

ANR RULEMAKING – ACCII, ACT, HD OMNIBUS, PHASE 2
LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARINGS & TIMELINE DRAFT

LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

For rulemaking, ANR is required to comply with the Administrative Procedure Act and the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) which states:

The Secretary shall conduct public hearings across the State concerning the proposed rules. The Secretary shall conduct a portion of these hearings in areas and communities that have the most significant exposure to the impacts of climate change, including disadvantaged, low-income, and rural communities and areas.

To determine the location of the public hearings, ANR is considering the following sources:

- The [Guiding Principles](#) developed by the Just Transition Subcommittee.
- The [State of Vermont Climate Action Plan Public Engagement Plan](#) developed by Climate Access and Rise Consulting for ANR, July 2021.
- The [Community Engagement and Communications Strategy](#) developed by the Vermont Climate Council which calls for proactive steps for engaging a broad range of people on climate action.
- The [Vermont Climate Action Plan Public Engagement Findings](#) developed by Climate Access, Rise Consulting in partnership with ANR.
- [Act 154 of 2022 \(S.148\)](#), Act relating to environmental justice.
- The [EJSCREEN 2.0 tool](#) developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- The [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool \(CEJST\)](#) in development by the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality.
- The [Vermont Environmental Disparity Index \(VTEDI\) - Overview \(arcgis.com\)](#) developed by the University of Vermont.

Based on this information, the following “areas and communities” in Vermont may be considered to “have the most significant exposure to the impacts of climate change, including disadvantaged, low-income, and rural communities and areas”:

- Rutland or Bennington
- Burlington North End
- Bellows Falls or North Brattleboro
- Newport, Orleans County

Request for feedback:

- Is there other information you would like ANR to consider in determining the “areas and communities” for public hearings?
- Any feedback about the proposed “areas and communities” for public hearings?
- Any other input about public engagement on this rulemaking?

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE

May 16 – Transmitted draft rule to Climate Council; posted on website

June 1 – Transmitted draft rule to House Committees on Energy and Technology, Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, and Transportation, and to Senate Committees on Finance, Natural Resources and Energy, and Transportation, and to the Joint Carbon Emission Reduction Committee

June 27 – File proposed rule and documentation with Interagency Committee on Administrative Rules (ICAR)

Before July 11 – Finalize public meeting schedule with locations

July 11 - ICAR review and hearing

July 15 - File proposed rule with the Secretary of State’s office (see publication timeline below)

Submission Date	2022-07-15
Submission Month	July
Submission Year	2022
Posted Online	7/20/2022
Published in Newspapers	7/28/2022
Earliest Hearing	8/19/2022
Deadline for Comment	No less than 7 days following last hearing
Deadline for Comment without a Hearing	8/11/2022

July 15 – September 15 – Conduct formal rulemaking public outreach and meetings (**under the APA, meetings cannot begin before 8/19**)

- **Meetings scheduled between September 5 and 26**
 - **1 virtual meeting**
 - **3-4 in-person meetings**

[7 days from last meeting] – deadline for submitting public comments

October - ANR reviews public comments, prepares responsiveness summary, finalize rule

November 1 – File final proposed rule with Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR)

November 17 – Projected LCAR Hearing