

Minutes of the Peacham Energy Committee – 9 June, 2025

Zoom Meeting hosted in Peacham, VT

Meeting Information

Event name	Peacham Energy Committee Zoom Meeting
Time	June 9, 2025, 07:15 PM - 08:29 PM (EST)
Participants	Charlie Byron (Chair), Tom Bryer, Bruce Courtot

Quick recap

The meeting focused on energy-related projects and challenges in Peacham, including discussions about community solar arrays, microgrids, and emergency preparedness.

Charlie reported that neither Green Mountain Power nor Washington Electric Coop has even responded to repeated attempts at contact, either by phone messages or emails. The group agreed that contacting political leaders should be a next step, to understand the possible reasons for this, to explore how to generate more responsiveness, and to understand the current regulatory and advocacy climate in Vermont, given the changed priorities at the Federal level.

Tom suggested we also contact Energy Committees in neighboring towns to compare notes and see if there is a basis for common action.

The group discussed increasing our focus on conservation efforts, given the apparent stalemate on electrification.

Lastly we discussed approaches to increasing participation by younger people, both on the Committee and in service projects such as weatherization,

Next steps

- Charlie: identify political representatives and initiate contact
- Charlie: Research materials from energy committees in Danville and Ryegate
- Tom: contact people as discussed to solicit interest in weatherization and/or youth outreach

Tabled Items

1. Tom and Jock will each contact members they know of nearby Energy Committees, to share approaches and priorities, once we are clearer on ours.
2. We will tentatively plan to invite Olivia Anderson, of the Washington Electric Cooperative Board, to attend the May meeting, to discuss prospective projects including micro-grids and the potential to establish all of Peacham as a microgrid in the event of a larger grid failure.
3. Charlie: Add "Contacting members of neighboring Energy Committees" to future agenda

4. Energy Committee: Consider organizing presentations at the library about weatherization and energy efficiency option