Full Commission Meeting  
June 26, 2012  
Londonderry Town Office, South Londonderry, VT


Guests Present: Bruce Gardner, BDCC, Neale Lunderville, CEO of NG Advantage, Dennis Franklin, Member of the Public – Guilford

Staff Present: Chris Campany, Ashley Collins

Introductions: There was a quorum of 16 towns present.

Convened: 7:31pm

Administrative Items & Reports:
Secretary’s Report: On a motion by Jack Cunningham, seconded by John Whitman the minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Financial Report: On a motion by Carolyn Partridge, second by Lew Sorenson, the Finance Report was approved.

Program: Compressed Natural Gas Without a Pipeline?
Bruce Gardner, Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) and member of the WRC Energy Committee, and Neale Lunderville, CEO of Natural Gas Advantage (NGA), were present to speak about the economics of delivered compressed natural gas. After providing the Commission with some brief background information on how the company was founded, they outlined their case as to why compressed natural gas delivered by trucks was becoming an economically viable source of energy in Vermont. As fuel oil prices have tended to increase, the price of natural gas has tended to decrease. As a result, dependence upon fuel oil is impacting the competitiveness of businesses that are dependent on it for their operations. Bruce also described natural gas as a bridge to an alternative energy future. Bruce explained that alternative energy solutions are becoming more common, and communities need to transition away from fossil fuels to help the economy grow and address climate change. While natural gas is a fossil fuel, it can bridge the transition from oil to renewable sources of energy. Neale suggested other benefits, including abundant reserves around the country, it is relatively clean burning, its delivered price relative to other fuels, and an anticipated quick return on the investment businesses would make in converting to natural gas.
Neale explained that all equipment and forms of transportation are regulated. Trailers hauled by trucks would fill up at a site in Milton, VT, though terminals in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York may also be explored depending upon demand. Concerns raised by Commissioners included the environmental impacts of natural gas extraction through fracking, the possibility of additional diesel emissions resulting from CNG transport, and increases in local and interstate truck traffic. The potential of CNG use for district heating at the village scale was also raised.

**Executive Director’s Report & Other Business:**

1. Chris gave an overview of the upcoming July WRC trainings for Municipal Officials: the Section 248 Review Process, Inter-local Agreements, and Broadband adoption by municipalities. The inter-local agreement workshop is being co-sponsored by the Windham, Bennington, Rutland and Southern Windsor regional commissions.
2. Chris and Alan announced to the Board that the first round of Consultations with nine towns is complete, and the responses thus far have been nothing but positive from each of the towns.
3. Chris mentioned that WRC submitted comments on the Draft Action Plan that would guide the use of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds. The Department of Economic, Housing and Community Development has submitted a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development asking that up to $4.5 million of the funds be available to Windham County.

**Norm Wright moved to adjourn the meeting.**
**Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm**

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Collins