

# **VT Energy Generation Siting Process Strengths & Weaknesses**

**(Participant) perspective**

Presented to:

***VT Energy Generation  
Siting Policy Commission***

Meeting #3 – Learning from Participants in the  
Process

(Nov 30, 2012)

# Siting Approval Practices #1

Perspective from Deerfield Wind Experience

Dimensions of process:

1. Scope of review
2. Depth of review
3. Participation in process
4. Decision making
5. Timeline

# Siting Approval Practices #2

## 1) Scope of review – what is looked at:

Generally - Broad and defined under Act 248

Specifically – function of public comment and intervener issues – represents a strength of process.

# Siting Approval Practices #2

## 2) Depth of review of issues:

Burden of proof is on Applicant. PSB record shows that it is thorough. One application before PSB was denied on these grounds (standard of evidence) – represents a strength of process.

# Siting Approval Practices #2

## 3) Participation in process

Threshold for obtaining party status is low

Neighbors (pro se), business owner, abutting town, NGOs participated in Deerfield

- Board made accommodation with process and schedule
- A strength of the process

# Siting Approval Practices #2

## Decision Making

Thoughtful and well reasoned opinions and decisions. Functions efficiently.

A strength

# Siting Approval Practices #2

## 4) Time Line

Expedient barring back log of Boards/Staff agenda

Vulnerable to delay with high volume of projects.

- Possible opportunity for smaller less projects to take different course to avoid docket getting backlogged.

# Siting Approval Practices #2

Summary – provides a thorough, robust and efficient review process.

*Known and defined*

*Vulnerable to delay with backlog of projects*