



VOICE YOUR SUPPORT OF VERMONT WIND ENERGY!

WRITE a Letter to the Editor or Opinion Piece.

Letters to the editor (LTEs) and opinion pieces (op-eds) are an easy, quick and effective way to publically voice your support of Vermont wind energy.

TIPS to submitting a letter that will get published.

See a story or opinion that gets you fired up?

- *Respond to, or reference, stories that recently ran.*

Keep it short and sweet – the shorter the better.

- *Newspapers have limited space. Stay below the word limit.*

Share your local perspective and personal connection.

- *Papers gravitate toward this.*

Once submitted, follow-up with the newspaper to confirm receipt.

- *Ask when it will run. If you don't reach them, call again. Persistence is key – they'll know you mean it.*

SUBMIT and be heard.

You will need to include your full name, address, and phone number when submitting. For online submissions, your email may be required. However, only your name and hometown will typically be printed.

- **After you've submitted your letter, please email Susan**, our wind campaign coordinator, at susan@revermont.org
- **Choose the newspaper depending on where you live or where an article ran – see REV's Newspaper List for full contact details.**

GET INSPIRED...your support is needed.

Here are some **talking points** to serve as a springboard for your letter:

LEAVING A POSITIVE LEGACY.

Future generations of Vermonters will benefit.

- Choosing clean energy sources, like wind, is the **responsible** thing to do.
- As Vermonters, **we can take control of our energy future.**
- A **diverse energy mix**, including wind energy, will provide economic security for future generations.
- By reducing our reliance on dirty fossil fuels, we **reduce the amount of pollution** that taints our air and land.

INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP.

Wind helps Vermont continue to lead the nation in energy innovation.

- In 1941, the **nation's first large-scale, grid-connected wind turbine** – on Grandpa's Knob – was installed in Castleton.
- Through **Efficiency Vermont**, a nation-leading program, the state has reduced its energy consumption, saved money, and improved the environment.
- **Vermont's Comprehensive Energy Plan** sets a goal of having **90%** of electricity generation come from renewable sources by 2050. Wind is an important part of that percentage.
- Vermont is implementing **smart metering systems**.
- Vermont has successfully implemented **large-scale solar and methane** ("cow power") generation projects.

Building Our Renewable Energy Future:
Clean, Sustainable, Secure





ENERGY INDEPENDENCE.

Wind helps Vermont become self-reliant.

- Reducing our dependence on foreign and out-of state fuels **strengthens both our state and national security.**
- The **cost of continuing to rely on energy produced outside the state** is too great.
- Wind is a **clean and inexhaustible Vermont resource.** It is a real solution.
 - Wind energy does not pollute our atmosphere. It has zero emissions.
 - Wind is a proven technology at a local, national, and international scale – with no signs of stopping.

LOCAL ECONOMIC GROWTH.

Wind strengthens Vermont's economy by keeping our money in-state, lowering taxes, creating well-paying local jobs, and allowing local businesses to become strong and competitive.

- **Wind projects create local jobs.**
 - Searsburg, Sheffield, Deerfield, Georgia Mountain and Kingdom Community Wind projects **have already employed more than 260** local workers and businesses.
- **Wind projects help reduce local taxes.**
 - Searsburg, Sheffield, Deerfield, Georgia Mountain and Kingdom Community Wind projects are expected to contribute **more than \$1.4 million** to host communities in tax revenues **ANNUALLY.**
- **Wind projects contribute to the Vermont education fund.**
 - Searsburg, Sheffield, Deerfield, Georgia Mountain and Kingdom Community Wind projects are expected to contribute **nearly \$1.2 million dollars** to the state education fund **ANNUALLY.**

RIGOROUS PERMITTING PROCESS.

Vermont has one of the most extensive and rigorous permitting processes in the country.

- **Under Vermont law, each individual project must be awarded a Certificate of Public Good by the Public Service Board before any construction can begin.**
 - This means **each project** has been determined to be in the “public good” and does not have “an undue adverse effect on aesthetics, historic sites, air and water purity, the natural environment and public safety.”
- **Unlike the permitting process in other states, Vermont's process is not subject to timeline mandates.** Each individual project is subject to the process (regardless of size) and each individual project has to satisfy multiple stringent standards for approval.
- Each individual project must be subject to **public hearings** in which **the general public can voice their concerns** about the project. The **PSB must consider these public comments** before awarding or denying a Certificate of Public Good.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! *Vermonters like to hear what you believe.*

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