

'They Knew'

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To the PSD of Vt., I put in the subject of this email 'They Knew' for a reason. This is the title of a book written by Gus Speth, former professor at the Vt. Law School. In it he documents the fact that those in government over the last 50 years have understood the *cause and the magnitude of the problem of Climate change and the very perilous affects* that it is having on us as a nation and state even now. He goes on to document how every administration (Rep. and Dem.) went on to do essentially nothingtrying to play both sides of the issue. And so here we are today. Our current Vt. administration and its agencies certainly must know that we have very critical actions that need to be *addressed right now to avoid irreversible changes in our way of living. As I read through the plan, I see that apparently the DPS believes that there is no need to build starting today and for years going forward, carbon free instate renewable electricity generation. At the same time the 2021 Climate council is announcing the necessity of electrification of our transportation and thermal sectors with renewable generation. In fact, to replace the fossil energy currently used by our transportation and thermal sectors, we will need about 2 to 2 1/2 more kilowatts than we currently consume on a yearly basis. How can the DPS possibly say we don't need more in state generation??? What are we waiting for? Why don't we build that in state generation starting now? It takes about 2 years to permit and build systems of the scale we need. We don't have enough roofs to supply our needs. We need residential and 500 k net metering projects....hundreds of them and speed type projects also. If we think we will just buy the renewable power somewhere else at a later date, we give away the good paying jobs and send money out of state. That's the same foolish thinking that we employ when we buy oil and gas products from an out of state source. In addition good pricing will not come the longer we wait as we will be competing with other New England states who will be trying to shed their fossil fuel addiction at the same time. Further, I ask what has happened to the strategy of distributed generation? Depending on an out of state source, not to mention out of country, for our power goes back to the days of centralized generation which is so contrary to the concept of resiliency. We give ^{away} control of our own destiny.*

A rethinking/reworking of this plan by the DPS is absolutely critical if we are ever to reach our 2030/2032 goals not to mention the long term goal of 2050. The plan smacks of 'stay the course thinking.' Those days are over with. We have the technology and the capacity to build in state, carbon free solar electricity right now. The DPS and other regulating bodies need to acknowledge the reality of the situation .Let's not be the next chapter in Gus Speth's book. They knew and did nothing! Jim Hand, East Dorset, Vt.

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