

VECAN

VERMONT ENERGY & CLIMATE
ACTION NETWORK

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June 2021 E-News

Dear Local Energy Leaders,

We are excited to be starting off the summer on a high note, with Governor Scott signing the Legislature's FY 2022 \$7.3 billion state budget into law, which includes historic investments in money-saving, equity-enhancing climate initiatives that will benefit Vermont's people, environment, and communities.

We wanted to share a few exciting events, select opportunities and send our best to you as our days continue to lengthen and summertime Vermont is upon us!

EVENTS

- **VECAN Webinar on Vermont's Climate and Clean Energy Plans - June 16 at Noon** - Join us on Wednesday, June 16th at noon for a timely status report on the update to the Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) and the development of the Climate Action Plan (CAP), and learn about how these two processes relate. [Register to attend here](#) and find more information below.
- **Learn More About EAN's Newly Released Annual Progress Report - June 17 at Noon** - Join Energy Action Network (EAN) on June 17th for a noon webinar to learn more about their newly released [2020/21 Annual Progress Report for Vermont](#). [Register here](#) and find more details below.
- **EAN's "Weatherization at Scale" Coalition Webinar - June 21 at 2 PM** - Join EAN on Monday, June 21st at 2:00 PM for a Zoom webinar and discussion to learn about the work being done by a broad coalition of EAN Members and Partners to reach the goal of weatherizing every home of low-to-moderate income Vermonters by 2030. [Register here](#) and find more details below.

NEWS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

- **VNRC Seeks Sustainable Communities Program Director** - VNRC is looking to hire a motivated individual to help guide policies and programs related to community development, land use planning, natural resource conservation and climate resilience. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, [please find more information here](#) and below.
- **Submit a Proposal for REV 2021 Annual Conference** - Renewable Energy Vermont (REV) invites you to submit a presentation for their upcoming annual conference October 4-5. [Submit your proposal here](#) by June 18th. [Find more details here](#) and below.

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Share

We are always looking for great stories of local action for our blog, social media and as helpful resources for our network. Please consider sending along anything you or others have accomplished or are working on by responding to this email or emailing rkuster@vnrc.org

About Us

VECAN is a network of statewide Vermont organizations helping communities across the Green Mountain State to reduce energy costs and climate impacts through conservation, increased energy efficiency and conversion to renewable energy sources.

VECAN's mission is to start, support and strengthen town energy committees.

Committee Changes?

Help us keep our network up to

date! Email changes in committee leadership or contact info to rkuster@vnrc.org

- **Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide Reaches Highest Level in 4 Million Years** - The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) [recently announced](#) that atmospheric carbon dioxide reached 419 parts per million (PPM) this May, showing that the global community so far has failed to slow the accumulation of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere.

OP-EDS OF NOTE

- **Incentives Need to Change for Individual and Community Solar** - “At a time when climate science and laws like the Global Warming Solutions Act are requiring progress, our present practices are making it harder, not easier, to site renewable energy,” Richard Butz writes about the impacts declining net metering incentives are having on solar in Vermont. [Read his full commentary in VTDigger here.](#)
- **Vermont Electrician and Labor Advocate Says Climate Action Can and Must Uplift Vermont’s Workers** - “I believe that Vermont has the tools to make a just transition a reality. More than that, we have an obligation to our workers and our planet to bolster a green energy economy that gets us away from fossil fuels for good,” writes Danielle Bombardier, labor advocate, working electrician, and member of the Just Transitions subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council. [Read her full commentary in VTDigger here.](#)

As always, thanks for all that you do.

Best,

Bekah Kuster, Community Energy Coordinator, AmeriCorps Member, VECAN
802-223-2328 ext. 116 - rkuster@vnrc.org

EVENTS

Register for VECAN Webinar on Vermont’s Climate and Clean Energy Plans - June 16 at Noon



VECAN
WEBINAR
THE CEP & THE CAP: HOW VERMONT'S
IMPORTANT CLEAN ENERGY & CLIMATE
ACTION BLUEPRINTS CONNECT
JUNE 16 AT NOON

Join us on Wednesday, June 16th at noon for a VECAN webinar to learn about how Vermont’s important clean energy and climate action blueprints connect.

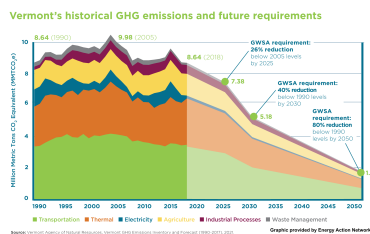
The State of Vermont is simultaneously embarking on two climate planning efforts: [the update to the Comprehensive Energy Plan \(CEP\)](#) (which established the important 90% by 2050 total renewable energy goal), and the Climate Action Plan (CAP) required by the [Global Warming Solutions Act](#). In this webinar, get a timely status report on how these efforts relate, where they diverge, and pose any questions you have about these important initiatives.

We’ll be joined by TJ Poor, Director of Efficiency and Energy Resources, from the Vermont Department of Public Service (DPS), and Jane Lazorchak, Director of the Global Warming Solutions Act, from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR).

You will get a brief overview of the DPS energy and emissions modeling for the CEP and the CAP, as well as the public engagement efforts underway for both processes. You’ll also hear about the in-depth work being done to develop the Climate Action Plan by the various subcommittees of the [Vermont Climate Council](#).

[Register to attend here!](#)

EAN Annual Progress Report Webinar June 17 at Noon



Each year, EAN's Annual Progress Report for Vermont provides an in-depth analysis of where Vermont stands relative to its climate commitments and energy goals. The 2020/21 report updates previous data and analysis, and adds a summary of the EAN Emission Reduction Pathways Model, laying out the scale and pace of change likely needed for 2025 and 2030.

Join EAN for a webinar on Thursday, June 17th at noon to learn more about the key takeaways from the [2020/21 Annual progress Report for Vermont on Emissions, Energy, Equity, and the Environment](#) with a presentation and plenty of time for Q&A.

[Register here!](#)

EAN "Weatherization at Scale" Coalition Webinar - June 21 at 2 PM



What if we could weatherize every home of low-to-moderate income Vermonters (including renters) by 2030? It's an audacious goal – but critical for Vermont's efforts to fight climate change. EAN needs

your help to get there!

Join EAN on Monday, June 21st at 2:00 PM for a one-hour Zoom webinar and discussion to learn about the work towards this goal by a broad coalition of EAN Members and Partners. They will briefly lay out the history of this project and 2021 legislative successes. They will also discuss new and ongoing workgroups for Funding & Financing, an On-Bill Financing Tariff, Weatherization Workforce, Energy Savings Counseling, and Messaging & Communications.

This webinar is designed for legislators and potential partners who might be interested in collaborating in any of the workgroups and the overall coalition, and other EAN Members and Partners interested in learning more.

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

NEWS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

VNRC Seeks Sustainable Communities Program Director



VNRC has an exciting opportunity for a motivated individual to help guide policies and programs related to community development, land use planning, natural resource conservation and climate resilience.

Working with a committed staff in Montpelier, the Sustainable Communities Program Director, formerly led by Kate McCarthy, will oversee VNRC's work on local and state land use and community development policy; provide technical support to members, state and regional agencies and municipalities; and work closely with our Forests & Wildlife, Energy & Climate Action, and Water Programs on an integrated approach to meeting the challenges facing Vermont's environment, communities and people.

To apply, email a letter of interest, resume and three references to aconnizzo@vnrc.org. Letters should be addressed to Brian Shupe, Executive Director. Position will remain open until filled.

[Learn more about the position here](#) and share this opportunity widely!

Submit a Presentation for REV it Up: Climate Action, Equity & Resilience



You are invited to submit an abstract for [REV it Up: Climate Action, Equity & Resilience](#). The 2021 Renewable Energy Conference and Expo convenes business, government, community, and academic

leaders implementing clean energy and climate solutions. The two-day event, October 4-5, will highlight New England's leadership role in achieving an equitable, integrated, total renewable energy infrastructure addressing electricity, heating, and transportation needs.

REV invites proposals for presentations on energy and climate equity; transportation and thermal electrification; comprehensive energy planning, including Vermont's climate action plan; grid modernization; energy storage; renewable heating; legal, legislative, and policy updates; finance tools; net zero and living buildings.

[Click here to submit your presentation by June 18!](#)

Donate

Connect With Us:

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802-223-2328 ext. 112

9 Bailey Ave.

Montpelier, VT 05642

(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews)