

To: Members of the Public Utility Commission  
From: Senator Brian Campion and Senator Richard Sears  
Subject Bennington Development  
Date: October 15, 2018

Act 174 was the legislature's response to Vermonters wanting a greater role in renewable energy siting while also supporting our state-wide energy goals. Both the town of Bennington and the Bennington RPC invested a great deal of thought, time, and energy in writing town and regional plans, using input from the affected communities.

Within the county, the town of Bennington was the first community to put forward such a plan. We expect the PUC to respect the work—by granting substantial deference to the community's approved plan— in its upcoming decision on the Chelsea Solar case.

Additionally, we are writing to let you know that a member of our constituency relayed a disconcerting experience at a recent PUC hearing. A video of the proceeding is being shared on social media. We ask that you review the matter and have an appropriate PUC representative schedule a meeting with us as soon as possible to discuss.