



## Vermont Gas - Geprags Park Subcommittee

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### Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2016 Geprags Park, Hinesburg, Vt. - Draft -

**Subcommittee Members Present:** Michael Bissonette, Bob Hyams, Trevor Lashua, Renae Marshall.

**Others Present:** Tom Murray (VGS), Chris Laforce (VGS), Adam Crary (VHB), Josh Skye (VHB), April Moulart (Northwoods Resource Center, on behalf of the intervenor group).

The meeting began at 3:35 p.m.

After introductions, there was a discussion on the process to date and purpose of the site visit. The site visit was, in part, designed to explore the permitted route and the alternate route discussed throughout the subcommittee process. The site visit was also intended to discuss how and why the permitted route was selected.

Delineation was discussed. VHB relayed that, within the narrow pipeline corridor, the delineation performed by VHB was incorporated into the VSWI application used by the Agency of Natural Resources. Questions and concerns related the VSWI data were covered.

The group began by walking the permitted route.

The first stop was to discuss delineated wetlands versus the boundaries of the vegetation in place.

The group stopped to review a map of the propose route, and discuss the selection and delineation process.

Bob Hyams discussed the alternate route, and asked whether or not the area west of the VELCO corridor was vetted (within the mowed area, east of the brook and permitted route). He said the analysis treats all wetlands as equivalent, when the reality is that they function differently. He used the habitat and vegetation evident in the permitted route as one example, comparing it to the mowed field representing the majority of the alternate route.

Josh Skye said that an archeological resource analysis concluded that there we significant resources of that nature in the alternate route area, as opposed to the permitted route. There was a brief discussion on cultural and natural resources.

The group stopped to discuss the width of the right of way, particularly the areas where the width is 50' and the areas where the width is 75'. Chris Laforce discussed minimum widths and safety.

The group stopped in an area where the ground was much wetter than the previous areas along the permitted route.

The group walked the rest of the permitted route, the alternate route, and discussed which one represented the most minimal wetlands impacts after an “on the ground” analysis.

The site visit and meeting concluded.

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