

**From:** Springer, Darren [Darren.Springer@state.vt.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2015 8:29 PM  
**To:** Christopher Bray  
**Subject:** RE: draft amendment... and notes on

Thanks Chris, good talking with you as well. Here are a few preliminary and hopefully helpful thoughts on the draft and comments below:

- It seems the working group is really being tasked with three distinct issues to look at, based on page 3: PSB process, renewable energy siting, and VGS utility issues. I think if the goal is to produce siting legislation that has significant consensus the focus ought to be more squarely on the siting process, with some corollary focus on PSB processes where needed.
- To that same point, I have provided testimony to House Natural Resources regarding opportunities to incentivize good siting practices through the net metering and standard offer programs. They have included some ideas there in their bill. I think having one of the bullets on page 3 discuss something along the lines of "opportunities to incentivize siting in locations such as brownfields, landfills, rooftops, parking lots, developed industrial or commercial sites, gravel pits, etc." could be helpful and positive. I would also add a bullet looking at something like "removing barriers to co-locating net metering projects in appropriate locations" which could encompass the solar park idea from New Haven.
- As for membership in the working group, I do wonder if it is necessary to have Vermont Planners Association, given that you already have VAPDA and VLCT? I would assume the group will consult the Planners Association and others.
- I think that perhaps having a representative of a town energy committee, appointed by VECAN could be a good potential addition, if you are looking for more local citizen input.

That's all I have for now, but happy to talk further and I am sure Anne Margolis would have some thoughts if you'd like me to share with her at the appropriate point. She has covered siting for us for several years and worked with the siting commission.

Thanks,  
Darren

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**From:** Christopher Bray [CBray@leg.state.vt.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2015 7:18 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren  
**Subject:** draft amendment... and notes on

Darren,

Good to talk with you just now.  
Here's the draft legislation and some notes that I send along with it to Michael Dworkin.

See you tomorrow.

Best,  
--C

—C

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## RE AMENDMENT

The first draft of the amendment from Aaron Adler is attached. It really has two elements that I would especially value your analysis on:

- \* the composition of the working group; and
- \* the charge to the group (now laid out as a list of topics to consider).

My concerns on the working group membership center around getting a knowledgeable group of stakeholders; you'll see Aaron's first draft language, which is a little different than what I said, e.g. when I said expertise in PSB proceedings including municipal and regional planners, he proposed the following:

(6) a representative of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, appointed by the League;

(7) a representative of the Vermont Planners Association, appointed by that Association;

(8) a representative of the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies, appointed by that Association;

This may be aptly expressed — but I don't know yet. Any thoughts?

In addition, the board includes no one truly representing citizens. Might Annette Smith or someone else play this role productively?

### Senator Christopher Bray

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