

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 19-2956-INV

Investigation pursuant to Act 62 into the creation of an all-fuels energy efficiency program, expansion of energy efficiency utility programs and services, and funding options for those programs	
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Order entered: 04/24/2020

ORDER SEEKING PROCEDURAL RECOMMENDATIONS

On February 21, 2020, I issued a procedural order seeking information and scheduling recommendations from the participants in this case. In its responsive filing, Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. (“VGS”) stated, “the COVID-19 pandemic has thrust us all into uncertain and unprecedented times. VGS’ resources are being deployed to ensure the safety of our customers, employees and communities. Accordingly, we will only be able to devote limited resources to this proceeding during the pendency of this crisis and *encourage the Commission to consider whether a pause is appropriate i[f] other participants are similarly impacted.*”¹

The Commission is similarly concerned that the COVID-19 pandemic may make proceeding with the investigation difficult in the short-term and may influence the participants’ long-term recommendations. Therefore, I request procedural recommendations from participants as to whether a “pause” in the Public Utility Commission’s Act 62 investigation is appropriate as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. If participants recommend a pause in the investigation, they are requested to state whether they also recommend that the Commission seek an extension from the Legislature of the final report deadline of January 15, 2021, and for how long. Any recommendations are requested to be filed by May 8, 2020.

SO ORDERED.

¹ Letter from Tiana Smith, Vermont Gas Energy Services Manager, to Thomas Knauer, Public Utility Commission Policy Director, dated March 20, 2020 (emphasis added).


Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 24th day of April, 2020.



Thomas Knauer
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: April 24, 2020

Attest: 
Deputy Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

PUC Case No. 19-2956-INV - SERVICE LIST

Melissa Bailey
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
P.O. Box 126
5195 Waterbury-Stowe Road
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
mbailey@vppsa.com

(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Erin C. Bennett, Esq.
Vermont Department of Public Service
112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620
erin.bennett@vermont.gov

(for Vermont
Department of Public
Service)

Senator Christopher Bray
829 South Street
New Haven, VT 05472
cbray@leg.state.vt.us

Victoria J. Brown, Esq.
Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.
42 Wescom Road
Johnson, VT 05656
vbrown@vermontelectric.coop

(for Vermont Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Clare Buckley
Leonine Public Affairs, LLP
1 Blanchard Court
Suite 101
Montpelier, VT 05602
cbuckley@leoninepublicaffairs.com

(for Vermont Vehicle
and Automotive
Distributors Association)

Christopher Burns
City of Burlington Electric Department
cburns@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Jonathan Dancing
Building Performance Professionals Association of Vermont
PO Box 8125
Brattleboro, VT 05304
jdancing@bppa-vt.org

(for Building
Performance
Professionals
Association of Vermont)

Daniel Dutcher
Agency of Transportation
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05633-5001
daniel.dutcher@vermont.gov

(for Vermont Agency of
Transportation)

William F. Ellis
McNeil, Leddy & Sheahan
271 South Union Street
Burlington, VT 05401
wellis@mcneilvt.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Richard Faesy
Energy Futures Group
rfaesy@energyfuturesgroup.com

(for Energy Futures
Group, Inc.)

James Gibbons
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
jgibbons@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Kerrick Johnson
Vermont Electric Power Company
366 Pinnacle Ridge Road
Rutland, VT 05701
kjohnson@velco.com

(for Vermont Electric
Power Company, Inc.)

Dan Kopin
Utility Services, Inc.
1080 Waterbury-Stowe Road
Suite 2
Waterbury, VT 05676
dan.kopin@utilitysvcs.com

(for Utility Services,
Inc.)

Sandra Levine, Esq.
Conservation Law Foundation
15 East State Street, Suite 4
Montpelier, VT 05602
slevine@clf.org

(for Conservation Law
Foundation)

Shana Louiselle
Vermont System Planning Committee
366 Pinnacle Ridge Road
Rutland, VT 05701
Slousielle@velco.com

(for Vermont Electric
Power Company, Inc.)

Marilyn Miller
Vermont Vehicle and Automotive Distributors Association
1284 US Rout 302-Berlin
Suite 2
Barre, VT 05641
mmiller@vermontada.org

(for Vermont Vehicle
and Automotive
Distributors Association)

Megan O'Toole
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Dept. of Environmental Conservation
1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620-3901
megan.otoole@vermont.gov

(for Vermont Agency of
Natural Resources)

Todd Olinsky-Paul
Clean Energy Group / Clean Energy States Alliance
50 State Street
Suite 1
Montpelier, VT
Todd@cleanegroup.org

(for Clean Energy Group
/ Clean Energy States
Alliance)

Thomas S. Perry
New Leaf Design, LLC
PO Box 392
Hinesburg, VT 05461
newleafdesign@gmavt.net

(for New Leaf Design,
LLC)

Chris Rauscher
595 Market Street, Floor 29
San Francisco, CA 94015
chris.rauscher@sunrun.com

(for Sunrun Inc.)

Morris L. Silver, Esq.
Law Offices of Morris L. Silver, Esq.
P.O. Box 606
Benson, VT 05731-0606
mlsilver@sover.net

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

Eileen Simollardes
Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.
85 Swift Street
South Burlington, VT 05403
esimollardes@vermontgas.com

(for Vermont Gas
Systems, Inc.)

Jonathan Slason
RSG, Inc.
55 Railroad Row
White River Junction, VT 05001
jonathan.slason@rsginc.com

(for RSG, Inc.)

Darren Springer
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
dspringer@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Gabrielle Stebbins
Energy Futures Group, Inc.
PO Box 587
Hinesburg, VT 05461
gstebbins@energyfuturesgroup.com

(for Energy Futures
Group, Inc.)

Melissa Stevens, Esq.
Green Mountain Power Corporation
2152 Post Road
Rutland, VT 05701
melissa.stevens@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

Jared Ulmer
Vermont Department of Health
108 Cherry Street
Burlington, VT 05402
Jared.Ulmer@vermont.gov

(for Vermont
Department of Health)

Matthew J. Walker
Efficiency Vermont-Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
128 Lakeside Avenue, Suite 401
Burlington, VT 05401
mjwalker@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

David C. Westman
Efficiency Vermont - Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
128 Lakeside Avenue, Suite 401
Burlington, VT 05401
dwestman@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

Michael Wickenden
446 Tenney Hill Road
Hyde Park, VT 05655
michael.wickenden@gmail.com

Jenn Wood
Green Mountain Transit
101 Queen City Park Road
Burlington, VT 05401
jwood@ridegmt.com

(for Green Mountain
Transit)