

Meeting Minutes:

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

Act 250/Section 248 Committee

November 7, 2014

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:04 by Tim Bouton, ACRPC Staff member
2. Members present: Ron Crawford, Diana Carter, Thea Gaudette, Mary Anne Sullivan, Steve Pilcher, Jim Walsh, Holly Noordsey, Chico Martin, Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Tim Bouton-Staff
3. On Tim's recommendation, the committee agreed to take up the discussion of impacts of solar development and wait on the Criterion 9L discussion until later. Discussion ensued:
 - The ACRPC Energy and Natural Resources Committees will be meeting jointly to discuss solar siting issues. The Act 250 committee feels there is an urgency in this matter and that they should be engaged faster than a joint committee would be able to act. They feel that the recommendations from such a joint committee will be valuable once it is created.
 - A motion was made by Thea and seconded by Chico that the committee make the determination that solar arrays meet the ACRPC standard for "substantial regional impact" as defined in the regional plan (specifically Page 2-3, C(e) "location or expansion ofpower generation and transmission facilities."). Motion passed unanimously.
 - Additional discussion on solar ensued including should ACRPC request injunctive relief to halt all current and future solar construction? What sizes of solar projects should be reviewed by this committee? How should the committee's efforts be directed?- Legislative action?, PSB procedural recommendations? Become intervenors?
 - The conclusion was that Legislative action would take too long and though the committee should also go through the legislature, it might be best to go the route of reviewing applications and making recommendations and/or testimony when appropriate.
 - Chico made a motion to intervene on all solar applications of 150kw of greater, seconded by Steve. Motion passed. Tim will review all current applications, sort out those which have been already decided and those which we may already be too late to give testimony on and make all others available for the committee to review at its next meeting. (11/14- 10-12)
 - The committee also requests that Adam continue to develop recommendations for local municipalities on how they may address solar siting in their plans, zoning, and before the PSB.
4. The committee next took up discussion on the power transmission line which is being proposed by the New England Clean Power Link for under Lake Champlain. The future applicant is the main speaker at the full commission meeting next Wednesday. The committee felt that they should wait until after the presentation at their next meeting to weigh in when they have more information on the proposal.
5. The committee next discussed what the committee would give as testimony before the district commission on the 9L criterion for the Deneker application. Tim had generated a proposed document

for delivery that outlined concerns and requests about the application. Ron made a motion to approve the document as written. The motion was seconded by Thea. It was discussed whether the committee should add a paragraph outlining the four items identified in the criterion 9L guidance or leave the document as written. After some further discussion the motion was amended to have Tim change all applicable dates but otherwise leave the document as written. Motion passed with two nay and one abstention.

6. The committee will make its recommendations from this meeting to the full commission on 11/12.

7. As the meeting was coming to a close, Tim remembered to let members know of an e-mail from David Hamilton which contained his views on how the guidelines may not be in the best interest of Addison County. Recommendations for modifying the guidelines will be made by each member of the committee and may be sent to NRB.Comments@state.vt.us .

7. The next meeting of the committee has been scheduled for 11/14 from 10am – noon.

8. Meeting was adjourned about 12:10