

Public Comment on H.51, H.175, H.214
April 22, 2019

My name is William Scott and I am a resident of Hinesburg. I write to express my strong support for H.51, H.175 and H.214 for the following reasons:

- We now know that natural gas is not a clean fuel, and that when so called "fugitive emissions" of methane from the production and distribution of fracked gas are properly taken into account, natural gas has significantly more GHG emissions than fuel oil and possibly more than coal.
- We know that the science tells us that we have frighteningly little time to make major reductions in our emissions to avoid catastrophic consequences and that Vermont has been failing to meet our own reduction targets.
- We know that further expansion of natural gas pipelines and other fossil fuel infrastructure will trap us into additional emissions for at least another 30 years in stark contradiction with climate and energy goals embodied in existing statutes.
- We know that it is fiscally absurd to allocate scarce State resources to programs to reduce emissions and ask Vermonters to finance the cost of transition to clean energy while at the same time approving pipelines that wipe the benefits of all these actions away.
- We know that towns across Vermont have been approving resolutions asking the State to ban additional fossil fuel infrastructure and support for such a ban is growing rapidly.

I accordingly ask that you take the basic fundamental step of refusing to allow fossil fuel emissions to get worse by supporting H.51, H.175, and H.214.

I thank you for your consideration and all of your efforts on behalf of our State.

Sincerely,

Bill Scott