

May 31, 2023

Holly R. Anderson, Clerk Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street Montpelier, VT 05612

Dear Ms. Anderson:

The Vermont System Planning Committee (VSPC) would like to bring to the Public Utility Commission's attention that eight public member seats (four primary and four alternate seats) will become vacant on July 13, 2023. We are writing to request that the Commission solicit candidates and fill these vacancies for new five-year terms. Paragraph 72 of the Memorandum of Understanding approved in Docket No. 7081 (amended in January 2012 and August 2012) provides:

72. The Board shall appoint five persons for terms of five years each to serve as voting participants on the VSPC. Four appointees shall constitute the Public Members sector, including one person who shall be appointed to articulate the interests of residential consumers; one such person shall be appointed to articulate the interests of commercial and industrial consumers; one such person shall be appointed to articulate the interests of environmental protection; and one person who shall be appointed to articulate the interests of regional and municipal planning entities. One person shall be appointed to articulate the interests of supply resources within the Supply & Demand Resources Sector. These five representatives shall be empowered to participate in all meetings and shall function in an independent capacity, and their positions on a matter shall not bind the Board.<sup>1</sup>

The eight vacancies that we are writing about are the result of the expiration of the following representatives' terms on July 13, 2023:

- Residential primary Michael Wickenden was appointed July 13, 2018, to a five-year term.
- Residential alternate Tim Duggan was appointed July 13, 2018, to a five-year term.
- Commercial primary Michael Kirick was appointed July 13, 2018, to a five-year term.
- Commercial alternate Jeff Forward was appointed July 13, 2018, to a five-year term.
- Environmental primary Johanna Miller was appointed July 13, 2018, to a five-year term.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the Procedural Rules of the VSPC, the PUC may also appoint an alternate representative for each of the public members, and the alternate shall have full authority to act in the absence of the representative.

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- Environmental alternate Stephen Crowley was appointed July 13, 2022, to a oneyear term, to fill the remainder of a five-year term following a resignation.
- Regional and municipal planning primary Taylor Newton was appointed July 13, 2018, to a five-year term.
- Regional and municipal planning alternate George Gross was appointed July 13, 2022, to a one-year term, to fill the remainder of a five-year term following a resignation.

The VSPC staff has communicated with and received confirmation from all of the above public members and alternates that they would like to be reappointed and continue serving, with the exception of Michael Wickenden and Jeff Forward, both of whom are not interested in reappointment. As the PUC solicits interest to make appointments to these public positions, we would like to ensure that the current members that are interested in reappointment have the opportunity to reapply.

The VSPC stands ready to assist the Commission in candidate recruitment as we have done in the past by publicizing the availability of the positions. The next meeting of the VSPC is scheduled for July 12, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Jhana Jouiselle

Shana Louiselle, Facilitator

**Vermont System Planning Committee** 

cc. Vermont System Planning Committee