



## 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](mailto: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.

#### LEADING THE WAY. *Wind helps Vermont continue to lead the nation in energy innovation.*

- In 1941, the nation's first large-scale, grid-connected wind turbine – Grandpa's Knob – was installed in Castleton.
- 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 power generation projects.
- Through Efficiency Vermont, the state has reduced its energy consumption, saved money, and improved the environment.



**Building Our Renewable Energy Future:**  
*Clean, Sustainable, Secure*



**ENERGY INDEPENDENCE. *Wind helps Vermont become self-reliant.***

**Reducing our dependence on foreign oil and fossil fuels strengthens both our state and national security.**

**The cost of continuing to rely on foreign fossil fuels is too great. Vermonters know it, but need to be reminded.**

**Wind is a clean and inexhaustible resource. It is a real solution.**

- Wind is the lowest cost renewable resource and has a stable price.
- 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.
  - Ex: Between 2007-2010, 35% of new electrical generation capacity in the U.S. was from wind power (Source: AWEA)
- Currently Vermont has the wind energy potential to power more than its electric demand! (Source: National Renewable Energy Lab)

**BUILDING A STRONG ECONOMY. *Electricity generated by the wind is an economic driver.***

**Wind strengthens Vermont's economy by keeping our money in-state, lowering taxes, and creating good-paying local jobs.**

- **Project-Specific Contributions to Vermont Education Fund:**
  - Deerfield Wind Project will contribute approximately \$10 million.
  - Sheffield Wind Project will contribute \$12.5 million.
  - Kingdom Community Wind Project will contribute \$24 million.
- **Wind projects reduce property taxes.**
- **Wind projects create jobs.**
  - Project-Specific Employment Statistics:
    - Deerfield Wind Project will create approximately 250 jobs during construction.
    - Sheffield Wind Project brought 80 jobs during construction and 24 permanent jobs post-construction.
    - Kingdom Community Wind Project has created more than 160 jobs in Orleans County.
    - In addition are the highly-skilled technology jobs during project development.

**RIGOROUS PERMITTING PROCESS. *The Public Service Board has determined wind projects do not adversely affect the environment.***

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

- Each individual project must be awarded a Certificate of Public Good by the PSB 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 other states, Vermont's permitting process is not subject to timeline mandates, all projects are subject to the process (regardless of size) and each project has to satisfy multiple stringent standards for approval.

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



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