

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 23-2220-RULE

Proceeding to design the potential Clean Heat Standard	
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Order entered: 10/01/2024

**ORDER DESCRIBING THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION’S PROCESS
FOR DEVELOPING A COST ANALYSIS OF THE CLEAN HEAT STANDARD**

In Public Act 18 (2023 Vt., Bien. Sess.) (“Act 18”), the Vermont Legislature directed the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) to estimate:

the impact of the Clean Heat Standard on customers, including impacts to customer rates and fuel bills for participating and nonparticipating customers, net impacts on total spending on energy for thermal sector end uses, fossil fuel reductions, greenhouse gas emission reductions, and, if possible, impacts on economic activity and employment. The modeled impacts shall estimate high-, medium-, and low-price impacts.¹

Separately, the Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) was tasked through Act 18 with developing an assessment and quantification of technically available, maximum achievable, and program achievable thermal resources (“Potential Study”).

On September 3, 2024, the Department submitted its Potential Study in this case. In that submission, the Department noted that, while the Potential Study has information relevant to a cost analysis, it does not provide a full cost estimate. The Department suggested that the Potential Study can be an input into the Commission’s cost analysis.

The Commission notes that, in addition to the Potential Study, there are other relevant analyses that may be useful for the economic study. In particular, the 2023 *Analysis of Buildings / Thermal Energy Sector Emissions Reduction Policies for Vermont* (“Thermal Energy Report”) prepared for the State of Vermont by Energy Futures Group, Stockholm Environmental Institute, and Cadmus Group, provides significant data and analysis on the issue.

The Commission intends to use the Potential Study, the Thermal Energy Report, and other resources to help build a model of the economic impacts of the Clean Heat Standard. Given the interest in this subject, Commissioner Riley Allen will be conducting a workshop on

¹ § 6(h)(i).


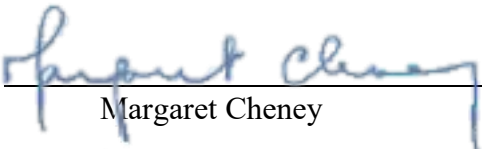
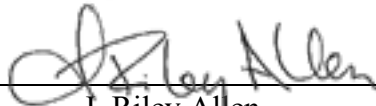
Tuesday, October 15, 2024, beginning at 1:30 P.M., to receive input on topics including the structure of the model and the assumptions to be used. The workshop will be held via Go To Meeting videoconference. Participants and members of the public may access the workshop online at <https://meet.goto.com/525019245>, or call in by telephone using the following information: phone number: +1 (571) 317-3129 access code: 525-019-245.

Participants may wish to download the GoToMeeting software application in advance of the hearing at <https://meet.goto.com/install>. Guidance on how to join the meeting and system requirements may be found at <https://www.gotomeeting.com/online-meeting-support>.

This workshop, and future avenues for providing input into the modeling effort, is meant to provide transparency regarding the modeling to facilitate useful dialogue during the legislative discussions regarding the Clean Heat Standard. The Commission requests that stakeholders come to the table with ideas for model structures and assumptions that can inform this effort.

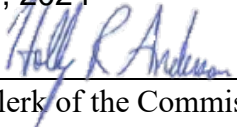
SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 1st day of October, 2024.

 _____)) PUBLIC UTILITY
Edward McNamara)	
 _____)) COMMISSION
Margaret Cheney)	
 _____)) OF VERMONT
J. Riley Allen)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: October 1, 2024

Attest: 
_____)
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)

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