

Bradford Energy Committee Meeting
4/18/23

In attendance: Nancy, Ed, Elizabeth, Susanna, Tom, Debbie

- I. **Debbie on GEOTHERMAL**-grew up in Burlington, teacher of English and dance, community organizing, gas issues, methane emissions, utilities and why she is here tonight—community geothermal—especially network systems
- unifying gas workers and companies' lower energy costs for everyone
 - VT geothermal alliance-bundle to make geothermal residential-affordable
 - use heat and wastewater-excess energy created—use it!
 - Framingham, MA—geothermal network
 - air source heat pumps
 - BA—geothermal, single layer municipal building, anchor for network? -all systems are particular to a place—run a pipe down the street? car wash? Laundry mat?
 - call water treatment plant—flow #'s and temps-run by thermal loads
 - community owned systems
 - help town investigate how own and operate to function as a sort of utility—non-profit-B corporation, town not take out of pocket
- H242—Bill that existing utilities implement or an organization like Debbie's could implement—financing—borrow from bank, federal \$, tax incentives—recover capital over time through rates, equity to be considered, as well. State entity could contract with Bradford-10-15 yea4ss rates would pay it back.
- would we get sufficient customers? —costs lower than propane and maybe than wood pellets, per month cost lower
 - diversity of sources—air source heat pumps, geothermal, etc.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Talk to ARC-what businesses might benefit, ARC does geothermal, have not done commercial buildings yet, very interested.
2. Run sewage plant numbers.
3. Investigate school potentialities.

II. **Other points:**

- low-cost loans for local businesses with failing energy systems
- forced air heat easiest conversion, what % have forced hot air vs. hydronic?
- how deep need to drill?
- Westchester, NY by the Hudson example
- Ed-talked to three well drillers
- start with single large project-40% off with tax incentives, can get direct pay in some instances
- through 2032—30% and 10% off if domestically manufactured
- link with Jeff and regional planning commission
- Vt Bond Bank—municipal bonds—looking at how funding might be layered
- 130-125 degrees temperature max output from heat pump
- heat distribution system...

--schools-biomass energy, geothermal cleaner than pellets-protect from respiratory issues

--planning commission—letter of support?

III. **EV Charging stations**—reach out to SB.

IV. **Lighting**—do not know if included in MERP.

--do something on our own?

--fluorescent will be illegal in Vt soon—Fogg's will take back bulbs to recycle

--Rexell is a big supplier--\$2 a piece. Rebate ends 1/21/24, \$7.21 bypass ballast-then save more energy-hire electrician—quotes—Rich knows someone-Tom will meet with him, look at usage per room, math, needs to be.

\$1050 in budget for energy committee-from maintenance budget for BA?

V. **Elizabeth's Park ventilation**

VI. **EV charging Inaugural Event**

--VTRANS—Electric excavator there and backhoes—Greg Smith-will bring one to event

--\$807.39 left in LEAF account—use for event? -music, publicity, food, food truck?
electric bus?