



Legislative Report on “Necessary Updates to the Act 250 Program”
June 26, 2023

The Role of the Stakeholder Steering Committee

The stakeholder steering committee is comprised of 10-15 key leaders who represent a variety of constituencies with an active stake in the Act 250 program: applicants, consultants, attorneys, economic development organizations, housing organizations, municipalities, environmental advocates, and state agencies.

The steering committee will act as liaisons with these interest groups, facilitating conversations, debates and building consensus to properly and effectively update Act 250 to reflect the changing needs of Vermonters and ensure that the law continues to serve the state well into the future – promoting smart growth and protecting Vermont’s environment.

The steering committee will work directly with the facilitator team to lead the study scope and process, outlined separately in the NRB’s scope of work.

The steering committee will be instrumental in identifying the broader set of stakeholders – approximately 50-60 representing interested constituencies – who will contribute to the study topics and recommendations through a series of coordinated meetings.

To be successful, it is important to note that the steering committee will employ an adaptative management process – meaning to encourage productive and effective consensus to update the Act 250 law.

The steering committee will meet regularly to develop potential common ground between different proposals and different interest groups. It is expected that the steering committee will meet 6-10 times, with at least 2 in-person meetings. If the steering committee is successful in reaching consensus on an issue, the members will be of great assistance seeking approval from their respective interest groups. The goal is to develop recommendations that the NRB supports and stakeholders either openly support or have reached compromise on.

To be clear, members of the steering committee will make a commitment of time and energy to this highly anticipated project.

Steering Committee Members

Name	Affiliation / Act 250 Group	Title
Sabina Haskell	Natural Resources Board	Chair
Peter Gill	Natural Resources Board	Executive Director
Kirsten Sultan	Natural Resources Board	District 7 Coordinator

Billy Coster	Agency of Natural Resources	Director of Planning
Maggie Gendron	Agency of Natural Resources	Deputy Secretary
Andy Rowe	Snyder Homes	Project Engineer
Jon Groveman	Vermont Natural Resources Council	Policy and Water Program Director
Peter Gregory	Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission	Executive Director
Tom Little	District Environmental Commission	District 4 Commission Chair
Geoff Hand	Environmental Attorney	SRH Law
Judge Tom Zonay	Vermont Judiciary	Chief Superior Judge
Brent Rakowski	Otter Creek Engineering	Vice President
Megan Sullivan	Vermont Chamber of Commerce	Vice President, Government Affairs
Kathy Beyer	Evernorth	Senior Vice President
Charlie Hancock	North Woods Resource Group	President
Chip Sawyer	City of Saint Albans	Director of Planning & Development