

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2015

Lt. Governor Phil Scott issued the following statement in response to the announcement that Vermont Castings' parent company is closing the Randolph and Bethel facilities:

The closure of Vermont Castings Group's facilities in Randolph and Bethel is heartbreaking news for the employees, their families, the communities and the entire State. This dedicated workforce turned a once-struggling company into a profitable, state-of-the-art, cutting-edge business – and they deserve our full respect, thanks and support during this difficult transition.

This news, combined with the announcement of Plasan North America's closure on February 19, is a definitive sign that enough is enough. We cannot continue to be blindsided by these things. We must be involved long before – not after -- a company decides it has to close or relocate. It is clear that something must change in the way we do business when a company with "Vermont" in its name closes up shop in that very State.

The good news is that Vermont's business community has innovative, proactive ideas on how to grow Vermont's economy. Legislators are turning their proposals, heard at the four "Vermont Economy Pitches," into bills. It is my sincere hope that everyone in Montpelier will truly prioritize the economy and continue interacting in a positive and proactive way with the business community. Together we can change the direction of this trend and create a better, brighter future for Vermont.

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