

State of Vermont Agency of Administration Office of the Secretary Pavilion Office Building 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609-0201 www.aoa.vermont.gov [phone] 802-828-3322 [fax] 802-828-2428 Kristin L. Clouser, Secretary

## INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (ICAR) AGENDA Monday, July 11, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

To attend virtually via Microsoft Teams, please <u>click here to join the meeting</u> for full meeting audio and visual. If you require a call-in option to participate (e.g., computer does not have a microphone), dial 802-828-7667 and enter Phone Conference ID: 114 423 325#.

Physical meeting location suspended until January 15, 2023 due to Open Meeting Law temporary provisions.

- Welcome
- Review and approval of the minutes from the <u>June 13, 2022</u> meeting
- Note any additions or deletions from the agenda
- Public comment.
- Note: The 'PUC Emergency Rule 2.600 COVID-19 Emergency Disconnection Rule', provided by the Public Utility Commission was supported by ICAR Chair Farnham on July 6, 2022.
  - On July 15, 2021, the moratorium on gas, electric, and basic telephone disconnections was lifted in order to encourage greater participation in the Vermont COVID-19 Arrearage Assistance Program II ("VCAAP II") and the Vermont Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance Program ("VERAP") that distribute federal funds. On June 15, 2021, the statutory moratorium on water disconnections was lifted. The VCAAP II stopped taking applications in October 2021, but the VERAP continues to take applications. The Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program ("VHAP") also continues to take applications and includes utility assistance. This rule encourages continued participation in the arrearage and financial support programs available to utility customers and provides enhanced consumer protections to customers who may be experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. Based on the funding sources and anticipated termination of the assistance programs, this likely will be the last renewal of this emergency rule.
- Presentation of the following proposed rules:
  - o Term and Universal Life Insurance Reserve Financing (Reg. 22-017-I), Department of Financial Regulation
    - The Department is proposing a new rule that establishes uniform standards governing reserve financing arrangements pertaining to insurers issuing term and universal life insurance products with secondary guarantees. The new rule formalizes existing Department practices and is based on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Model Rule 787.



- Amendments to the Vermont Air Pollution Control Regulations Wood Heater rules, Agency of Natural Resources
  - This amendment creates a new framework for controlling emissions from wood heaters of all sizes in Vermont. It amends the threshold for EPA certification of smaller sized wood heaters, adds a new size category for mid-sized wood heaters, and lowers the size threshold for wood heating installations that need to obtain an air pollution control permit to be constructed and operated in Vermont. Per Act 50, ANR has also allowed for an alternative compliance mechanism for non-residential medium sized wood heaters to allow manufacturers and installers more flexibility in complying with the rule.
- o Vermont Low and Zero Emission Vehicle Regulations, Agency of Natural Resources
  - Advanced Clean Cars II, Advanced Clean Trucks, Low NOx Heavy-Duty Omnibus, and the Phase 2 Greenhouse Gas Rule. In this rulemaking, ANR proposes to amend existing rules and adopt new rules that reduce greenhouse gas and criteria air pollutant emissions from passenger cars, light-duty trucks, and medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and engines that are delivered for sale or placed in service in Vermont.
- Time permitting:
  - o Committee discussion about ICAR's role in the rulemaking and authority structure in Vermont's government, equity and accessibility to all, and public notification
    - Possible future action items:
      - Inter-agency/department communications on proposed filings
      - Annual internal survey pertaining to anticipated upcoming proposed rules
  - o Committee discussion pertaining to strike-all proposed rules for transparency
- Other business
- Next meeting date: Monday, August 8, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
- Adjournment

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