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VERMONT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

July 1, 2026

Dear, Environmental Justice Advisory Council Members,

Consistent with 3 V.S.A. § 6004(h) of Vermont's Environmental Justice Law, I am pleased to share this statement from covered agencies reflecting state government's commitment to ensuring fair and equitable access and opportunity to all Vermonters to share in the benefits of public investments and programs in a manner consistent with its respective authorities and responsibilities.

The following covered agencies have adopted the shared statement of commitment:

- Agency of Natural Resources
- Agency of Education
- Agency of Transportation
- Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
- Agency of Commerce and Community Development
- Department of Public Service
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Health

As discussed throughout its development, the statement articulates the overarching principles of equity and fairness in guiding implementation across the covered agencies. The language was carefully selected to provide a common foundation while recognizing that each agency's statutory authorities, programs, and operational responsibilities differ.

The adopted statement is provided below:

> "The [NAME OF COVERED AGENCY] is committed to administering its programs, services, and investments in a manner that promotes fair and equitable access and opportunity to all Vermonters to share in the benefits of public investments and programs, with particular attention to economically disadvantaged communities"

The Vermont Public Utility Commission adopted a separate statement of commitment that reflects its unique role as a quasi-judicial entity.

The Public Utility Commission's statement is provided below:

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> "As a quasi-judicial administrative body, the Vermont Public Utility Commission does not make direct investments. In our work and in proceedings before us, in which many of the other covered agencies regularly appear, the Commission is committed to upholding the State's environmental justice policy as stated in 3 V.S.A. 6003."

The Vermont Land Use Review Board adopted a separate statement of commitment that reflects its unique role as a quasi-judicial entity.

The Land Use Review Board's statement is provided below:

> "As an administrative body with quasi-judicial responsibilities, the Land Use Review Board does not make direct investments. The Board is committed to administering its programs and services in a manner that complies with the law and promotes fair and equitable access and opportunity to share in the benefits of public investments and programs as stated in 3 V.S.A. § 6003."

Together these statements affirm the covered agencies' commitment to advancing environmental justice values and implementing the objectives in a manner that is appropriate to their respective authorities and functions.

The next phase of this work will focus on implementation within each covered agency. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Advisory Council in this important work.

Thank you for your continued partnership, engagement, and thoughtful input throughout this process.

Best regards,



Karla Raimundí-Devarié
Director, Civil Rights and Environmental Justice Unit
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources