Monday, July 3rd, 2023

Vermont Public Utilities Commission

Regarding Case # 23-1870-PET

I write to you as a student at the University of Vermont studying sustainability, ecology, and policy, a student that has learned enough to know that this decision will be damaging. I also write as an individual fighting for a future for my generation and for the environments we inhabit, as someone who cares about my neighbors and their futures.

I write to you with concerns regarding the Burlington Electric Departments' request to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to continue developing a plan for a District Energy Project.

This district energy plan is not highly energy efficient, nor is it cost effective to make such a conversion. With a price tag of $42 million, I do not believe that the investment BED hopes to make outweighs the improvements to the McNeil energy plant. I believe that the $500,000 that BED is requesting from the thermal efficiency program is better spent in other places.

Given the high price tags and low rewards of this project, it seems to me that the Public Utilities Commission should take this opportunity to act responsibly for the ratepayers of Vermont, and demand a higher standard of thermal efficiency than what BED proposes to offer through this project.

As a student in Vermont who is concerned both for the fiscal and ecological responsibility of our state, I respectfully request **that you deny BED's request for funds, and do not waive the 60-day advance notice requirement.**

Sincerely,

Levi Robert