you hold the time until Erika can confirm?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:18 PM
To: James Ehlers; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Re: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

The Senate is on the floor at 1:00 on Thursdays but I will check with Senator Campbell when he is up tomorrow morning. If we have a light floor schedule on Thursday we may be able to keep him off the floor.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 12:40 PM
To: Erika Wolffing; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika, Conor, work for John?

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:35 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I'm afraid the best we might be able to do for Mary's calendar is a quick call at 1:00 on Thursday for 30 minutes. Will that work?

Penny

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:30 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Penny,
I don't think we have, either. Seems a call is the only way it will happen. I can be somewhat flexible Wednesday and Thursday this week. Nothing at all tomorrow or Friday, but I will be in Montpelier all day tomorrow.

James

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 3:35 PM
To: Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I don't think we've landed this one . . . did we agree to a call?

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:23 PM
To: Collins, Penny
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Given scheduling constraints that is likely the best option if the desire is to talk in the next couple of weeks. Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 5:03 PM, Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com> wrote:

I'm afraid dinner would be out of the question next week . . . We have our board and committee meetings then and three of the four night she's in town are already booked. If Robert agrees we could try to make a conference call work.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:00 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

How about an early supper around Williston?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:35 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for letting me know. I'm looping in James who has requested this meeting. Unfortunately because we're in the middle of the session, it's going to be very hard to get Senator Campbell up to Colchester. I'm happy to set up a conference call if that works for everyone. Let me know your thoughts. Thanks.

Erika

From: Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:04 PM
To: Dostis, Robert; Erika Wolffing
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hey Erika . . . apologies for the delay . . . crazy day! Next week is a bit of a challenge for Mary but I think I could make something work Monday afternoon at 3:00 or Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 – either would need to be at our Colchester office though.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 8:53 AM
To: Erika Wolffing
Cc: Collins, Penny
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika
I copied Penny who will help with Mary's schedule.

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 8:33 AM, Erika Wolffing <EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Thanks Robert, can you send me a few dates and times next week that would work for Mary?

From: Dostis, Robert [<mailto:Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:42 PM
To: Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika

Please disregard my last message. I miss read Mary's schedule unfortunately, this week well not work. Thanks Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2016, at 7:24 PM, Erika Wolffing
<EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Senator Campbell has time on Thursday morning and Friday morning of this week if either of those days works for others. Or we can look into next week as well.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:45 AM
To: 'Powell, Mary'; Erika Wolffing; 'Dostis, Robert'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; John Campbell; 'Diane Lanpher';
Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Mary. Sorry to have not included you from the outset, Robert!

From: Powell, Mary
[<mailto:Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 5:28 PM
To: James Ehlers; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; 'Diane Lanpher';
Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Copying Robert so he is in the loop with us!

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Monday, January 25, 2016 at 3:50 PM
To: "ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us"
<ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: Mary Powell
<mary.powell@greenmountainpower.com>, "'Springer, Darren'" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>,
"jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us"
<jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us>, 'Diane Lanpher'
<dianelanpher@hotmail.com>, "Conor T. Kennedy"
<ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Darren!

Erika,
What can you set up for us? Thank you.

James

From: Springer, Darren
[<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]

Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 4:49 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Powell, Mary; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us;
ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Diane Lanpher
Subject: Re: Mary, Darren

Hi James,
I'd be happy to meet whenever it works for you and
Senator Campbell and Mary.
Have a great weekend,
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2016, at 4:13 PM, James Ehlers
<james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Mary, Darren,
John Campbell and I spoke at length
regarding public/private partnerships
opportunities for generating
renewable while in concert addressing
water pollution and solid organic
waste issues. Would you be amenable
to all of us meeting to discuss further
how we might address this from the
economic development and energy
side rather than just an environmental
aspect?

Thank you for your consideration.

James

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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 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.

###

Mishaan, Jessica

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 know 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.

###

Mishaan, Jessica

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.

###

Mishaan, Jessica

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 Ehlers – 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

Mishaan, Jessica

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

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:39 PM
To: Springer, Darren; 'Erika Wolffing'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; 'Dostis, Robert'; 'Diane Lanpher'; 'Dan Connor'; 'Warren Coleman'
Cc: 'Collins, Penny'
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren Meet/call | public/private economic development strategies for renewable biogas from "wastewater" and solid organics

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dial-In: 1-888-330-1716

Participant Code: [REDACTED]

Please let Penny or I know who will be participating by phone or in person. Thank you.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:30 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Collins, Penny; Erika Wolffing; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert; Diane Lanpher; Dan Connor; Warren Coleman
Subject: Re: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren Meet/call | public/private economic development strategies for renewable biogas from "wastewater" and solid organics

I'll need to join by phone, thanks James. If there is a call in number let me know.
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2016, at 11:20 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Done. Thank you, both.

Darren, please note time. If you plan on coming to Colchester, let me know. Perhaps good day to do divestment presser, as well.

Adding Diane Lanpher, Dan Connor, and Warren Coleman, in case they are interested in the discussion as they all have expressed past interest on behalf of the towns or clients they represent.

From: Collins, Penny [mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:47 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Perfect Erika . . . Thanks so much.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:38 AM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for the dates, let's go ahead and book 10:00 on Thursday since this has been hard to nail down for everyone. Can we plan for a phone conference meeting? If I can get Senator Campbell there in person, I will do that but need to check with him. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 8:50 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Apologies for the delay . . . yesterday was a crazy board meeting day. Mary has onsite commitments in Colchester on Wed and Thurs and is out of town on Friday. If you could meet here in Colchester we can make a 10:00 on Thursday in person or by phone.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 9:05 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika and John, for your flexibility. I will endeavor to do the same.

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 7:33 PM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Unfortunately we're going to have a hectic schedule on the floor on Thursday so 1:00 is not going to work. Looking into next week, we can try to make Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday (before 11:30) morning work. I'm hoping those are large enough time blocks so that something will work for Mary's schedule. Let me know. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 3:25 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Any luck on this Erika . . . I will be unavailable much of tomorrow and was hoping to get Mary's schedule for Thursday confirmed today.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 3:10 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika.

Penny,
Can you hold the time until Erika can confirm?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:18 PM
To: James Ehlers; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Re: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

The Senate is on the floor at 1:00 on Thursdays but I will check with Senator Campbell when he is up tomorrow morning. If we have a light floor schedule on Thursday we may be able to keep him off the floor.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 12:40 PM
To: Erika Wolffing; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika, Conor, work for John?

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:35 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I'm afraid the best we might be able to do for Mary's calendar is a quick call at 1:00 on Thursday for 30 minutes. Will that work?

Penny

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:30 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Penny,
I don't think we have, either. Seems a call is the only way it will happen. I can be somewhat flexible Wednesday and Thursday this week. Nothing at all tomorrow or Friday, but I will be in Montpelier all day tomorrow.

James

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 3:35 PM
To: Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I don't think we've landed this one . . . did we agree to a call?

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:23 PM
To: Collins, Penny
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Given scheduling constraints that is likely the best option if the desire is to talk in the next couple of weeks. Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 5:03 PM, Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com> wrote:

I'm afraid dinner would be out of the question next week . . . We have our board and committee meetings then and three of the four night she's in town are already booked. If Robert agrees we could try to make a conference call work.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:00 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

How about an early supper around Williston?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:35 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for letting me know. I'm looping in James who has requested this meeting. Unfortunately because we're in the middle of the session, it's going to be very hard to get Senator Campbell up to Colchester. I'm happy to set up a conference call if that works for everyone. Let me know your thoughts. Thanks.

Erika

From: Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:04 PM

To: Dostis, Robert; Erika Wolffig
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hey Erika . . . apologies for the delay . . . crazy day! Next week is a bit of a challenge for Mary but I think I could make something work Monday afternoon at 3:00 or Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 – either would need to be at our Colchester office though.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 8:53 AM
To: Erika Wolffig
Cc: Collins, Penny
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika
I copied Penny who will help with Mary's schedule.

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 8:33 AM, Erika Wolffig <EWolffig@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Thanks Robert, can you send me a few dates and times next week that would work for Mary?

From: Dostis, Robert [<mailto:Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:42 PM
To: Erika Wolffig
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika

Please disregard my last message. I miss read Mary's schedule unfortunately, this week well not work. Thanks Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2016, at 7:24 PM, Erika Wolffig
<EWolffig@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Senator Campbell has time on Thursday morning and Friday morning of this week if either of those days works for others. Or we can look into next week as well.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:45 AM
To: 'Powell, Mary'; Erika Wolffing; 'Dostis, Robert'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; John Campbell; 'Diane Lanpher';
Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Mary. Sorry to have not included you
from the outset, Robert!

From: Powell, Mary
[<mailto:Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 5:28 PM
To: James Ehlers; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; 'Diane
Lanpher'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Copying Robert so he is in the loop with us!

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Monday, January 25, 2016 at 3:50 PM
To: "ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us"
<ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: Mary Powell
<mary.powell@greenmountainpower.com>, "'Springer,
Darren'" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>,
"jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us"
<jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us>, 'Diane Lanpher'
<dianelanpher@hotmail.com>, "Conor T. Kennedy"
<ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Darren!

Erika,
What can you set up for us? Thank you.

James

From: Springer, Darren
[<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 4:49 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Powell, Mary; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us;
ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Diane Lanpher
Subject: Re: Mary, Darren

Hi James,

I'd be happy to meet whenever it works for you and
Senator Campbell and Mary.

Have a great weekend,
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2016, at 4:13 PM, James Ehlers
<james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Mary, Darren,
John Campbell and I spoke at length
regarding public/private partnerships
opportunities for generating
renewable while in concert addressing
water pollution and solid organic
waste issues. Would you be amenable
to all of us meeting to discuss further
how we might address this from the
economic development and energy
side rather than just an environmental
aspect?

Thank you for your consideration.

James

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

Connect with James

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Warren Coleman <warren@mmrvt.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:57 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren Meet/call | public/private economic development strategies for renewable biogas from "wastewater" and solid organics

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Darren- any chance you want to come over to my office and have the call here? I can introduce you to the VP for Cabot who will be joining me.

Also, let's schedule some time after work. I have no agenda and just want to catch up since our paths don't cross as often. I may head out this evening but any time that works for you this or next week would be fine. --Warren

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:30 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Collins, Penny; Erika Wolffing; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert; Diane Lanpher; Dan Connor; Warren Coleman
Subject: Re: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren Meet/call | public/private economic development strategies for renewable biogas from "wastewater" and solid organics

I'll need to join by phone, thanks James. If there is a call in number let me know.
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2016, at 11:20 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Done. Thank you, both.

Darren, please note time. If you plan on coming to Colchester, let me know. Perhaps good day to do divestment presser, as well.

Adding Diane Lanpher, Dan Connor, and Warren Coleman, in case they are interested in the discussion as they all have expressed past interest on behalf of the towns or clients they represent.

From: Collins, Penny [mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:47 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Perfect Erika . . . Thanks so much.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:38 AM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for the dates, let's go ahead and book 10:00 on Thursday since this has been hard to nail down for everyone. Can we plan for a phone conference meeting? If I can get Senator Campbell there in person, I will do that but need to check with him. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 8:50 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Apologies for the delay . . . yesterday was a crazy board meeting day. Mary has onsite commitments in Colchester on Wed and Thurs and is out of town on Friday. If you could meet here in Colchester we can make a 10:00 on Thursday in person or by phone.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 9:05 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika and John, for your flexibility. I will endeavor to do the same.

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 7:33 PM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'

Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Unfortunately we're going to have a hectic schedule on the floor on Thursday so 1:00 is not going to work. Looking into next week, we can try to make Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday (before 11:30) morning work. I'm hoping those are large enough time blocks so that something will work for Mary's schedule. Let me know. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 3:25 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Any luck on this Erika . . . I will be unavailable much of tomorrow and was hoping to get Mary's schedule for Thursday confirmed today.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 3:10 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika.

Penny,
Can you hold the time until Erika can confirm?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:18 PM
To: James Ehlers; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Re: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

The Senate is on the floor at 1:00 on Thursdays but I will check with Senator Campbell when he is up tomorrow morning. If we have a light floor schedule on Thursday we may be able to keep him off the floor.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 12:40 PM
To: Erika Wolffing; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika, Conor, work for John?

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:35 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I'm afraid the best we might be able to do for Mary's calendar is a quick call at 1:00 on Thursday for 30 minutes. Will that work?

Penny

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:30 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Penny,
I don't think we have, either. Seems a call is the only way it will happen. I can be somewhat flexible Wednesday and Thursday this week. Nothing at all tomorrow or Friday, but I will be in Montpelier all day tomorrow.

James

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 3:35 PM
To: Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I don't think we've landed this one ... did we agree to a call?

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:23 PM
To: Collins, Penny
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Given scheduling constraints that is likely the best option if the desire is to talk in the next couple of weeks. Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 5:03 PM, Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com> wrote:

I'm afraid dinner would be out of the question next week . . . We have our board and committee meetings then and three of the four night she's in town are already booked. If Robert agrees we could try to make a conference call work.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:00 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

How about an early supper around Williston?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:35 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for letting me know. I'm looping in James who has requested this meeting. Unfortunately because we're in the middle of the session, it's going to be very hard to get Senator Campbell up to Colchester. I'm happy to set up a conference call if that works for everyone. Let me know your thoughts. Thanks.

Erika

From: Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:04 PM
To: Dostis, Robert; Erika Wolffing
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hey Erika . . . apologies for the delay . . . crazy day! Next week is a bit of a challenge for Mary but I think I could make something work Monday afternoon at 3:00 or Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 – either would need to be at our Colchester office though.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 8:53 AM
To: Erika Wolffing
Cc: Collins, Penny
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika
I copied Penny who will help with Mary's schedule.

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 8:33 AM, Erika Wolffing <EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Thanks Robert, can you send me a few dates and times next week that would work for Mary?

From: Dostis, Robert [<mailto:Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:42 PM
To: Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika

Please disregard my last message. I miss read Mary's schedule unfortunately, this week well not work. Thanks Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2016, at 7:24 PM, Erika Wolffing
<EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Senator Campbell has time on Thursday morning and Friday morning of this week if either of those days works for others. Or we can look into next week as well.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:45 AM
To: 'Powell, Mary'; Erika Wolffing; 'Dostis, Robert'

Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; John Campbell; 'Diane Lanpher';
Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Mary. Sorry to have not included you
from the outset, Robert!

From: Powell, Mary
[mailto:Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 5:28 PM
To: James Ehlers; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; 'Diane
Lanpher'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Copying Robert so he is in the loop with us!

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Monday, January 25, 2016 at 3:50 PM
To: "ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us"
<ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: Mary Powell
<mary.powell@greenmountainpower.com>, "Springer,
Darren" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>,
"jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us"
<jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us>, 'Diane Lanpher'
<dianelanpher@hotmail.com>, "Conor T. Kennedy"
<ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Darren!

Erika,
What can you set up for us? Thank you.

James

From: Springer, Darren
[mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 4:49 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Powell, Mary; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us;
ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Diane Lanpher
Subject: Re: Mary, Darren

Hi James,
I'd be happy to meet whenever it works for you and
Senator Campbell and Mary.
Have a great weekend,

Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2016, at 4:13 PM, James Ehlers
<james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Mary, Darren,
John Campbell and I spoke at length
regarding public/private partnerships
opportunities for generating
renewable while in concert addressing
water pollution and solid organic
waste issues. Would you be amenable
to all of us meeting to discuss further
how we might address this from the
economic development and energy
side rather than just an environmental
aspect?

Thank you for your consideration.

James

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

[Connect](#) with James

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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=

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:47 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: Springer, Darren; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Perfect Erika . . . Thanks so much.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Erika Wolffing [mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:38 AM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for the dates, let's go ahead and book 10:00 on Thursday since this has been hard to nail down for everyone. Can we plan for a phone conference meeting? If I can get Senator Campbell there in person, I will do that but need to check with him. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 8:50 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Apologies for the delay . . . yesterday was a crazy board meeting day. Mary has onsite commitments in Colchester on Wed and Thurs and is out of town on Friday. If you could meet here in Colchester we can make a 10:00 on Thursday in person or by phone.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 9:05 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika and John, for your flexibility. I will endeavor to do the same.

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 7:33 PM
To: Collins, Penny; 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Unfortunately we're going to have a hectic schedule on the floor on Thursday so 1:00 is not going to work. Looking into next week, we can try to make Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday (before 11:30) morning work. I'm hoping those are large enough time blocks so that something will work for Mary's schedule. Let me know. Thanks!

Best,

Erika

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 3:25 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Erika Wolffing
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Any luck on this Erika . . . I will be unavailable much of tomorrow and was hoping to get Mary's schedule for Thursday confirmed today.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 3:10 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Erika.

Penny,
Can you hold the time until Erika can confirm?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:18 PM
To: James Ehlers; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Re: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

The Senate is on the floor at 1:00 on Thursdays but I will check with Senator Campbell when he is up tomorrow morning. If we have a light floor schedule on Thursday we may be able to keep him off the floor.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 12:40 PM
To: Erika Wolffing; Conor T. Kennedy
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; 'Collins, Penny'; 'Dostis, Robert'
Subject: Erika? Conor? --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika, Conor, work for John?

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:35 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I'm afraid the best we might be able to do for Mary's calendar is a quick call at 1:00 on Thursday for 30 minutes. Will that work?

Penny

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:30 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: 'Erika Wolffing'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Penny,
I don't think we have, either. Seems a call is the only way it will happen. I can be somewhat flexible Wednesday and Thursday this week. Nothing at all tomorrow or Friday, but I will be in Montpelier all day tomorrow.

James

From: Collins, Penny [<mailto:Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 3:35 PM
To: Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

I don't think we've landed this one . . . did we agree to a call?

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:23 PM
To: Collins, Penny
Cc: James Ehlers; Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Given scheduling constraints that is likely the best option if the desire is to talk in the next couple of weeks. Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 5:03 PM, Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com> wrote:

I'm afraid dinner would be out of the question next week . . . We have our board and committee meetings then and three of the four night she's in town are already booked. If Robert agrees we could try to make a conference call work.

Thanks,

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:00 PM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'; Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

How about an early supper around Williston?

From: Erika Wolffing [<mailto:EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:35 PM
To: Collins, Penny; Dostis, Robert
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hi Penny,

Thanks for letting me know. I'm looping in James who has requested this meeting. Unfortunately because we're in the middle of the session, it's going to be very hard to get

Senator Campbell up to Colchester. I'm happy to set up a conference call if that works for everyone. Let me know your thoughts. Thanks.

Erika

From: Collins, Penny <Penny.Collins@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 4:04 PM
To: Dostis, Robert; Erika Wolffing
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Hey Erika . . . apologies for the delay . . . crazy day! Next week is a bit of a challenge for Mary but I think I could make something work Monday afternoon at 3:00 or Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 – either would need to be at our Colchester office though.

Penny Collins
Corporate Coordinator
Green Mountain Power Corp.
802-655-8410 / 802-370-4902

From: Dostis, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 8:53 AM
To: Erika Wolffing
Cc: Collins, Penny
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika
I copied Penny who will help with Mary's schedule.

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2016, at 8:33 AM, Erika Wolffing <EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Thanks Robert, can you send me a few dates and times next week that would work for Mary?

From: Dostis, Robert [<mailto:Robert.Dostis@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:42 PM
To: Erika Wolffing
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Erika

Please disregard my last message. I miss read Mary's schedule unfortunately, this week will not work. Thanks Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2016, at 7:24 PM, Erika Wolffing <EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Senator Campbell has time on Thursday morning and Friday morning of this week if either of those days works for others. Or we can look into next week as well.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:45 AM
To: 'Powell, Mary'; Erika Wolffing; 'Dostis, Robert'
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; John Campbell; 'Diane Lanpher'; Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Mary. Sorry to have not included you from the outset, Robert!

From: Powell, Mary [<mailto:Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 5:28 PM
To: James Ehlers; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; 'Diane Lanpher'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Copying Robert so he is in the loop with us!

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Monday, January 25, 2016 at 3:50 PM
To: "ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us" <ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: Mary Powell <mary.powell@greenmountainpower.com>, "'Springer, Darren'" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, "jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us" <jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us>, 'Diane Lanpher' <dianelanpher@hotmail.com>, "Conor T. Kennedy" <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Darren!

Erika,
What can you set up for us? Thank you.

James

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 4:49 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Powell, Mary; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us;

Diane Lanpher
Subject: Re: Mary, Darren

Hi James,
I'd be happy to meet whenever it works for you and Senator Campbell and Mary.
Have a great weekend,
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2016, at 4:13 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Mary, Darren,
John Campbell and I spoke at length regarding public/private partnerships opportunities for generating renewable while in concert addressing water pollution and solid organic waste issues. Would you be amenable to all of us meeting to discuss further how we might address this from the economic development and energy side rather than just an environmental aspect?

Thank you for your consideration.

James

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

[Connect](#) with James

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

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

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

“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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 9:56 AM
To: ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; Kate Webb; scopelandhanzas@leg.state.vt.us; 'John Campbell'; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy; ddeen@ctriver.org; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; Carolyn Partridge; Dan Connor
Cc: Anthony Iarrapino; 'Daniel Barlow'
Subject: Legislation, Manure Management Act? No reason this cannot and should not be the case for Big Dairy exploiting VT farmers --- Press Release: Poultry Litter Management Act : Fair Farms

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As I have explained at length to those of you who were willing to listen, until the cost of environmental and public health protection is addressed in the cost of production, the situation will get worse. Here is how MD is addressing the chicken issue. The cow issue is very similar. Thoughts? I look forward to assisting you.

<http://fairfarmsnow.org/press-release-poultry-litter-management-act/>

TOP CHESAPEAKE BAY LEGISLATION IN 2016 WOULD MAKE CHICKEN COMPANIES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANURE

Advocates say burden of excess manure disposal should not be on small farmers, taxpayers

(Annapolis, MD) A broad coalition of environmental groups is banding together during the 2016 Maryland General Assembly to support legislation requiring poultry companies to take responsibility for the manure their chickens produce. Excess manure can saturate farm fields and pollutes local creeks, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay if not handled properly. The legislation will seek to protect Maryland farmers and taxpayers from costs that should be borne by the large poultry companies.

“A responsible dog owner picks up after his or her dogs. Poultry companies must be responsible for cleaning up after their chickens,” said Alison Prost, Maryland Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Foundation. “The big companies own the birds, and control almost all aspects of the chicken production process, but they bear no responsibility for any manure left behind. Ensuring the excess manure is managed properly will help improve the quality of the Bay and the eastern shore rivers.”

Legislation set to be introduced in the coming days will require poultry companies to remove and properly dispose of all poultry litter for which a chicken grower does not have state-approved plans.

“For far too long, massive corporations like Perdue have raked in profits by forcing farmers, residents and the Chesapeake Bay to bear the burden of pollution from millions of pounds of excess chicken waste each year. The Poultry Litter Management Act would help shift responsibility for the number one source of water pollution in Maryland back where it belongs — onto the big chicken companies,” said Michele Merkel, Co-director, Food &

Water Justice. “Food & Water Watch is proud to stand with the bill’s sponsors and a growing coalition of organizations and residents in support of the Poultry Litter Management Act.”

“Making chicken companies responsible for their waste is a top priority for environmental groups this year,” said Karla Raettig, Executive Director, Maryland League of Conservation Voters and co-chair of the Maryland Clean Agriculture Coalition. “Family farmers who grow chickens for these companies don’t have the money to cart the excess manure away. Neither do Maryland taxpayers.”

A recent U.S. Geological Service Water report found the rivers of the Eastern Shore have concentrations of phosphorus that are among the “highest in the nation” due to agricultural operations. The Maryland Department of Agriculture has estimated about 228,000 tons of excess manure are currently applied to crop fields in Maryland; this is likely to increase with the recent expansion of chicken houses. Manure makes good fertilizer, but too much manure applied over decades has left many Eastern Shore fields saturated with phosphorus. The phosphorus ends up in local creeks and rivers, causing dead zones of low oxygen, fish kills, restrictions on shell-fish harvesting, and swimming advisories.

The legislation would be the second step of a critical two-step plan to reduce phosphorus pollution from agriculture in Maryland. In 2015, the Hogan Administration enacted regulations forbidding farmers from over-applying poultry manure on fields. The 2016 legislation would place the cost of properly using, or disposing of that excess manure in the hands of the big companies, not small farmers or the public. Growers currently shoulder much of the responsibility, with considerable direct and indirect subsidies from taxpayers.

Public dollars subsidize farmers who plant winter crops that soak up excess nutrients from soybean and corn fields. The cost to taxpayers is about \$20 million a year. In addition, taxpayers contribute to a program that transports some excess manure to safe areas. Those transportation costs are expected to rise significantly as farmers need to find a place for excess litter.

Agriculture is the single, largest source of pollution to the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland waterways. About 44 percent of the nitrogen and 57 percent of the phosphorus polluting the Bay comes from farms, and much of that comes from animal manure. But dollar for dollar, reducing pollution to the Chesapeake Bay from farms is far cheaper than reducing it from any other source: sewage plants, stormwater systems and septic systems.

The issue is urgent. The amount of excess chicken manure in Maryland could soon be even greater. Large industrial farms are expanding – including 200 new poultry houses now permitted for construction on the Delmarva Peninsula. This includes about 70 in Somerset County, with Wicomico and Worcester counties also experiencing considerable new growth. This construction would mean an additional 10 million chickens and about 20 million more pounds of manure per year.

Big chicken companies have the necessary resources and the responsibility to help Maryland’s manure overload problem. If poultry companies become responsible for their waste, that would ensure Maryland taxpayers, and farmers, no longer bear the sole burden of reducing pollution.

Groups supporting the legislation include: Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Food & Water Watch and the Maryland Clean Agriculture Coalition (Anacostia Riverkeeper, Assateague Coastal Trust, Audubon Naturalist Society, Blue Water Baltimore, Center for Progressive Reform, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Clean Water Action, Environment Maryland, Environmental Integrity Project, Gunpowder Riverkeeper, League of Women Voters of Maryland, Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper, Maryland League of Conservation Voters, Maryland Pesticide Education Network, Midshore Riverkeeper Conservancy, Potomac Riverkeeper, Sierra Club – Maryland Chapter, South River Federation, Waterkeepers Chesapeake, West/Rhode Riverkeeper).

Contacts: Sandra Lupien, Food & Water Watch (510) 681-3171

Tom Zolper, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, (443) 482-2066

Dawn Stoltzfus, Md. Clean Agriculture Coalition, (410) 562-5655

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 8:45 AM
To: 'Erika Wolffing'
Cc: 'Powell, Mary'; 'Dostis, Robert'; Springer, Darren; 'John Campbell'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; 'Diane Lanpher'
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren -- date time for next week

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Erika,
Thank you. I am booked solid the rest of this week. Can be very flexible next week with exception of an 11 on Tuesday with the Governor ... and next Friday.

Mary, Darren?

From: Diane Lanpher [mailto:dianelanpher@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 10:12 PM
To: Erika Wolffing
Cc: James Ehlers; Powell, Mary; Dostis, Robert; Springer, Darren; John Campbell; Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Dear Erika,

I have Friday morning open. Earlier if possible. My Committee time starts at 8:45.

Thanks

Diane

Rep. Diane Lanpher
Addison-3
House Appropriations

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2016, at 7:25 PM, Erika Wolffing <EWolffing@leg.state.vt.us> wrote:

Senator Campbell has time on Thursday morning and Friday morning of this week if either of those days works for others. Or we can look into next week as well.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:45 AM
To: 'Powell, Mary'; Erika Wolffing; 'Dostis, Robert'

Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; John Campbell; 'Diane Lanpher'; Conor T. Kennedy
Subject: RE: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Mary. Sorry to have not included you from the outset, Robert!

From: Powell, Mary [<mailto:Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 5:28 PM
To: James Ehlers; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us
Cc: 'Springer, Darren'; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; 'Diane Lanpher'; Conor T. Kennedy; Dostis, Robert
Subject: Re: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Copying Robert so he is in the loop with us!

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Monday, January 25, 2016 at 3:50 PM
To: "ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us" <ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: Mary Powell <mary.powell@greenmountainpower.com>, "'Springer, Darren.'" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, "jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us" <jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us>, 'Diane Lanpher' <dianelanpher@hotmail.com>, "Conor T. Kennedy" <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Erika --- RE: Mary, Darren

Thank you, Darren!

Erika,
What can you set up for us? Thank you.

James

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 4:49 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Powell, Mary; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Diane Lanpher
Subject: Re: Mary, Darren

Hi James,
I'd be happy to meet whenever it works for you and Senator Campbell and Mary.
Have a great weekend,
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2016, at 4:13 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Mary, Darren,
John Campbell and I spoke at length regarding public/private partnerships opportunities for generating renewable while in concert addressing water pollution and solid organic waste issues. Would you be amenable to all of us meeting to discuss further how we might address this from the economic development and energy side rather than just an environmental aspect?

Thank you for your consideration.

James

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

Connect with James

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2016 8:42 AM
To: Ed Pcolar; Julie Moore; 'Jed Davis'; Warren Coleman; Marcel Gravel
Cc: Bram Towbin; Schuren, Alyssa; Springer, Darren; Desch, George; Castonguay, Josh; Powell, Mary; ddeen@ctriver.org
Subject: Wastewater from Cheese is Generating Electricity in Wisconsin

Why I continue to suggest a community/regional solution as opposed to a business or farm specific application ... cost benefit comes at scale.

<http://gizmodo.com/wastewater-from-cheese-is-generating-electricity-in-wis-1512047383>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 3:02 PM
To: Powell, Mary; Springer, Darren
Cc: Castonguay, Josh
Subject: Administration Announces Public-Private Innovation Strategy to Build a Sustainable Water Future | whitehouse.gov

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/12/15/fact-sheet-administration-announces-public-private-innovation-strategy>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 11:50 AM
To: Springer, Darren; 'Diane Lanpher'; Powell, Mary; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Subject: Nutrient Recycling -- FW: Final factsheet, logo, and emailing your lists!
Attachments: Nutrient Recycling Challenge_Factsheet_Nov2015.pdf; Nutrient Recycling Challenge_Logo-final for web.png; Nutrient Recycling Challenge_Press Release_11-10-2015_clean.docx

From: Perkins, Stephen [mailto:Perkins.Stephen@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 10:36 AM
To: James Ehlers (james@champlain.ngo)
Subject: FW: Final factsheet, logo, and emailing your lists!

Hi James.

Thought you might be interested to see this. Hopefully the end results are of use to folks like Dave Dunn – who Jason already sent this to. Nice to see a couple of VT corps on the partners list as well.

Best,
Stephen

From: Turgeon, Jason
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 10:18 AM
To: Dunn, David <David.Dunn@greenmountainpower.com>; Jeff Fehrs <jeff.fehrs@state.vt.us>; David DiDomenico <David.DiDomenico@state.vt.us>; Dmitri Hudak <DHudak@veic.org>; DePillis, Alex <Alex.DePillis@state.vt.us>
Cc: Perkins, Stephen <Perkins.Stephen@epa.gov>; Veit, Cynthia <Veit.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Final factsheet, logo, and emailing your lists!

EPA is launching a nutrient recovery challenge for the Ag sector. May be of interest to some of you in Vermont, although I don't expect any immediate silver bullets. I was very peripherally involved in an advisory capacity talking to the challenge organizers about wastewater technologies that might be applicable in the Ag sector. Feel free to distribute widely, especially if you know of any innovative nutrient recovery technologies that might be interested in participating in the challenge.

Jason Turgeon
Energy and Climate Unit
US EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square
Suite 100, OEP 5-2
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 918-1637
turgeon.jason@epa.gov

From: Subramanian, Hema
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2015 10:44 PM
To: Ziobro, Joseph <Ziobro.Joseph@epa.gov>; DennisTreacy@smithfieldfoods.com; billk@cooperfarms.com; formicam@nppc.org; leon.graves@empirelivestock.com; tom.shephard@agri-edge.com; pserfass@ttcorp.com; maureen@dc-groupplc.com; norma.mcdonald@ows.be; cfrear@wsu.edu; brooke.mayer@marquette.edu;

john.g@agengineering.com; walter.mulbry@ars.usda.gov; Ariel.Szogi@ars.usda.gov; Matias.Vanotti@ars.usda.gov; glenn.carpenter@wdc.usda.gov; Wiedeman, Allison <Wiedeman.Allison@epa.gov>; Turgeon, Jason <Turgeon.Jason@epa.gov>; Shaw, Denise <Shaw.Denice@epa.gov>; echin@innocentive.com; ifredrickson@innocentive.com; daniel.zitomer@marquette.edu; dsa@iastate.edu; Chris.Cassidy@wdc.usda.gov; jdavis@agrimark.coop; [mfrend@snet.net](mailto:mfreund@snet.net); andrea.asch@benjerry.com; kevin.hackett@nativeenergy.com; rbennett@nmpf.org; cdetlefsen@nmpf.org; Chad.Frahm@rosedmi.com; Jerry.Bingold@rosedmi.com; John.Monaghan@rosedmi.com; steven.rowe@newtrientllc.com; bknight@stratconserve.com; daniel.zitomer@mu.edu; Marlena.White@wwfus.org; sandra.vijn@wwfus.org; fkarimova@werf.org; Burr, Jamie (EHS) <jamie.burr@tyson.com>; Westerbeek, Kraig <kwesterbeek@smithfield.com>; Leon Graves <lgraves@dfamilk.com>; Tom Shephard <tshephard@dfamilk.com>; Goldstein, Elana <Goldstein.Elana@epa.gov>; Bingold, Jerry <Jerry.Bingold@dairy.org>; Mika, Matt <Matt.Mika@tyson.com>; kraigwesterbeek@smithfield.com

Subject: Final factsheet, logo, and emailing your lists!

All – please find attached our final one-pager **factsheet** and the final web-ready **logo**! They will be posted on nutrientrecyclingchallenge.org tomorrow.

We ask you all to bask in the glow of the launch with us, and share the news with your lists in the next few days. Below is a draft of the email I'll be sending out to EPA's lists if helpful for you as template. If you are willing to include me and Joseph in your lists, we can help keep track and also spread the word about whatever you release. The key to the success of this project will be promotion and outreach!

Website (www.nutrientrecyclingchallenge.org): Due to security on the Challenge.gov website where our website will be housed, unfortunately I couldn't get good previews to share with you. I'm turning it live tomorrow (Thursday morning); let us know if you have any thoughts or suggestions when you see it. We may not be able to do much more on layout or features--the template we had to fit within has limitations, but it serves the purpose, and in the end, there are some benefits to hosting on the Challenge.gov website.

Press Release/Media: EPA's Communications offices informed me that the Press Release will not be finalized and posted until 8am EST tomorrow, but we will link to it from the website when it goes up. They will also be doing social media posts every week through the 60 day period with the following:

Facebook: EPA- Water is Worth It

Twitter: [@EPAwater](https://twitter.com/EPAwater)

Twitter Hashtag: #nutrientrecycling

As I mentioned, if you can let us know of any Press Releases/posts your offices push out or news stories you come across, I will see what I can do to link to them.

Email: Here is my draft, feel free to forward or send out your own!

Subject: EPA and Partners Launch the Nutrient Recycling Challenge

EPA has partnered with pork and dairy producers, USDA, and environmental and scientific experts to launch the Nutrient Recycling Challenge—a competition to develop affordable technologies that recycle nutrients from livestock manure.

Every year, livestock producers manage over a billion tons of manure, which contains valuable nutrients—nitrogen and phosphorus—that plants need to grow. Scientists and engineers are already building technologies that can recover nutrients, but further development is needed to make them more effective and affordable. The Nutrient Recycling Challenge will harness the power of competition to find solutions that are a win-win for farmers, the environment, and the economy.

Challenge entrants will develop technologies that extract nutrients from manure to generate products with environmental and economic benefits that farmers can use or sell. During the four-phase competition,

innovators will turn their concepts into designs and, eventually, into working technologies that livestock farms can use in pilot projects. Phase I, which begins Nov. 16 and ends Jan. 15, calls for papers outlining ideas for these technologies. Phase I prizes will be announced in March and include up to \$20,000 cash to be split between up to four semi-finalists; invitation to a two-day partnering and investor summit in Washington, DC; and entry into subsequent phases of the challenge with larger awards.

Partners in the Nutrient Recycling Challenge are:

- American Biogas Council
- American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers
- Ben & Jerry's
- Cabot Creamery Cooperative
- Cooper Farms
- CowPots
- Dairy Farmers of America
- Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy
- Iowa State University
- Marquette University
- National Milk Producers Federation
- National Pork Producers Council
- Newtrient LLC
- Smithfield Foods
- Strategic Conservation Solutions
- Tyson Foods
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Washington State University
- Water Environment Research Federation
- World Wildlife Fund

For more information: www.nutrientrecyclingchallenge.org

Factsheet on the Nutrient Recycling Challenge: https://www.challenge.gov/files/2015/10/Nutrient-Recycling-Challenge_Factsheet_Nov2015.pdf

I will send around the final versions of the Background info and Criteria docs (now complete with competition terms & conditions, etc.) when I get them back from the formatters on Friday. I will post them to our website on Monday the 16th when InnoCentive's platform goes live for our challenge.

Thanks everyone, let's do this thing!

---Hema.

Hema Subramanian
Office of Wastewater Management, Water Permits Division, Rural Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code 4203M
Washington, DC 20460
Phone (202) 564-5041
Fax (202) 564-6384

From: Subramanian, Hema

Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 6:25 AM

To: Ziobro, Joseph <Ziobro.Joseph@epa.gov>; DennisTreacy@smithfieldfoods.com; billk@cooperfarms.com; formicam@nppc.org; leon.graves@empirelivestock.com; tom.shephard@agri-edge.com; pserfass@ttcorp.com; maureen@dc-groupllc.com; norma.mcdonald@ows.be; cfrear@wsu.edu; brooke.mayer@marquette.edu; johng@agengineering.com; walter.mulbry@ars.usda.gov; Ariel.Szogi@ars.usda.gov; Matias.Vanotti@ars.usda.gov; glenn.carpenter@wdc.usda.gov; Wiedeman, Allison <Wiedeman.Allison@epa.gov>; Turgeon, Jason <Turgeon.Jason@epa.gov>; Shaw, Denise <Shaw.Denice@epa.gov>; echin@innocentive.com; jfredrickson@innocentive.com; daniel.zitomer@marquette.edu; dsa@iastate.edu; Chris.Cassidy@wdc.usda.gov; Jdavis@agrimark.coop; [mfrend@snet.net](mailto:mfreund@snet.net); andrea.asch@benjerry.com; kevin.hackett@nativeenergy.com; rbennett@nmpf.org; cdetlefsen@nmpf.org; Chad.Frahm@rosedmi.com; Jerry.Bingold@rosedmi.com; John.Monaghan@rosedmi.com; steven.rowe@newtrientllc.com; bknight@stratconserve.com; daniel.zitomer@mu.edu; Marlena.White@wwfus.org; sandra.vijn@wwfus.org; fkarimova@werf.org; Burr, Jamie (EHS) <jamie.burr@tyson.com>; Westerbeek, Kraig <kwesterbeek@smithfield.com>; Leon Graves <lgraves@dfamilk.com>; Tom Shephard <tshephard@dfamilk.com>; Goldstein, Elana <Goldstein.Elana@epa.gov>; Bingold, Jerry <Jerry.Bingold@dairy.org>; Mika, Matt <Matt.Mika@tyson.com>; kraigwesterbeek@smithfield.com

Subject: EPA's Nutrient Recycling Challenge draft Press Release

Hello everyone,

We've been working hard to get everything ready for launch for the challenge, attached is EPA's near-final Press Release. Please do not distribute.

We're planning to turn the website (www.nutrientrecyclingchallenge.org) live this Thursday morning as a basic web announcement. Details about the criteria, judging, and submission requirements will still be confidential, and not be posted until Monday the 16th morning, when submissions will open for the challenge. We will send you updates on Thursday and Monday as these two milestones release!

The one-page factsheet is getting formatted for new layout, and I'll send it around (with the new logo) once I get the final version by Wednesday. The re-formatted other docs (criteria etc.) will be ready close to the weekend.

We are still collecting co-sponsorship agreement signatures and logos, so please send those to both me and Joseph as soon as possible. We will most likely need to hold off on posting logos on the website until after the launch, unless we can get most of them in by the end of this week.

Please let us all know if you have social media, your own office's press releases, etc. to share. Our communications office will be using the hashtag **#NutrientRecycling** for EPA's social media posts.

Finally, Joseph and my schedules are all over the place this week, so please cc: both of us on any important communications or feedback. I will be flying to the National Association of Farm Broadcasters Convention with Ron Carleton, Ag Counselor to the EPA Administrator, to pitch reporters all day Thursday about the launch of the challenge. Joseph will actually be out of office the second half of the week. But let me know if there is anything critical, and you can also reach Allison Wiedeman, who will be in the office all week, at wiedeman.allison@epa.gov.

Thanks so much for all your work on this challenge. Stay tuned for exciting updates,
---Hema.

Hema Subramanian
Office of Wastewater Management, Water Permits Division, Rural Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code 4203M
Washington, DC 20460
Phone (202) 564-5041
Fax (202) 564-6384

From: Ziobro, Joseph
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 2:44 PM
To: DennisTreacy@smithfieldfoods.com; billk@cooperfarms.com; formicam@nppc.org; leon.graves@empirelivestock.com; tom.shephard@agri-edge.com; pserfass@ttcorp.com; maureen@dc-grouplic.com; norma.mcdonald@ows.be; cfrear@wsu.edu; brooke.mayer@marquette.edu; johng@agengineering.com; walter.mulbry@ars.usda.gov; Ariel.Szogi@ars.usda.gov; Matias.Vanotti@ars.usda.gov; glenn.carpenter@wdc.usda.gov; Wiedeman, Allison <Wiedeman.Allison@epa.gov>; Turgeon, Jason <Turgeon.Jason@epa.gov>; Shaw, Denise <Shaw.Denice@epa.gov>; echin@innocentive.com; ifredrickson@innocentive.com; daniel.zitomer@marquette.edu; dsa@iastate.edu; Chris.Cassidy@wdc.usda.gov; jdavis@agrimark.coop; [mfrend@snet.net](mailto:mfreund@snet.net); andrea.asch@benjerry.com; kevin.hackett@nativeenergy.com; rbennett@nmpf.org; cdetiefsen@nmpf.org; Chad.Frahm@rosedmi.com; Jerry.Bingold@rosedmi.com; John.Monaghan@rosedmi.com; steven.rowe@newtrientllc.com; bknight@stratconserve.com; daniel.zitomer@mu.edu; Marlena.White@wwfus.org; sandra.vijn@wwfus.org; fkarimova@werf.org; Burr, Jamie (EHS) <jamie.burr@tyson.com>; Westerbeek, Kraig <kwesterbeek@smithfield.com>; Leon Graves <lgraves@dfamilk.com>; Tom Shephard <tshephard@dfamilk.com>; Goldstein, Elana <Goldstein.Elana@epa.gov>; Bingold, Jerry <Jerry.Bingold@dairy.org>; Mika, Matt <Matt.Mika@tyson.com>; kraigwesterbeek@smithfield.com; Subramanian, Hema <Subramanian.Hema@epa.gov>
Subject: Attention - Logo and File Transfer Site

Hi everyone,

We're incredibly excited to be in the final stretch – the Nutrient Recycling Challenge is set to launch just 3 weeks from now!

First order of business...logo. **Please look at the attached 2 draft logos and give us your feedback.** I emphasize "draft", as these are first cuts...we'll be working with professional graphic designers to clean up the final logo.

Also, as discussed, we've set up a file transfer site (aka FTP site) that we can use for collaborative document sharing and editing. We've placed the following documents in the "US EPA" folder:

- Challenge One-pager
- Background info and judging policies/criteria
- Excel spreadsheet of upcoming events at which to trumpet the Challenge (*please continue to think of events!*)
- Timeline for Challenge
- Prize table (*please continue to add prizes!*)

Instructions to access and use the site:

1. Click on the following hyperlink or copy into your web browser's address bar:
<http://us1.hostedftp.com/login/~innovationchallenge/>
2. Enter your username and password. Your **username** is the first initial of your first name followed by your full last name (e.g. John Smith is jsmith)- no spaces, not case sensitive. Next, enter the password. **The password for everyone is "Challenge1".** The password is case sensitive.
3. Click on "files" in the green banner at the top of the screen. You will see a folder for your organization and a folder named US EPA. You can download files from US EPA, make any changes you'd like, and then upload them back into your organization's folder. To prevent the originals from being modified by multiple people at the same time, and for overall version control, access to the "US EPA" folder is set to read-only.
4. Once you've made edits, or if you want to share something new with the group, upload files into your organization's folder, simply click on "click on here to upload" in the center of your screen and you can browse for files just like in Windows file browser.

Please let us know if you have any difficulties in accessing and/or using the site. We'll be happy to walk you through the process.

Talk to you all again soon!

Joseph Ziobro

Physical Scientist

US Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Wastewater Management, Water Permits Division, Rural Branch

Washington, DC 20460

O: (202)564-5376

ziobro.joseph@epa.gov

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 9:22 AM
To: DiPietro, Laura; Rupe, Marli; Roberts, John; Springer, Darren; Copans, Jon
Cc: clifford, eric; Dan Connor; 'Harvey Smith'; sbeyor@leg.state.vt.us; 'Diane Lanpher'
Subject: EPA and Partners Launch Challenge to Recycle Nutrients from Livestock Waste



CONTACT:

Robert Daguillard (MEDIA ONLY)
daguillard.robert@epa.gov
202-564-6618

Hema Subramanian (PUBLIC INQUIRIES)
nutrientrecyclingchallenge@epa.gov
202-564-5041

EPA and Partners Launch Challenge to Recycle Nutrients from Livestock Waste

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, pork and dairy producers, and environmental and scientific experts to launch the Nutrient Recycling Challenge, a competition to develop affordable technologies that recycle nutrients from livestock waste.

Every year, livestock producers manage more than one billion tons of manure, which contains valuable nutrients – nitrogen and phosphorus – that plants need to grow. Challenge participants will develop technologies that extract nutrients from livestock manure to generate products with environmental and economic benefits that farmers can use or sell.

"Scientists and engineers are already building technologies that can recover nutrients, but further development is needed to make them more effective and affordable," said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. "The Nutrient Recycling Challenge will harness the power of competition to find solutions that are a win-win for farmers, the environment, and the economy."

During the four-phase competition, innovators will turn their concepts into designs and eventually into working technologies that livestock farms will use in pilot projects.

Phase I, which begins Nov. 16 and ends Jan. 15, calls for papers outlining ideas for these technologies. Phase I prizes will be announced in March and include up to \$20,000 cash to be split between up to four semi-finalists; invitation to a two-day partnering and investor summit in Washington, DC; and entry into subsequent phases of the challenge with larger awards. Final awards will be announced January 2017, with farm demonstration pilots to follow.

Partners in the Nutrient Recycling Challenge are:

- American Biogas Council

- American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers
- Ben & Jerry's
- Cabot Creamery Cooperative
- Cooper Farms
- CowPots
- Dairy Farmers of America
- Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy
- Iowa State University
- Marquette University
- National Milk Producers Federation
- National Pork Producers Council
- Newtrient LLC
- Smithfield Foods
- Strategic Conservation Solutions
- Tyson Foods
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Washington State University
- Water Environment Research Federation
- World Wildlife Fund

For more information: www.nutrientrecyclingchallenge.org

R311

If you would rather not receive future communications from Environmental Protection Agency, let us know by clicking [here](#).
Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460 United States

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 9:34 AM
To: 'Powell, Mary'
Cc: Schuren, Alyssa; Springer, Darren; 'Lunderville, Neale'; Copans, Jon
Subject: RE: some wastewater treatment plants have been able to go completely "off the grid"

Glad to hear you say that, Mary. It has been a vision Darren and I have shared for quite some time. Looking forward to it being recognized more fully for the opportunities it represents for our communities by our legislators and elected officials.

From: Powell, Mary [mailto:Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 9:26 AM
To: James Ehlers; Springer, Darren; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Cc: Alyssa Schuren
Subject: Re: some wastewater treatment plants have been able to go completely "off the grid"

YUP – really cool stuff going on in this space. When I spoke at the regional Biocycle conference in Boston last month I was so impressed to hear of the innovative work going on – HUGE oppty for Vermont when we think of it in the context of creating community energy solutions and micro grids.

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 10:04 AM
To: "Springer, Darren" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, Mary Powell <mary.powell@greenmountainpower.com>, "Lunderville, Neale" <nlunderville@burlingtonelectric.com>
Cc: Alyssa Schuren <Alyssa.Schuren@vermont.gov>
Subject: some wastewater treatment plants have been able to go completely "off the grid"

By combining biosolids from the plant with FOG and food waste, some wastewater treatment plants have been able to go completely "off the grid."

http://www.wateronline.com/doc/reasons-to-harvest-the-power-of-biogas-0001?sectionCode=Articles&templateCode=Single&user=2821394&source=nl%3A44256&utm_source=et_10759433&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=WOL_2015-11-10&utm_term=F3F9B512-37EB-443A-B707-0D6C08049D8B&utm_content=5%2BReasons%2BTo%2BHarvest%2BThe%2BPower%2BOf%2BBiogas

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2015 3:11 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Johnson, Justin; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Justin RE: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Justin,

Just circling back on this. I'm wondering how best to work with BGS on BLUE(r).

Thank you.

Chris Rottler
BLUE(r) Program Manager
T. (802) 318-5191

On Tuesday, September 29, 2015, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Justin,

Are you able to address Chris' questions? Thank you!

James

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 4:46 PM
To: 'cdrottler .'; james@mychamplain.net
Subject: RE: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

I am really not best person to have this level of conversation with. Trying to facilitate open communication channel with BGS, if it is not working I understand and don't want you to waste your time. I'll forward this chain to Justin so he is aware and see if he has any thoughts.

Thanks,
Darren

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

(802) 522-2082 (cell)

Darren.Springer@vermont.gov

Please note: My email address has changed to Darren.Springer@vermont.gov.

From: cdrottler . [<mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 4:45 PM
To: Springer, Darren; james@mychamplain.net
Subject: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Darren,

Does BGS ask for bids when adopting LEED for their buildings? Did Seagrant submit a bid to partner with DEC on their green infrastructure initiative?

Chris

On Mon, Sep 28, 2015 at 1:29 PM, Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov> wrote:

Is there no opportunity to bid services into an RFP?

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

[\(802\) 522-2082](tel:(802)522-2082) (cell)

Darren.Springer@vermont.gov

Please note: My email address has changed to Darren.Springer@vermont.gov.

From: cdrottler . [mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 12:53 PM
To: Springer, Darren; james@mychamplain.net

Subject: Re: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Darren,

I am confused by Dan's response, and why there is no interest in discussing a pilot project/partnership. I refer you to the Seagrant/DEC relationship (below) as a model. Are you sure the road is clear to work with him? It seems I am getting the run around. Please advise on next steps.

Chris

On Wed, Aug 19, 2015 at 10:04 PM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Darren,

Thought I would share news of the following with you. The partnership highlighted below raises some questions for me, namely:

- 1) If DEC can partner with Seagrant, why can't DEC partner with or promote us? We were told by Matt Chapman that DEC could not favor one private entity over another, going so far as to say our program could not be listed on the DEC website, or on any other promotional materials.
- 2) Were these funds offered through an open or closed/no-bid process?
- 3) Why was BLUE(r) not included in this partnership or given an opportunity to bid on this work? After all, promoting green infrastructure and outreach are things we already do.

We would love to partner with DEC and appreciate your support.

Regards,

Chris

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Dolan, Kari <Kari.Dolan@vermont.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2015
Subject: DEC/ LCSG Partnership
To: "cdrottler ." <cdrottler@gmail.com>, Becky Tharp <rtharp@uvm.edu>
Cc: james <james@mychamplain.net>

Hi, Chris,

Forgive me for not reaching out earlier.

This is a cooperative agreement, enabling us to continue to provide technical assistance in green infrastructure/LID to municipalities and other partners -- a role that Justin Kenney had provided. Although Becky is a UVM employee, the position is jointly supported by UVM/SeaGrant and DEC, enabling us to leverage federal funds to support this work.

Have a good evening,

Kari

From: cdrottler . [cdrottler@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 6:02 PM
To: Becky Tharp
Cc: Dolan, Kari; james
Subject: Re: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Thank you, Becky. I'm curious, are you receiving any funding for this?

Thanks,

Chris

On Wednesday, August 19, 2015, Becky Tharp <rtharp@uvm.edu> wrote:

Hi Chris,

Sorry for the response delay. I had thought Kari would respond, and perhaps she was thinking the same about me. Thanks for the reminder.

The nature of the new partnership between LCSG and DEC is essentially a combining of efforts to provide outreach, technical assistance, and communication on Green Stormwater Infrastructure throughout the state as well as maintaining state-managed initiatives (such as the GI Roundtable and the Interagency Green Infrastructure Council).

As you know, Justin moved on from his role as the GI Coordinator earlier this year and DEC values the continuation of that work. A partnership between LCSG and DEC will allow the significant effort he invested in the process to move forward. We will take over many of the tasks Justin was doing but will have a stronger focus on education and research, as LCSG is a program of UVM and those are the particular strengths that we bring. We are also aware of the need for greater education of professional groups and municipal leaders on the subject as well as locally-based research on technology performance. We intend to address those gaps.

We have a number of efforts under way - such as the educational opportunity for members of the VT GI Google Group to tour the UNH Stormwater Center in September, a GSI conference for College students in the Spring, ongoing implementation of the GI Strategic Plan, an update of the LID Small Sites guide in January 2016, professional development opportunities for Roundtable members, and outreach efforts that are taking many forms including workshops, presentations, technical papers, blog posts, and videos.

We are excited by the new partnership and hope that you will join us for Roundtable meetings, add content to the GI Google Group, and share your suggestions for education and research topics.

Thanks for reaching out and I hope to see you soon,
Becky

Rebecca (Becky) Tharp
Program Manager

Green Infrastructure Collaborative

VT Department of Environmental Conservation
Lake Champlain Sea Grant Program
University of Vermont

George D. Aiken Forestry Sciences Laboratory
705 Spear Street Rm 123
South Burlington, VT 05403

(802) 656-2514

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2015 9:58 AM
To: Springer, Darren; Powell, Mary; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Cc: ssmith@leg.state.vt.us
Subject: Harvesting Energy With Biogas Generation

http://www.wateronline.com/doc/harvesting-energy-with-biogas-generation-0001?sectionCode=Articles&templateCode=Single&user=2821394&source=nl%3A44155&utm_source=et_10759433&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=WOL_2015-10-29&utm_term=F3F9B512-37EB-443A-B707-0D6C08049D8B&utm_content=Harvesting%2BEnergy%2BWith%2BBiogas%2BGeneration

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 3:19 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; Markowitz, Deb
Subject: Media Advisory: 59 and counting!! Vermont Community Foundation signs resolution in support of funding for clean water economy! Blue Resolution Coalition keeps growing--in number and diversity!
Attachments: Blue Resolution as of October 26 2015.pdf

Vermont Community Foundation cares what happens to Vermont's waters!

Thank you, Stuart and VCF, for signing on in support of swimmable, drinkable, and fishable Vermont waters.

The team committed to wise investment in our most important resource—safe, healthy water! See attached.

Stay tuned for more signatories.

Signatories to date:

Addison County Riverwatch Collaborative
Alchemy Canning LTD
AllEarth Renewables, Inc.
After Midnight Jewelers
Agricola Farm
Audubon Vermont
Carved Solutions
The Catamount Outdoor Family Center, Inc.
Connecticut River Watershed Council
Conservation Law Foundation
Danforth Pewter
The Episcopal Church of Vermont
Eric Noël Consulting
Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds
Friends of the Mad River
Friends of the Winooski River
Georgia Mountain Community Wind, LLC
Health Hero Farm, LLC
Lake Carmi Campers Association, Inc.
Lake Champlain Committee
Lake Champlain International
Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce

Lewis Creek Association
Lucy and Jim McCullough, LLC
The Mad Taco
Main Street Landing
Memphremagog Conservation Inc.
Memphremagog Watershed Association
Mountain Home Farm
National Wildlife Federation
New Haven River Anglers
Northern Lake Champlain Advisory Committee
PhosphoReduc
Place Creative Company
Ray's Seafood Market, Inc.
Red Clover Inn & Restaurant
Sierra Club – Vermont Chapter
Smugglers' Notch Resort
South Alburgh Fire District #2 Prudential Committee
SPIKE Advertising
St. Albans Area Watershed Association
Sure Strike Charters, LLC
Three Penny Taproom
Trout Unlimited, Central Vermont Chapter
Trout Unlimited, Greater Upper Valley Chapter
Trout Unlimited, Mad Dog Chapter
Trout Unlimited, Vermont State Council
Trout Unlimited, National Headquarters
The Tyler Place Family Resort
Vermont Community Foundation
Vermont Cranberry Company
Vermont Family Forests
Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
Vermont Land Trust
Vermont Natural Resources Council
Vermont River Conservancy
Vermonters for a Clean Environment
Voice Over Vermont
VPIRG

Friends,

Please find attached the final product of four months of collaboration. Hopefully, you are pleased with the effort as we are.

NEXT STEPS:

- **If you need board authorization** to list your organization as a signatory, please begin that process
- Once you have secured the support of your directors, please send a digital signature of either the ED or president to Cathy on the copy line.
- **If you already have authorization**, please send your official organization name, digital signature, and your title to Cathy on the copy line.

Please note the document is dated. We will, of course, accept new signatories at any time, but given our next meeting will focus on where to take this next, having the most organizations on it as soon as possible will make it that much more compelling for organizations outside our initial coalition to join with us.

We will keep you updated on signatories as we learn of them.

Thank you for contributions.

Stay Blue,

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Castonguay, Josh <Josh.Castonguay@greenmountainpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 8:21 PM
To: James Ehlers; Schuren, Alyssa; Springer, Darren; Powell, Mary; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Subject: Re: Capturing A River's Energy With Wings | Rhode Island Public Radio
Attachments: image001.jpg

Thanks James – very interesting.

JC

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 11:43 AM
To: Alyssa Schuren <Alyssa.Schuren@vermont.gov>, "Springer, Darren" <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>, "Powell, Mary" <Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com>, GMP End User <josh.castonguay@greenmountainpower.com>, "Lunderville, Neale" <nlunderville@burlingtonelectric.com>
Subject: Capturing A River's Energy With Wings | Rhode Island Public Radio

<http://ripr.org/post/capturing-rivers-energy-wings>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Schuren, Alyssa
Sent: Sunday, October 11, 2015 11:11 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; Markowitz, Deb
Subject: RE: Water quality video lake Carmi

All- Lake Carmi's water quality is certainly concerning.

The video depicts green water coming out of the tap. The home is drawing drinking and bathing water directly from the Lake, unfiltered. They do not have a well. They are not drinking the water or bathing in it. The VDH is in touch with the family.

The Vermont Clean Water Act (Act 64), will help address this issue in the long-term. I have been receiving emails on this. Please forward me correspondence you might get on the issue and I'll respond. -AS

Alyssa B. Schuren
Commissioner
Department of Environmental Conservation One National Life Drive Montpelier, VT 05620-3901
(p) 802-828-1556
www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/dec.htm

Please note: As of July 27, 2015, my email changed to Alyssa.Schuren@vermont.gov.

Respect.Protect.Enjoy.

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

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2015 4:36 PM
To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>; Schuren, Alyssa <Alyssa.Schuren@vermont.gov>; Johnson, Justin <Justin.Johnson@vermont.gov>; Markowitz, Deb <Deb.Markowitz@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: Water quality video lake Carmi

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

From: Diane Larose [mailto:lakecarmi@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:58 PM
To: laura.dipietro@state.vt.us; karen.bates@state.vt.us; neil.kamman@vermont.gov; pete.laflamme@vermont.gov; jdraper@gmail.com; james@mychamplain.net
Subject: Water quality video lake Carmi

Hello Friends,

The attached video was taken at the summer cottage belonging to Joseph Burke, 222 Vic's Crossing Road, Franklin, VT (Lake Carmi) on October 8, 2015. This is the water from their bathroom sink. Many residents at Carmi get their water from the lake and this is what it looks like. Shower anyone?

This is a serious health and quality of life issue. As citizens, we deserve better! Lake Carmi needs help and it needs it now.

I have photos available as well if anyone wants them.

Sincerely,

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 1:04 PM
To: Castonguay, Josh; Dominic Cloud; Liz Gamache
Cc: Powell, Mary; Springer, Darren; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Subject: Poop, flush, power! "Yes, to put it bluntly, the city's sewage treatment plant is turning poop into power."

washingtonpost.com

Poop, flush, power!

By [Katherine Shaver](#) October 7 at 9:43 PM

The next time you flush in the nation's capital, you might consider this: You — or, more precisely, whatever you have flushed — will help generate clean energy.

D.C. Water, which also treats sewage from much of the Maryland and Northern Virginia suburbs, recently became the first utility in North America to use a Norwegian thermal hydrolysis system to convert the sludge left over from treated sewage into electricity.

Yes, to put it bluntly, the city's sewage treatment plant is turning poop into power.

"It's a huge deal on so many fronts," D.C. Water General Manager George S. Hawkins said after Wednesday's official unveiling of the system. "It's a public utility leading the world in innovation and technology. We have private and public water companies coming from all over the world to see this."

[\[How D.C. Water officials planned to turn poop into power\]](#)

From toilet to turbine (or poop to power)

Other utilities have generated electricity from sludge, and some — as D.C. Water plans to do soon — sell a byproduct of such systems as a compost-like soil mixture to fertilize landscaping and even vegetable gardens.

But the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, officials say, is the first in North America to do so using "pressure cooker" technology that can fit such a system in the relatively tight confines of an urban treatment plant. D.C. Water officials say it's the largest of its kind in the world.

Hawkins said the system, which began producing electricity in September, will provide one-third of the 157-acre plant's power, saving about \$10 million annually. Vast amounts of water

and sewage need a lot of power to move through pipes and pumps, making D.C. Water the city's biggest consumer of electricity.

The utility expects to save an additional \$2 million or so annually on treatment chemicals and \$11 million annually in trucking expenses. Previously, the plant produced 1,200 tons of "Class B" biosolids daily, the industry term for the dark gunk left over from treated sewage. That wet, smelly residue had to be carried away in 60 truckloads every day, traveling about 75 miles to farms in Virginia. The new system produces about half as much of a cleaner "Class A" biosolid, which requires half the number of truck runs and smells more like damp mulch.

The Class A compost-like substance could show up in the next year or so on the shelves of Home Depot as a soil nutrient for home gardens, officials said.

D.C. Water officials say the \$470 million system, which took four years to build, will end up paying for itself and shrink the plant's overall carbon footprint by one-third.

At the dedication ceremony, officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Energy Department touted the system as an example of how localities can invest in infrastructure while conserving energy and cleaning the environment. Officials noted that water and sewer utilities account for 4 percent of the country's overall energy usage, making them the largest energy consumers in most communities.

"This is on the cusp of science, my friends," D.C. Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D) told the crowd of about 100 local officials and utility workers. "This is the kind of magic that results when science is put to its 21st-century use."

D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) said the system dovetails with the city's sustainability efforts.

"We can't afford to have waste be just waste," Bowser said. "Every dollar spent to convert that waste into energy will help us to reach our goals."

Here's how it works: When you flush or send soapsuds down the drain, the contents travel through miles of pipe and ultimately reach Blue Plains, off Interstate 295 in Southwest Washington. There, what looks like brown, murky water flows through screens that remove debris and then sits to allow solids to settle. Then, enormous centrifuges spin off the water and concentrate the remaining solids. (Don't think too long about that part.)

The liquid is sent off to be treated and then returned to the Potomac River, and the concentrated sludge is pumped into large steel Cambi reactors, named for the Norwegian manufacturer. The reactors function like pressure cookers, using 338-degree steam and pressure to cook the sludge. Then it gets pumped to another tank at a much lower pressure, which causes the cell walls of the unhealthful pathogens and other microbes to burst.

"We're not just burning up the bacteria," Hawkins explained. "We destroy it."

The sludge is then sent into one of four "digesters" — concrete cylinder tanks as tall as eight-story buildings — that each hold 3.8 million gallons. There, it spends about three weeks as microbial bugs nibble at it. The bugs convert the organic matter into methane gas, which is

cleaned and sent to a nearby building, where turbines burn the methane gas and produce electricity. The entire system covers about five acres.

The key, Hawkins said, is the Cambi pressure cookers that burn off much of the sludge, leaving less of it to be treated. That allowed D.C. Water to have only four enormous cylinder-like digester buildings instead of eight, which it didn't have room for.

Hawkins lauded the crowd of local leaders for their support, saying that they and D.C. Water customers had made the project possible.

"One could say it's a project generated by you, too," Hawkins said, as the crowd of toilet-flushers chuckled. "I'll let you think about that one a minute."

Katherine Shaver is a transportation and development reporter. She joined The Washington Post in 1997 and has covered crime, courts, education and local government but most prefers writing about how people get — or don't get — around the Washington region.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 12:15 PM
To: Moulton, Pat; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; Markowitz, Deb; sue@sueminter.com; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Feldman, Rachel; Bruce Lisman; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; tashe@leg.state.vt.us; Torti, Tom
Cc: Powell, Mary; Crea Lintilhac; Gaye Symington; hfurman@tnc.org; Monique Oxender; jpeterson@vermontcf.org; Bill Schubart; Patrick Berry; Dolan, Kari; Schuren, Alyssa; Ellis, Rebecca; john.kassel@gmail.com; Meghan Sheradin
Subject: 20 percent of state's jobs are linked to water or water-tech innovation
www.michiganblueeconomy.org

Friends,

Please consider working with me to create a Clean Water Economy for Vermont as Mary Powell, Heather Furman, and Meghan Sheridan already are ... there is no hope for clean water without sustainable, locally distributed renewable energy, wise land management, and a just food production system. The three are integrally intertwined in a robust, sustainable economy. A healthy river runs through it. Thank you for your leadership, Ladies.

Let me know how I might be of service.

James

As Southwest Dries: Water Could Transform Rust Belt to "Blue Belt",

Arizona Republic, October 6, 2015

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/arizona/investigations/2015/10/06/southwest-dries-water-could-transform-rust-belt-into-blue-belt/73234056/>

As the Southwest bakes under years of drought and strains to stretch its water supply into the future, the Upper Midwest is starting to see its luck. The same waterways that transported America to industrial glory in the past century are now a different kind of hot commodity for the next one.

"The Midwest is using its industrial engineering prowess to capitalize on global water uncertainty," said John Austin, director of the Michigan Economic Center think tank and a Brookings Institution fellow. The region is building businesses and products to cleanse water pollution here and abroad, and to monitor and boost efficiency in places where climate change is making water less secure.

Already 20 percent of Michigan jobs are linked to water or water-tech innovation, Austin said, citing www.michiganblueeconomy.org report.

"This really is the green and blue industry that's the coming thing," he said. "We have assets to support that, and we have natural assets, a beautiful place to live."

--

John Austin

President, Michigan State Board of Education
Director, Michigan Economic Center at Prima Civitas
Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution
734.474.3110
www.MiEconomicCenter.org

and follow-me on Twitter @John_C_Austin

glin-announce is hosted by the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN):

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 4:36 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Schuren, Alyssa; Johnson, Justin; Markowitz, Deb
Subject: FW: Water quality video lake Carmi
Attachments: IMG_1023.MOV; Untitled attachment 01268.txt

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

From: Diane Larose [mailto:lakecarmi@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:58 PM
To: laura.dipietro@state.vt.us; karen.bates@state.vt.us ; neil.kamman@vermont.gov; pete.laflamme@vermont.gov; jdraper@gmail.com; james@mychamplain.net
Subject: Water quality video lake Carmi

Hello Friends,

The attached video was taken at the summer cottage belonging to Joseph Burke, 222 Vic's Crossing Road, Franklin, VT (Lake Carmi) on October 8, 2015. This is the water from their bathroom sink. Many residents at Carmi get their water from the lake and this is what it looks like. Shower anyone?

This is a serious health and quality of life issue. As citizens, we deserve better! Lake Carmi needs help and it needs it now.

I have photos available as well if anyone wants them.

Sincerely,

Diane Larose

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 10:12 AM
To: Johnson, Justin
Cc: Springer, Darren; 'cdrottler.'
Subject: Justin RE: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Justin,
Are you able to address Chris' questions? Thank you!

James

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 4:46 PM
To: 'cdrottler.'; james@mychamplain.net
Subject: RE: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

I am really not best person to have this level of conversation with. Trying to facilitate open communication channel with BGS, if it is not working I understand and don't want you to waste your time. I'll forward this chain to Justin so he is aware and see if he has any thoughts.

Thanks,
Darren

Darren M. Springer
Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
(802) 522-2082 (cell)
Darren.Springer@vermont.gov

Please note: My email address has changed to Darren.Springer@vermont.gov.

From: cdrottler . [mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 4:45 PM
To: Springer, Darren; james@mychamplain.net
Subject: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Darren,

Does BGS ask for bids when adopting LEED for their buildings? Did Seagrant submit a bid to partner with DEC on their green infrastructure initiative?

Chris

On Mon, Sep 28, 2015 at 1:29 PM, Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov> wrote:

Is there no opportunity to bid services into an RFP?

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

(802) 522-2082 (cell)

Darren.Springer@vermont.gov

Please note: My email address has changed to Darren.Springer@vermont.gov.

From: cdrottler . [mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 12:53 PM

To: Springer, Darren; james@mychamplain.net

Subject: Re: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Darren,

I am confused by Dan's response, and why there is no interest in discussing a pilot project/partnership. I refer you to the Seagrant/DEC relationship (below) as a model. Are you sure the road is clear to work with him? It seems I am getting the run around. Please advise on next steps.

Chris

On Wed, Aug 19, 2015 at 10:04 PM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Darren,

Thought I would share news of the following with you. The partnership highlighted below raises some questions for me, namely:

1) If DEC can partner with Seagrant, why can't DEC partner with or promote us? We were told by Matt Chapman that DEC could not favor one private entity over another, going so far as to say our program could not be listed on the DEC website, or on any other promotional materials.

2) Were these funds offered through an open or closed/no-bid process?

3) Why was BLUE(r) not included in this partnership or given an opportunity to bid on this work? After all, promoting green infrastructure and outreach are things we already do.

We would love to partner with DEC and appreciate your support.

Regards,

Chris

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dolan, Kari** <Kari.Dolan@vermont.gov>

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2015

Subject: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

To: "cdrottler ." <cdrottler@gmail.com>, Becky Tharp <rtharp@uvm.edu>

Cc: james <james@mychamplain.net>

Hi, Chris,

Forgive me for not reaching out earlier.

This is a cooperative agreement, enabling us to continue to provide technical assistance in green infrastructure/LID to municipalities and other partners -- a role that Justin Kenney had provided. Although Becky is a UVM employee, the position is jointly supported by UVM/SeaGrant and DEC, enabling us to leverage federal funds to support this work.

Have a good evening,

Kari

From: cdrottler . [cdrottler@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 6:02 PM
To: Becky Tharp
Cc: Dolan, Kari; james
Subject: Re: DEC/ LCSG Partnership

Thank you, Becky. I'm curious, are you receiving any funding for this?

Thanks,

Chris

On Wednesday, August 19, 2015, Becky Tharp <rtharp@uvm.edu> wrote:

Hi Chris,

Sorry for the response delay. I had thought Kari would respond, and perhaps she was thinking the same about me. Thanks for the reminder.

The nature of the new partnership between LCSG and DEC is essentially a combining of efforts to provide outreach, technical assistance, and communication on Green Stormwater Infrastructure throughout the state as well as maintaining state-managed initiatives (such as the GI Roundtable and the Interagency Green Infrastructure Council).

As you know, Justin moved on from his role as the GI Coordinator earlier this year and DEC values the continuation of that work. A partnership between LCSG and DEC will allow the significant effort he invested in the process to move forward. We will take over many of the tasks Justin was doing but will have a stronger focus on education and research, as LCSG is a program of UVM and those are the particular strengths that we bring. We are also aware of the need for greater education of professional groups and municipal leaders on the subject as well as locally-based research on technology performance. We intend to address those gaps.

We have a number of efforts under way - such as the educational opportunity for members of the VT GI Google Group to tour the UNH Stormwater Center in September, a GSI conference for College students in the Spring, ongoing implementation of the GI Strategic Plan, an update of the LID Small Sites guide in January 2016, professional development opportunities for Roundtable members, and outreach efforts that are taking many forms including workshops, presentations, technical papers, blog posts, and videos.

We are excited by the new partnership and hope that you will join us for Roundtable meetings, add content to the GI Google Group, and share your suggestions for education and research topics.

Thanks for reaching out and I hope to see you soon,
Becky

Rebecca (Becky) Tharp
Program Manager

Green Infrastructure Collaborative

VT Department of Environmental Conservation
Lake Champlain Sea Grant Program
University of Vermont

George D. Aiken Forestry Sciences Laboratory
705 Spear Street Rm 123
South Burlington, VT 05403

(802) 656-2514

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 11:08 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: BLUE(r)

Darren, FYI ... as noted previously, he has a history of being unresponsive despite claims to the contrary ... in fact, if he had been this would have never come to your attention in the first place. Thanks. Hope you are well.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 8:45 AM
To: cdrottler .
Cc: james@mychamplain.net
Subject: Re: BLUE(r)

Dan said he had been in contact

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 26, 2015, at 10:24 AM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Darren,

As you suggested, I've been reaching out to Dan, but he has yet to write me back. Even if he is busy, a quick note to acknowledge me and let me know what to expect would be appreciated.

Chris

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **cdrottler .** <cdrottler@gmail.com>
Date: Monday, September 21, 2015
Subject: BLUE(r)
To: "Edson, Daniel" <daniel.edson@state.vt.us>
Cc: "james@mychamplain.net" <james@mychamplain.net>

Dan,

Darren Springer said I should reach out to you. Just wondering what the next step is?

Chris

On Monday, August 31, 2015, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:
Dan,

Just checking in. What's the next step for us?

Thank you,

Chris

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 12:28 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin
Subject: Water issues costing us jobs! | VT Agency Commerce and Community Development
Report on Impacts to Economy from VT water issues

Observations and Recommendations Regarding Water from:

Vermont 2020

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Prepared by the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, The Vermont CEDS Committee and the Garnet Consulting Group

Our infrastructure, built to sustain the small towns and factories of a century ago, is aging and, in places, vulnerable. New building and economic growth will depend on adequate water and sewer capacity, which is limited in many areas.

Challenges for the Vermont Economy

- Aging infrastructure, in particular wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, are making it increasingly difficult to build or expand.

With increasingly strict federal water quality standards for Lake Champlain and other watersheds, some future business growth will be contingent on adequate wastewater and storm water treatment.

Align Funding and Permitting to Implement Small Scale Water and Wastewater Solutions.

Align funding, permitting and education to replicate the successes of other rural states in implementing small-scale water, storm water and wastewater solutions necessary for economic development. A number of states have invested in

education and outreach, planning for permanent management of on-site systems, and used federal funds creatively to enable smaller, decentralized wastewater treatment options that are necessary for maintaining community vitality. New advances in green storm water infrastructure design and construction provide opportunities to at once beautify communities, save costs and protect the environment. Vermont can do the same. Tackling these issues is not easy, but is critical to Vermont's future. Overcoming these challenges will require additional resources and discussion to develop detailed recommendations.

Drinking Water Challenges

- As with so many issues, Vermont's low population density makes it difficult to support the costs of maintaining public drinking water systems.
- Continuing and escalating maintenance costs make the long-term viability of drinking water supplies problematic.
- The construction of new drinking water systems in areas that are currently underserved is also challenged by low population densities and the higher construction costs associated with new projects.
- There are parts of the state where small communities do not have a publicly supplied water system and each resident and business relies on a private, often less reliable water supply. In some cases, the lack of a public drinking water system inhibits new residential or business activity.

Many communities around the state do not have the necessary wastewater or stormwater infrastructure to support development and redevelopment projects. The infrastructure is either aging or nonexistent. More than 200 historic village centers have no public wastewater treatment facilities. Without this critical infrastructure, development is difficult and costly. Such limitations can lead to locating new business activity outside of villages and town centers, consuming more land, harming natural resources, and eroding the character and centrality of villages and town centers.

Community surveys and stakeholder groups that were convened in 2012 and 2013 named "funding for water and wastewater infrastructure" as the top priority to strengthen Vermont communities and the state's economy. Indeed, without addressing the many issues surrounding water quality, runoff and availability, construction and growth in Vermont will be limited and our natural resources

—so key to our brand and the industries such as tourism which rely on clean water and lakes—will be negatively affected.

Small villages seeking to build assets such as community centers, restaurants, and senior housing are often stymied by lack of adequate infrastructure, and development shifts elsewhere. New wastewater rules make redevelopment of these centers difficult, and there is growing concern that buildings in need of redevelopment may become vacant and blighted, lowering community property values. Communities are increasingly being required to take action to address polluted stormwater runoff but lack the resources to plan, design or finance the necessary improvements.

In addition, new regulations establishing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to prevent phosphorous and other pollutants in Lake Champlain and Long Island Sound will mean Vermont will need to significantly improve its wastewater runoff. For Lake Champlain alone, the Agency of Natural Resources has estimated mitigation costs at \$30,000 per acre for stormwater management, \$3,000 per 1,000 feet to improve roadside ditches and \$50,000 per mile for levee removal. Runoff from dairy farms and other agriculture also play a significant role.

Inadequate, aging and failing wastewater and stormwater infrastructure is the principal barrier to reaching a host of state and local goals, from building more housing for all income levels, to revitalizing communities, to protecting the environment. For Vermont communities to thrive and grow, this issue must be addressed.

http://accd.vermont.gov/business/strategic_planning

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 10:17 AM
To: Porter, Louis; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin
Subject: No mention of fishing, birding, hunting ... but agritourism ... FW: Are You An Official Vermont Ambassador?

From: Commissioner Megan Smith [mailto:info=vermontvacation.com@mail184.atl81.rsgsv.net] **On Behalf Of** Commissioner Megan Smith
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 9:01 AM
To: James
Subject: Are You An Official Vermont Ambassador?

With fall foliage season approaching fast, now is the time to...

[View this email in your browser](#)

Tourism Commissioner's News



Are You An Official Vermont Ambassador?

With fall foliage season approaching fast, now is the time to make sure your entire staff is ready to welcome the oncoming wave of leaf peepers. Our online Ambassador Training will make your staff instant experts in agritourism, state parks, Vermont history and heritage, customer service, and more. They'll have the tools they need to make your guests feel welcome.

When she was Front Office Manager at the Inn at the Mountain in Stowe, Kate Manewich encouraged her entire front desk to complete the program. Her employees found it useful, and one even added it to her resume.

Don't miss this easy, free opportunity to learn more about our beautiful state and all that it has to offer.

REGISTER NOW

Regards,

Megan Smith

Statewide Events Calendar

Don't forget there is a new process to add your event to statewide events calendar.

LEARN MORE

Upload Your Packages

Looking to promote your lodging package? Add it to VermontVacation.com!

START NOW



Share



Tweet



Forward

Copyright © 2015 Vermont Department of Tourism & Marketing. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you signed up to receive tourism business related information from the State of Vermont

Our mailing address is:

Vermont Department of Tourism & Marketing
One National Life Drive
Davis Building, Sixth Floor
Montpelier, VT 05633

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2015 1:26 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: ANR permit to spread waste in 33 communities over 538 fields and 305 streams? How does the public feel about this? Read the attached--
Attachments: AgriMark.doc; Cabot IDP 0915.pdf; agrimarkcabot_IDPcomments091015.doc; CAV 091015 Cabot IDP comments .pdf; comments on Cabot Flood renewal.pdf; Permit_Comments_to_Bryan_Harrington_and_Secretary_Markowitz.rtf; VCE Lindsay's testimony notes.txt; VNRC Comments on Agri-mark IDP Sept 2015.docx..pdf
Importance: High

Please consider giving some of your valuable time to covering this issue so it does not play out in a Montpelier conference out of public sight.

Last week was the deadline for comments to the Agency of Natural Resources on the Agri-Mark permit renewal to spread processing waste across 538 fields impacting 305 streams in 33 communities. Please see attached, in no particular order, for a sampling of comments submitted by clean water, sustainable business advocates.

The outcome of this issue now rests with the Agency of Natural Resources Secretary.

Thank you.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 11:39 AM
To: Markowitz, Deb
Cc: Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; 'Don Turner'; 'Diane B. Snelling'; Schuren, Alyssa; Curt Spalding; szaro.deb@epa.gov; 'Stephen Perkins'; ANR - DWGWP Draft Permit Comments
Subject: Agri-Mark/Cabot Creamery IDP ID-9-0043 Comments
Attachments: Cabot IDP 0915.pdf

09 September 2015

Agency of Natural Resources
1 National Life Drive – Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3521

Indirect Discharge Permit Renewal for Agri-Mark/Cabot Creamery

Dear Secretary Markowitz:

It is our professional opinion that neither the previously authorized Indirect Discharge Permits (IDP) nor the currently proposed Renewal IDP have been nor are sufficient to safeguard the Public Trust in our State's waters based on the limited but disturbing data offered in the past and the limited oversight scheduled going forward.

Specifically, of highest concern, is that of the only streams monitored of the potentially 305 impacted, 100 percent of them (or both)—Cold Brook and Flagg Brook—showed increases in nutrient loading at the downstream monitoring locations. It is likely well known to you that the Vermont Water Quality Standards contain the following General Antidegradation Policy in §1-03(B): "All waters shall be managed in accordance with these rules to protect, maintain, and improve water quality." At a minimum, from the limited monitoring conducted, it is apparent that these two brooks are not being managed so as to improve water quality in direct contradiction to Vermont Water Quality Standards. This alone is basis for not re-issuing the permit utilizing the protocols of the past.

Furthermore, there is not sufficient biological data to be able to objectively determine the cumulative impacts to the aquatic ecosystems of these streams—the macroinvertebrate and fisheries populations—and obviously no other streams within the discharge area given the absence of Department oversight since this practice was first permitted several decades ago.

According to the permit itself, stated on page 2, "Dairy processing wastewater is used as a soil amendment for agricultural purposes to approved disposal fields due to its high nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic content." The issues surrounding the Agriculture Industry's use of soil amendments and their role in the eutrophication and steady decline of Lake Champlain water quality are now well known due to the lawsuit that required the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to revoke the previous State TMDL and itself author the new TMDL for the Lake Champlain Basin, in which many of these receiving fields and waters are located. This new TMDL will require agricultural load reductions of 30 to 80 percent throughout the Basin. It would appear, through the Draft IDP, that

it is the State's and the permittee's intent to shift the entire burden for identifying load reductions to Cabot's own member farms if they are to continue to receive this "high nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic content" industry waste. If that is not the case, it would stand to reason, that any IDP renewal would require at a minimum a 30 percent reduction in loading from the applicant. Regardless, there is no "reasonable assurance" being offered to our fellow Vermonters that the Agency has a plan for reducing these loads.

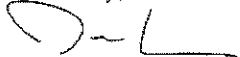
Additionally, given the one- to perhaps two-day storage capacity of the permittee to maintain waste onsite during extended periods of inclement weather, the permit is technically unenforceable. It is our expectation that there are numerous instances during a five-year period when fields are not capable of infiltrating land-applied wastes without incurring surface runoff. If there is data to the contrary, we would appreciate it being shared.

In light of all of the aforementioned, if you are still so inclined to continue to the permit the arcane practice of land-applied industrial waste, we request that you amend the proposed Renewal IDP to reflect VTWQS in the following manner until such time that it can be empirically demonstrated that the waters of the State are not being degraded by this practice but are in fact improved:

- The permit be limited to a one-year period
- Increase in-stream monitoring locations to 10 percent of those impacted or 31 total identified in concert with public stakeholders
- Mandatory bi-weekly chemical monitoring and monthly biological monitoring of the Winooski River year-round
- Mandatory bi-weekly chemical monitoring and monthly biological of the 31 identified and agreed upon impacted streams year-round
- Mandate a minimum of two week's onsite storage capacity to ensure no application occurs during extended periods of wet weather/frozen soil.
- Require reporting of how waste is handled during days when more than one inch of rain is received in less than one hour or when more than two inches of rain is received during a 24-hour period in any town of fields receiving waste
- Mandatory soil testing of all receiving fields in April and November to ensure fields' present and continued viability for receiving liquid soil amendments
- Remove the provision for year-round spreading and, instead, prohibit application when frost is present at any depth prior to application that day.
- Permit shall reflect individual sample values for chemical analysis, rather than the current mean concentration protocol.
- An annual report either conducted by the Agency or an independent water quality specialist submitted two months prior to the permit expiration such that future determinations can be made without extension of any practices continuing shown to be not improving Vermont waters or, at a minimum, not degrading them, especially when conducted in concert with other Agency of Agriculture-approved land applications of nutrients, milkhouse wastewater, or surplus milk.

Thank you for your work "to preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health for the benefit of this and future generations." The people of the State of Vermont and our children are counting on you to safeguard all of our interest in safe, clean, healthy waters and soils.

Sincerely,



James Ehlers
Executive Director

cc: Governor Peter Shumlin
Shap Smith, Speaker of the House
John Campbell, Senate Pro Tem
Don Turner, House Minority Leader
Diane Snelling, Senate Minority Leader
Alyssa Schuren, Commissioner, VT Department of Environmental Conservation
Curt Spalding, Regional Administrator, US EPA Region 1
Stephen Perkins, US EPA Region 1 Ecosystem Restoration Program

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 3:06 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: Darren -- you will want to read, I think Water Online - September 2015

<http://wateronline.epubxp.com/i/557891-september-2015/16>

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 2:07 PM
To: Johnson, Justin
Cc: Springer, Darren; 'cdrottler.'
Subject: Justin

Justin,
I would appreciate you sharing with Darren some of the past obstacles regarding the stormwater program partnership that you attempted to help us address. We are optimistic about the future.
Thank you.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Springer, Darren; 'cdrottler.'
Subject: RE: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

Got it ... thank you. See you on the 12th at 9 at Mirabelle's.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 9:30 PM
To: cdrottler .
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

Let's do Mirabelles

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 4, 2015, at 4:39 PM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Me, too

On Tuesday, August 4, 2015, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

I could do that.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 12:01 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'cdrottler.'
Subject: RE: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

Would have to be in AM, like 9am on 12th would work

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

(802) 522-2082 (cell)

Darren.Springer@vermont.gov

Please note: My email address has changed to Darren.Springer@vermont.gov.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 11:26 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Cc: 'cdrottler.'
Subject: RE: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

When can you do BTV?

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 11:25 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: cdrottler .
Subject: Re: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

I can do after 1 on 13th if in Montpelier

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 4, 2015, at 11:19 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

From: cdrottler . [mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 9:40 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

I think I can do either...

On Tuesday, August 4, 2015, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

[Connect](#) with James

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Springer, Darren
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 9:30 PM
To: cdrottler .
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

Let's do Mirabelles

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 4, 2015, at 4:39 PM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Me, too

On Tuesday, August 4, 2015, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

I could do that.

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 12:01 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'cdrottler .'
Subject: RE: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

Would have to be in AM, like 9am on 12th would work

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

(802) 522-2082 (cell)

Darren.Springer@vermont.gov

Please note: My email address has changed to Darren.Springer@vermont.gov.

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 11:26 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Cc: 'cdrottler.'
Subject: RE: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

When can you do BTV?

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 11:25 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: cdrottler .
Subject: Re: Darren, what say you? RE: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

I can do after 1 on 13th if in Montpelier

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 4, 2015, at 11:19 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

From: cdrottler . [mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 9:40 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

I think I can do either...

On Tuesday, August 4, 2015, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director
[Connect](#) with James

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 9:40 AM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: Reschedule ... early afternoon on the 12th ... after 1 on the 13th?

I think I can do either...

On Tuesday, August 4, 2015, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2015 10:34 AM
To: 'cdrottler .'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: BLUE(r)

Roger that thank you both sorry

From: cdrottler . [mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2015 9:54 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: BLUE(r)

Got it. Congratulations!

On Wednesday, July 29, 2015, Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov> wrote:
Wow that's great James, don't worry about our meeting we can reschedule!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 29, 2015, at 7:32 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Headed to hospital now to get a baby ... may have to reschedule or at least meet at the Fletcher Allen Gift Shop ... will text you both. Thanks, Sorry.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2015 11:07 PM
To: cdrottler .
Cc: Springer, Darren; James Ehlers
Subject: Re: BLUE(r)

See you guys tomorrow, 2:30, I am going to be right near Muddy Waters following a 1:30 mtg, good to meet there? Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 21, 2015, at 12:14 PM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Sounds good to me. New Moon has tables and a bit of room in the back, which might give us a bit of space.

Chris

On Monday, July 20, 2015, Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us> wrote:

Happy to meet downtown, muddy waters or somewhere like that?

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

(802) 522-2082 (cell)

Darren.Springer@state.vt.us

From: cdrottler . [<mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2015 4:23 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: BLUE(r)

Ok. Anywhere specific?

On Monday, July 20, 2015, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Okay ... penciled in for the 29th at 2:30 in BTV

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2015 4:02 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Cc: 'cdrottler .'
Subject: RE: BLUE(r)

Sorry meant next Mon

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

(802) 522-2082 (cell)

Darren.Springer@state.vt.us

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2015 3:52 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Cc: 'cdrottler.'
Subject: RE: BLUE(r)

Confirmed?

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>]
Sent: Saturday, July 18, 2015 10:20 PM
To: James Ehlers
Cc: cdrottler.
Subject: Re: BLUE(r)

Works for me, tentatively, let's confirm that Monday.

Thanks, have a great rest of weekend

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 18, 2015, at 11:03 AM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

I can do 2:30 ... that work?

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 9:10 PM
To: cdrottler.
Cc: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: BLUE(r)

James?

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 17, 2015, at 3:27 PM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Ok with me.

On Friday, July 17, 2015, Springer, Darren
<Darren.Springer@state.vt.us> wrote:

Afternoon 29th in Burlington?

Darren M. Springer

Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

(802) 522-2082 (cell)

Darren.Springer@state.vt.us

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 2:18 PM
To: 'cdrottler .'; Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: BLUE(r)

Talk to me, boys!

From: cdrottler . [<mailto:cdrottler@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 8:52 AM
To: Springer, Darren; james@mychamplain.net
Subject: BLUE(r)

Hello Darren, I am back from Montana. James and
Darren, how do the next two weeks look for a
meeting?

Chris

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Harrington, Bryan
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2015 3:20 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'
Cc: Martin, Trey; Mears, David; Schuren, Alyssa; Copans, Jon; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; 'voorhees, jeanne'; 'Lynne Hamjian'; 'Stephen Perkins'; 'ssmith@leg.state.vt.us'; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; 'ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us'; 'Dylan Giambatista'; 'jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us'; 'David Deen'; 'jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us'; 'Kate Webb'; 'Bob Krebs'
Subject: RE: Agri-Mark IDP
Attachments: 9-0043.Notice of Hearing.pdf

Dear Mr. Ehlers,

In response to your request (and others) for a public hearing regarding the indirect discharge permit renewal for Agri-Mark Inc. dba Cabot Creamery, the Agency of Natural Resources will hold a public hearing on August 31, 2015 from 6:30pm - 9:00pm at Willey Memorial Hall in Cabot, Vermont. Attached is the Notice of Hearing.

Please contact me if you have any questions.



Bryan Harrington
Environmental Analyst
Indirect Discharge Program
Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Email: bryan.harrington@state.vt.us
Phone: (802) 505-0972

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2015 12:18 PM
To: Markowitz, Deb
Cc: Martin, Trey; Mears, David; Schuren, Alyssa; Copans, Jon; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; 'voorhees, jeanne'; 'Lynne Hamjian'; 'Stephen Perkins'; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; 'Conor T. Kennedy'; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; 'Dylan Giambatista'; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; 'David Deen'; jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us; 'Kate Webb'; 'Bob Krebs'
Subject: RE: Request for Public Hearing | Agri-Mark IDP

Thank you, Deb! I look forward to their assessment.

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: Markowitz, Deb [mailto:Deb.Markowitz@state.vt.us]

Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2015 12:10 PM

To: James Ehlers

Cc: Martin, Trey; Mears, David; Schuren, Alyssa; Copans, Jon; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; 'voorhees, jeanne'; Lynne Hamjian; 'Stephen Perkins'; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; David Deen; jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us; Kate Webb; Bob Krebs

Subject: RE: Request for Public Hearing | Agri-Mark IDP

Thank you James, I will send this to the program. Deb

Deb Markowitz
Secretary
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
1 National Life Building, David 2
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

802-828-2194
www.anr.state.vt.us

RESPECT -- PROTECT -- ENJOY

From: James Ehlers [james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 12:06 PM
To: Markowitz, Deb
Cc: Martin, Trey; Mears, David; Schuren, Alyssa; Copans, Jon; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; 'voorhees, jeanne'; Lynne Hamjian; 'Stephen Perkins'; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; David Deen; jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us; Kate Webb; Bob Krebs
Subject: Request for Public Hearing | Agri-Mark IDP

Secretary Markowitz,
Lake Champlain International requests the Agency of Natural Resources hold a public hearing on the pending indirect discharge permit (IDP) for Agri-Mark, Inc. DBA Cabot Creamery, Cabot, Vermont.

In light of the worsening nutrient loading trends in the Lake Champlain Basin, as acknowledged in the current TMDL process, we believe it both responsible and reasonable to review the science and definitions under which the past IDP was issued and by which a future permit may be granted to the satisfaction of the impacted neighboring and downstream parties.

Additionally, we request an extension of the comment period until after the hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: Springer, Darren
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 11:07 PM
To: Coriell, Scott
Subject: Fwd: Request for Public Hearing | Agri-Mark IDP
Attachments: image001.jpg

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Date: July 13, 2015 at 12:06:21 PM EDT
To: Deb Markowitz <deb.markowitz@state.vt.us>
Cc: Trey Martin <trey.martin@state.vt.us>, David Mears <david.mears@state.vt.us>, "Schuren, Alyssa" <Alyssa.Schuren@state.vt.us>, <jon.copans@state.vt.us>, <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>, Justin Johnson <justin.johnson@state.vt.us>, "voorhees, jeanne" <voorhees.jeanne@epa.gov>, Lynne Hamjian <Hamjian.Lynne@epamail.epa.gov>, 'Stephen Perkins' <perkins.stephen@epa.gov>, <ssmith@leg.state.vt.us>, "Conor T. Kennedy" <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>, <ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us>, Dylan Giambatista <dgiambatista@leg.state.vt.us>, <jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us>, David Deen <DDEEN@leg.state.vt.us>, <jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us>, Kate Webb <katewebbvt@gmail.com>, Bob Krebs <rck100@aol.com>
Subject: Request for Public Hearing | Agri-Mark IDP

Secretary Markowitz,

Lake Champlain International requests the Agency of Natural Resources hold a public hearing on the pending indirect discharge permit (IDP) for Agri-Mark, Inc. DBA Cabot Creamery, Cabot, Vermont.

In light of the worsening nutrient loading trends in the Lake Champlain Basin, as acknowledged in the current TMDL process, we believe it both responsible and reasonable to review the science and definitions under which the past IDP was issued and by which a future permit may be granted to the satisfaction of the impacted neighboring and downstream parties.

Additionally, we request an extension of the comment period until after the hearing.

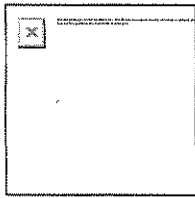
Thank you for your consideration.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 12:06 PM
To: Markowitz, Deb
Cc: Martin, Trey; Mears, David; Schuren, Alyssa; Copans, Jon; Springer, Darren; Johnson, Justin; 'voorhees, jeanne'; Lynne Hamjian; 'Stephen Perkins'; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Dylan Giambatista; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; David Deen; jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us; Kate Webb; Bob Krebs
Subject: Request for Public Hearing | Agri-Mark IDP
Importance: High

Secretary Markowitz,

Lake Champlain International requests the Agency of Natural Resources hold a public hearing on the pending indirect discharge permit (IDP) for Agri-Mark, Inc. DBA Cabot Creamery, Cabot, Vermont.

In light of the worsening nutrient loading trends in the Lake Champlain Basin, as acknowledged in the current TMDL process, we believe it both responsible and reasonable to review the science and definitions under which the past IDP was issued and by which a future permit may be granted to the satisfaction of the impacted neighboring and downstream parties.

Additionally, we request an extension of the comment period until after the hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2015 11:55 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: Bacterial Outbreak Alert! Burlington Harmful Algal Blooms Underway

Bacterial Outbreak (AKA Harmful Algal Bloom) Alert!

Two locations in Burlington: South of Perkins Pier and at the Community Sailing Center.

These outbreaks have the potential to release neurotoxins and liver toxins. They can aerosolize, meaning one only need breathe it to experience complications. Keep pets and young children, in particular, away.

<https://apps.health.vermont.gov/gis/vttracking/bluegreenalgae/d/>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2015 10:20 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: Philips & Green Sense Farms usher in new era of indoor farming that help optimize crop yield and quality -- the final component to Capture and Conversion

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2015 10:19 AM
To: 'Lunderville, Neale'; Powell, Mary (Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com); Castonguay, Josh (Josh.Castonguay@greenmountainpower.com)
Cc: Darren Springer; Jeff Bernicke (Jeff.Bernicke@nativeenergy.com)
Subject: Philips & Green Sense Farms usher in new era of indoor farming that help optimize crop yield and quality -- the final component to Capture and Conversion

CHP biogas facility could “fuel” this year-round, changing the face of Vermont farming and creating truly local, year-round markets. Last check, Vermont imports 95 percent of its food for human consumption. Downtowns such as Burlington, St. A, Rutland, Newport, etc. provide the perfect hub for energy conversion and distribution, shrinking the supply/demand loop ... to include our basic form of energy—food.

“By growing our crops vertically, we are able to pack more plants per acre than we would have in a field farm, which results in more harvests per year. We produce little waste, no agricultural runoff and minimal greenhouse gasses because the food is grown where it is consumed.”

<http://www.newscenter.philips.com/main/standard/news/press/2014/20140509-Philips-and-Green-Sense-Farms-usher-in-new-era-of-indoor-farming.wpd#.VZvb7fkxqLp>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 11:25 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Cc: 'Castonguay, Josh'; 'Powell, Mary'; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Subject: RE: Mary, Darren -- resend

Thank you, Darren!

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us]
Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2015 11:49 AM
To: 'James Ehlers'; 'Powell, Mary'; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Cc: 'Castonguay, Josh'
Subject: RE: Mary, Darren -- resend

I did have a good call with EPA, in short plenty of support for this concept, and they are willing to try to work across agencies (with help from delegation and in particular Senator Leahy's Office/Tom Berry) to consider any funding that could be available.

Great that BED is interested Neale, and as James and Mary and GMP know, we are happy to work to support this where feasible.

Thanks
Darren

Darren M. Springer
Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
(802) 522-2082 (cell)
Darren.Springer@state.vt.us

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2015 6:10 AM
To: 'Powell, Mary'; 'Lunderville, Neale'
Cc: Springer, Darren; 'Castonguay, Josh'
Subject: RE: Mary, Darren -- resend

Thank you, Neale. Thank you, Mary.

Neale,
I believe Darren recently had a productive call with the EPA Washington and Boston Innovation and Tech team.

From: Powell, Mary [mailto:Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2015 6:06 AM
To: Lunderville, Neale
Cc: James Ehlers; Darren.Springer@state.vt.us; Castonguay, Josh
Subject: Re: Mary, Darren -- resend

Thanks Neale. Yes - I am copying Josh - he is the one to connect with you. We are psyched about the potential to make a real difference with this approach!

James, thanks for this.

Mary

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 2, 2015, at 5:59 AM, Lunderville, Neale <nlunderville@burlingtonelectric.com> wrote:

Thanks, James.

Mary: I can see several interesting applications in Burlington (not with manure, mind you... with the other "stuff"). Are you building a financial model to see if the numbers work? If so, could we get in on it? You can have whoever is your project lead call me directly.

Thanks,

Neale

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2015 6:38 AM
To: Powell, Mary; Darren.Springer@state.vt.us
Cc: Lunderville, Neale
Subject: Mary, Darren -- resend

Good Morning, Mary and Darren.

Neale and I met yesterday for just under two hours regarding Capture and Conversion and the opportunities for Burlington. Neale sees a potential role for BED. How would you like to proceed?

Thank you.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 10:46 AM
To: Springer, Darren; 'cdrottler.'
Subject: RE: BLUER

Thank you, Darren. Thank you, Chris.

From: Springer, Darren [mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us]
Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2015 8:19 PM
To: cdrottler .
Cc: james@mychamplain.net
Subject: Re: BLUE(R)

Hi Chris,

I actually already had my home BLUE certified when we moved in a couple years back, Ross came out to do it if I remember correctly. Happy to chat about the program apart from that though.

Thanks
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 2, 2015, at 1:50 PM, cdrottler . <cdrottler@gmail.com> wrote:

Darren,

I work with James Ehlers on the BLUE® program. In a nutshell, BLUE® is a certification program where we evaluate properties against a list of best management practices related to water quality/stormwater pollution. I am currently implementing a grant in the City of Burlington and things are going well. I understand you live in Burlington and I'd be happy to visit your property to walk you through what we do. The process is pretty quick - 15 minutes is typical, but if we chit chat it can obviously take longer.

I am interested to connect with you about both the future of BLUE® and our relationship with the State, particularly ANR. There are some outstanding issues that James and I have tried to resolve with Justin Johnson, David Mears, Sue Allen, and others. Suffice it to say, many issues are outstanding and unresolved.

I just tried calling your office and I understand that you do not have voicemail, so I am writing you this note. If interested, maybe the three of us (you, James and I) could meet so that we can share our experiences and talk about the merits of our efforts to help protect water quality.

I am away July 6 to the 16th, but am generally available after that time.

Thank you.

Regards,

Chris Rottler
BLUE® Program Manager
T. (802) 318 5191

Mishaan, Jessica

From: James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo>
Sent: Sunday, July 05, 2015 6:48 PM
To: Mears, David; Springer, Darren
Subject: Burlington and Vergennes, again -- Pathogens in our streets and waters | 38 sewage discharges now in 52 days (5 per week avg)

2015-07-01	Burlington	Pine Street near intersection with Lakeside Ave.	Lake Champlain	Discharged unt
2015-07-01	Vergennes	MacDonough Drive Pump Station	Potash Brook & Otter Creek	Authorized Wet W

Rain does not cause pollution. Obsolete and inadequate infrastructure coupled with poor public policy does.

Remember, sewage is more than just phosphorous. See below.

That now brings the total to 38 sewage spills in the 11 different communities since May 10th:

Burlington 8
Rutland 7
Vergennes 6
Middlebury 5
Saint Albans 3
Montpelier 1
S. Burlington 1
Northfield 1
Shelburne 2
Hinesburg 1
Wilmington 1
Ludlow 1
Brighton 1

Wastewater constituents

Microorganisms bathing and eating shellfish	Pathogenic bacteria, virus and worms eggs	Risk when
Biodegradable organic materials odours	Oxygen depletion in rivers, lakes and fjords	Fish death,
Other organic materials aesthetic inconveniences, accumulation in the food chain	Detergents, pesticides, fat, oil and grease, colouring, solvents, phenols, cyanide	Toxic effect, bio
Nutrients ammonium	Nitrogen, phosphorus, Eutrophication, oxygen depletion, toxic effect	
Metals bioaccumulation	Hg, Pb, Cd, Cr, Cu, Ni	Toxic effect,
Other inorganic materials effect	Acids, for example hydrogen sulphide, bases	Corrosion, toxic
Thermal effects living conditions for flora and fauna	Hot water	Changing
Odour (and taste) inconveniences, toxic effect	Hydrogen sulphide	Aesthetic
Radioactivity effect, accumulation		Toxic

Constituents present in domestic wastewater (based on Henze et al., 2001)

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: from Tom Berry FW: An invitation from Senator Patrick Leahy and the LCBP

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 9:24 AM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>

Subject: FW: from Tom Berry FW: An invitation from Senator Patrick Leahy and the LCBP

From: Stickney, Michaela [<mailto:Michaela.Stickney@state.vt.us>]

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 9:07 AM

To: ayer, sen. claire; clifford, eric; ehlers, james (2); fisher, lori; hansen, paul; krebs, rep. bob; macdonald, alex; moore, julie; naud, mark; robert fischer (bob.fischer@gmwea.org); senatorginnylyons@gmail.com; smith, denise; webb, kate; young, sherry

Cc: berry, tom

Subject: from Tom Berry FW: An invitation from Senator Patrick Leahy and the LCBP

Tom Berry asked me to share this invitation for the grants announcement with Senator Leahy next Friday June 19 at 2pm. Please RSVP per the message below. Thank you! mbs

From: Berry, Tom (Leahy) [mailto:Tom_Berry@leahy.senate.gov]

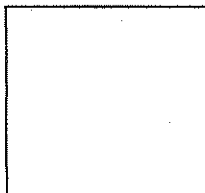
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 4:00 PM

To: Stickney, Michaela

Subject: An invitation from Senator Patrick Leahy and the LCBP

Michaela, can you forward this invitation to members of the VT CAC, and any other Lake Champlain stakeholders who you think appropriate.

Please note a correction to the RSVP e-mail address below.



We hope that you are able to reserve
Friday, June 19, 2015 at 2 pm

Senator Leahy invites you to join him, along with recent grant recipients, and those interested in learning more about this year's round of funding

Millions of dollars of LCBP Local Partnership Grants have helped towns, schools, watershed groups and other organizations work on natural resource and cultural heritage protection, conservation, education and outreach in the Lake Champlain Basin.

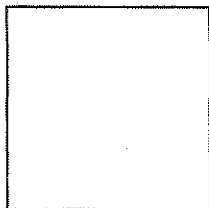
It will be very helpful for planning, for you to **RSVP** to:
Elizabeth Seward at Elizabeth_Seward@leahy.senate.gov or
(802) 863-2525

Thank you!

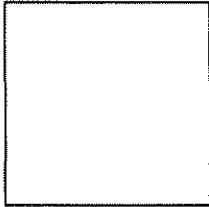
Tom Berry, Field Representative for Senator Leahy
Bill Howland, Director, Lake Champlain Basin Program

Copyright © 20XX. All Rights Reserved.

Forward this email



This email was sent to tom_berry@leahy.senate.gov by rmitchell@lcbp.org |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | [Rapid removal with SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Lake Champlain Basin Program | Lake Champlain Basin Program | 54 West Shore Rd. | Grand Isle | VT | 05458

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: Darren, Jeff --- Office of Science and Technology

From: Springer, Darren
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 2:03 PM
To: 'James Ehlers' <james@champlain.ngo>
Subject: RE: Darren, Jeff --- Office of Science and Technology

Not the case. Sounds like still very much open discussion from what I gather. Would be happy to hear your thoughts on what priority should be with the funds.

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 6:16 AM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Darren, Jeff --- Office of Science and Technology

Roger, but I heard that how the dollars were going to be spent was already being decided ... and on that point we should probably chat.

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>]
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 10:47 PM
To: James Ehlers
Subject: Re: Darren, Jeff --- Office of Science and Technology

I don't personally have details on Keurig and TDI still in permitting so somewhat premature on that one. I will check on Keurig.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 11, 2015, at 5:13 PM, James Ehlers <james@champlain.ngo> wrote:

Thanks!

Hey ... can you share with me the vision for the TDI money and the Keurig money?

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>]
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 5:11 PM
To: 'James Ehlers'; Lape, Jeff
Cc: Mishaan, Jessica
Subject: RE: Darren, Jeff --- Office of Science and Technology

Thanks James, Jeff good to meet you via email. Would be great to talk sometime if you have a few minutes.

Copying Jess Mishaan on our end to help with scheduling a conversation.

Thanks,

Darren

Darren M. Springer
Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
(802) 522-2082 (cell)
Darren.Springer@state.vt.us

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 5:09 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Lape, Jeff
Subject: Darren, Jeff --- Office of Science and Technology

Darren meet Jeff. Jeff meet Darren.

Jeff,
Darren is our Governor's Chief of Staff ... he is interested in how we can all work together to implement the Capture and Conversion model I shared with you after we met in DC.

Thank you. Hope you are well.

Jeffrey Lape
Deputy Director, Office of Science and Technology
Office of Water, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Room 5231A, WJC West (Connecting Wing)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460
202-566-0480

James

All the best,
James Ehlers
Executive Director
[Connect with James](#)

<image001.jpg>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: Burlington spills again; Hinesburg spills, making 10 communities and with a total of 23 sewage spills

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 4:28 PM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>

Subject: Burlington spills again; Hinesburg spills, making 10 communities and with a total of 23 sewage spills

2015-06-14	Start unknown, end 11:00 am	Hinesburg	Mechanicsville Road near Hinesburg Cemetery	Patrick Brook
2015-06-12	10:21 pm and 10:38 pm	Burlington	CSO #1 (Manhattan Drive/Park Street)	Wetlands contiguous with Winooski River

That now brings the total to 23 sewage spills in the last 35 days in 10 different communities:

Burlington 6
Rutland 5
Middlebury 3
Vergennes 2
Montpelier 1
S. Burlington 1
Northfield 1
Shelburne 1
Hinesburg 1
Wilmington 1
Ludlow 1

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: Chicago Moves Toward "Zero Waste" Model

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 8:10 AM
To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>
Subject: Chicago Moves Toward "Zero Waste" Model

One goal is to increase the nutrients recovered during wastewater processing. To that end, the city is building the world's largest phosphorus recovery facility at the Stickney Water Reclamation Plant.

http://www.wateronline.com/doc/chicago-moves-toward-zero-waste-model-0001?sectionCode=NewsFeaturedItem&templateCode=Single&user=2821394&source=nl%3A43230&utm_source=et_10759433&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=WOL_2015-06-16&utm_term=F3F9B512-37EB-443A-B707-0D6C08049D8B&utm_content=Chicago%2BMoves%2BToward%2B%2527Zero%2BWaste%2527%2BModel

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: PLOS ONE: Estimating the Size and Impact of the Ecological Restoration Economy

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2015 12:13 PM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>; Moulton, Pat <Pat.Moulton@state.vt.us>; Johnson, Justin <Justin.Johnson@state.vt.us>

Subject: PLOS ONE: Estimating the Size and Impact of the Ecological Restoration Economy

“Domestic public debate continues over the economic impacts of environmental regulations that require environmental restoration. ...”

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0128339>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: Wharton School of Business -- U.S. Needs \$1 Trillion in Water System Upgrades

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]

Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 11:18 AM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>; Moulton, Pat <Pat.Moulton@state.vt.us>

Subject: Wharton School of Business -- U.S. Needs \$1 Trillion in Water System Upgrades

<https://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/article/americas-neglected-water-systems-face-a-reckoning/>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: Had good call with EPA Innovation folks

From: Springer, Darren
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 12:51 PM
To: 'James Ehlers' <james@champlain.ngo>
Subject: RE: Had good call with EPA Innovation folks

I have just a couple mins, give me a ring

Darren M. Springer
Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
(802) 522-2082 (cell)
Darren.Springer@state.vt.us

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 12:51 PM
To: Springer, Darren
Subject: RE: Had good call with EPA Innovation folks

Great ... thank you ... do you have time for a quick call now?

From: Springer, Darren [<mailto:Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>]
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 12:46 PM
To: james@mychamplain.net
Subject: Had good call with EPA Innovation folks

Thanks for setting it up, I also encouraged GMP to reach out to them on their project and I offered to help move things forward if we can.

Darren

Darren M. Springer
Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
(802) 522-2082 (cell)
Darren.Springer@state.vt.us

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject:

FW: Darren --- 2015-Regenerative-Capitalism-4-20-15-final.pdf

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 1:29 PM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>

Subject: Darren --- 2015-Regenerative-Capitalism-4-20-15-final.pdf

Darren,

Would welcome your thoughts on this ...

<http://capitalinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/2015-Regenerative-Capitalism-4-20-15-final.pdf>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: Please reconsider your rail permit -- New evidences of RoundupR (glyphosate formulation) impact on the periphyton community and the water quality of freshwater ecosystems - Springer

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]

Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 4:07 PM

To: Ross, Chuck <Chuck.Ross@state.vt.us>

Cc: Mears, David <David.Mears@state.vt.us>; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@state.vt.us>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>; John Hollar <JHollar@montpelier-vt.org>; 'voorhees, jeanne' <voorhees.jeanne@epa.gov>; 'Stephen Perkins' <perkins.stephen@epa.gov>

Subject: Please reconsider your rail permit -- New evidences of RoundupR (glyphosate formulation) impact on the periphyton community and the water quality of freshwater ecosystems - Springer

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10646-009-0446-7>

Thank you for your consideration.

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: Vergennes not to be outdone dumps sewage again -- 28 spills, 10 communities, in less than 6 weeks

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 5:01 PM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>

Subject: Vergennes not to be outdone dumps sewage again -- 28 spills, 10 communities, in less than 6 weeks

But we are told again and again sewage treatment plants are not a problem ... do we wait until the first child playing in the water falls ill to consider it a problem?

Remember, sewage is more than just phosphorous. See below.

That now brings the total to 28 sewage spills in the 10 different communities since May 10th:

Burlington 7
Rutland 6
Middlebury 3
Vergennes 3
Saint Albans 2
Montpelier 1
S. Burlington 1
Northfield 1
Shelburne 1
Hinesburg 1
Wilmington 1
Ludlow 1

Wastewater constituents

Microorganisms bathing and eating shellfish	Pathogenic bacteria, virus and worms eggs	Risk when
Biodegradable organic materials odours	Oxygen depletion in rivers, lakes and fjords	Fish death,
Other organic materials aesthetic inconveniences, accumulation in the food chain	Detergents, pesticides, fat, oil and grease, colouring, solvents, phenols, cyanide	Toxic effect, bio

Nutrients ammonium	Nitrogen, phosphorus, Eutrophication, oxygen depletion, toxic effect	
Metals bioaccumulation	Hg, Pb, Cd, Cr, Cu, Ni	Toxic effect,
Other inorganic materials effect	Acids, for example hydrogen sulphide, bases	Corrosion, toxic
Thermal effects living conditions for flora and fauna	Hot water	Changing
Odour (and taste) inconveniences, toxic effect	Hydrogen sulphide	Aesthetic
Radioactivity effect, accumulation		Toxic

Constituents present in domestic wastewater (based on Henze et al., 2001)

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject:

FW: Ways To Keep Synthetic Estrogens Out Of Rivers And Seas - Health News : NPR

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]

Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2015 9:38 AM

To: Vermont Public Radio <jlindholm@vpr.net>; Patti Daniels <pdaniels@vpr.net>; Taylor Dobbs <tdobbs@vpr.net>; phirschfeld@vpr.net; RCENGERI@VPR.NET

Cc: Markowitz, Deb <Deb.Markowitz@state.vt.us>; Chen, Harry <Harry.Chen@state.vt.us>; Mears, David <David.Mears@state.vt.us>; Dolan, Kari <Kari.Dolan@state.vt.us>; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@state.vt.us>; Palmer, Eric <eric.palmer@state.vt.us>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>

Subject: Ways To Keep Synthetic Estrogens Out Of Rivers And Seas - Health News : NPR

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/06/19/415336306/hunting-ways-to-keep-synthetic-estrogens-out-of-rivers-and-seas>

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: A review of current knowledge on toxic benthic freshwater cyanobacteria -- Ecology, toxin production and risk management
Attachments: Quiblier et al. 2013. A review of current knowledge on toxic benthic freshwater cyanobacteria.pdf

From: James Ehlers [mailto:james@champlain.ngo]

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 9:15 AM

To: Mears, David <David.Mears@state.vt.us>; Chen, Harry <Harry.Chen@state.vt.us>; Porter, Louis <Louis.Porter@state.vt.us>; Markowitz, Deb <Deb.Markowitz@state.vt.us>; Martin, Trey <Trey.Martin@state.vt.us>
Cc: Johnson, Justin <Justin.Johnson@state.vt.us>; Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>

Subject: A review of current knowledge on toxic benthic freshwater cyanobacteria -- Ecology, toxin production and risk management

attached

A review of current knowledge on toxic benthic freshwater cyanobacteria -- Ecology, toxin production and risk management

Quiblier Catherine ^{a,b,*}, Wood Susanna ^{c,d,**},
Echenique-Subiabre Isidora ^{a,f}, Heath Mark ^e, Villeneuve Aure'lie ^f,
Humbert Jean-Francois ^f

^aMNHN, UMR 7245, 57 rue Cuvier, CP39, 75231 Paris Cedex 05, France

^bUniversite' Paris Diderot, 5 rue T. Mann, 75013 Paris, France

^cCawthron Institute, Private Bag 2, 7001 Nelson, New Zealand

^dDepartment of Biological Sciences, University of Waikato, Private Bag 3105, 3240 Hamilton, New Zealand

^eSchool of Biological Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington, New Zealand

^fINRA, UMR BIOEMCO, 46 Rue d'Ulm, 75005 Paris, France

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject: FW: 55 Milk Tank Trucks of human waste dumped into already impaired public water, legally.

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 11:16 AM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>; Powell, Mary <Mary.Powell@greenmountainpower.com>

Subject: 55 Milk Tank Trucks of human waste dumped into already impaired public water, legally.

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 11:14 AM

To: 'voorhees, jeanne'; Lynne Hamjian; 'Stephen Perkins'; szaro.deb@epa.gov; Curt Spalding

Subject: FYI 55 Milk Tank Trucks of human waste dumped into already impaired public water, legally.

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 11:13 AM

To: 'Emerson Lynn'; Michelle Monroe

Cc: Taylor Dobbs; Vermont Public Radio; Patti Daniels; RCENGERI@VPR.NET; 'John Dillon'

Subject: 55 Milk Tank Trucks of human waste dumped into already impaired public water, legally.

2015-06-22	Lower Weldon Street	North Branch Stevens Brook	Authorized Wet Weat Overflow
------------	------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------------

STEVENS BROOK, MOUTH UPSTREAM 6.8 MILES

NUTRIENTS,
SEDIMENT, E. COLI

ALS, CR

AGRICULTURAL
INSTABILITY

STEVENS BROOK, APPROX. 1 MILE BELOW CTRL
VT RAIL YARD UPSTREAM TO YARD

SEDIMENT, OIL,
GREASE,
HYDROCARBONS

AES, ALS,
CR

SEDIMENT, SOI
FUEL SPILLS &

All the best,

James Ehlers

Executive Director

Connect with James



Lake Champlain
International
Through Science - Action - Trade - People - Progress

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.

Mishaan, Jessica

Subject:

FW: Impacts on education funding begin FW: Water Pollution Has Devalued Lakeside Properties By \$1.8M | Vermont Public Radio

From: James Ehlers [<mailto:james@champlain.ngo>]

Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2015 8:07 AM

To: Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us>; Johnson, Justin <Justin.Johnson@state.vt.us>; ssmith@leg.state.vt.us; jcampbell@leg.state.vt.us; David Deen <DDEEN@leg.state.vt.us>; 'Christopher Bray' <cbray@sover.net>

Cc: Feldman, Rachel <Rachel.Feldman@state.vt.us>; ewolffing@leg.state.vt.us; Conor T. Kennedy <ckennedy@leg.state.vt.us>; Dylan Giambatista <dgiambatista@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: Impacts on education funding begin FW: Water Pollution Has Devalued Lakeside Properties By \$1.8M | Vermont Public Radio

The ripple effects into the Education Fund begin ... And St. Albans just dumped the equivalent of 55 milk tank trucks of human excrement into the bay with the approval of state regulators this week.

<http://digital.vpr.net/post/georgia-water-pollution-has-devalued-lakeside-properties-18m>

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.