

Dear

We are reaching out to you to invite you to present and participate in a symposium the City of Burlington, Vermont's City Council Transportation, Energy, and Utilities Committee ("TEUC") will be holding on the climate and related economic implications to the operation of its Electric Department's ("BED") McNeil Generating Station ("McNeil").

McNeil is a 50 MW wood burning facility located in the Burlington Intervale adjacent to the city's Old North End community. Information from BED on the plant and its energy profile can be found on the following links:

<https://www.burlingtonelectric.com/mcneil>

<https://www.burlingtonelectric.com/our-energy/>

<https://www.burlingtonelectric.com/our-energy-portfolio>

The burning of wood chips, the primary fuel for McNeil has become a significant issue of public interest and concern relative to the climate emergency. There are plans to invest in a McNeil district heating system to capture and utilize the waste heat generated by the plant. People are questioning those plans due to the carbon emissions associated with burning biomass and the major capital investment district heating entails. There have been calls to phase out the renewable energy credits linked to McNeil and calls to phase out the plant itself.

We are inviting you to present and participate in this TEUC symposium on the harvesting and burning of wood at McNeil because of you have been recognized for your work on this complicated subject. We've attached list of questions to answer at this symposium and the basic format the committee is reviewing.

The TEUC is the city council committee with jurisdiction over these matters and makes policy recommendations to the full council and Mayor's Administration. We are committed to making good policy based on good science and economics. One of the major goals is to come to common understandings and agreements about the science and about language so that the city can make its decisions based on this common understanding. We know there are different policy choices that can be made based on the interests to be weighed and the consequences of one action versus another but agreement on the science and the language we use is essential to making these decisions in the fairest and most democratic way.

We are currently in the planning stages and are considering holding a 2 day event due to the significance and complexity of the issue. We are interested in learning whether or not you would be willing and able to participate, any time and other considerations, and the cost, if any, for your participation.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope you will be able to participate in this symposium.

Sincerely,