

MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT

May 7, 2014

Waitsfield Selectboard
c/o Valerie Capels, Town Administrator
9 Bridge Street
Waitsfield, VT 05673

Re: Waitsfield CEDF community solar project grant application

Waitsfield Selectboard:

On behalf of the Mad River Valley Planning District, I am writing in support of the Town of Waitsfield's application to the Clean Energy Development Fund to assist in the development of a 102 kW distributed solar array at the Town Garage. The project will provide renewable energy for all of Waitsfield's municipal buildings.

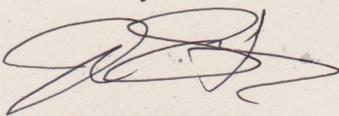
This project addresses many of the MRV's energy objectives. The Mad River Valley Planning District has been working with the community at large for the past 6 plus years in a grassroots effort to identify renewable energy goals and opportunities. The project is poised to be a shining example of the municipality leading by example - a community-centered, cost-effective, and grid-connected renewable energy solution for the long-term benefit of the Town and State's electric costumers.

In addition to broad community goals, this project specifically addresses two goals of Waitsfield's 2012 Municipal Plan:

- 9.H-3 – Reduce Municipal energy consumption and costs, community reliance on fossil fuels and foreign oil supplies, and greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change – through increased energy and fuel efficiency, energy conservation, and active transition to alternative fuels and renewable energy sources.
- 9.H-4 – Sustainably develop Waitsfield's renewable energy resources and local distributed energy generation capacity – including municipal and community generation and supporting smart grid technology – consistent with adopted plan policies and community energy facility and siting standards.

The Mad River Valley Planning District wholeheartedly supports this project and sees this application as way to further increase the Town's energy generation goals.

Sincerely,



Joshua Schwartz
Executive Director

Representing the Vermont Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren

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