

Gott, Catherine

From: Barbara Baumann <bwbaumann@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2026 8:58 PM
To: Act250 - Board
Subject: Re: Input from Vermonter VERY concerned about Government Overreach: DRAFT TRORC Plan.

Categories: Catherine

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Thank you for confirming receipt.

I was at the hearing in Bethel this evening. Citizens there were very concerned about overreach and “shalls” and “musts” and maps being made administratively (vs boots on the ground), from the top, down. People were wondering why the rush - the deadlines for implementing this new plan feel arbitrary to us, even though TRORC has been working on it for 18 months or so. The informational meeting and hearing I attended felt more like boxes being checked, than a genuine effort to hear from the people.

Two questions for you which they could not answer for us: :

1: Someone asked what would happen if they didn't complete the new plan by the end of the year, and they said “We don't know, ask the LURB.”

2: Someone asked what would happen if the plan /maps are voted down this Fall. They guessed that the current plan would stay in place until 2033.

Can you please give me clarity on these two things?

Many suggested that TRORC put a pause on this process to allow time more citizens to absorb these huge documents and maps and offer input. There are still so many Vermonters unaware, and the impacts on them could be significant.

It was suggested that rural landowners want to (and do) care for their land, and that efforts to preserve our landscapes could better be worked out in partnership vs the dictatorship we're currently experiencing.

Thank you.

Barbara Baumann
Randolph

On Jul 28, 2026, at 1:32 PM, Act250 - Board <Act250.Board@vermont.gov> wrote:

Hi Barbara,

Thank you for your comments.

Kind Regards,
Catherine

Catherine Gott | Legal Services Specialist
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-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara Baumann <bwbaumann@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, July 27, 2026 4:16 PM

To: Act250 - Board <Act250.Board@vermont.gov>

Subject: Input from Vermonter VERY concerned about Government Overreach: DRAFT TRORC Plan.

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Dear LURB Members:

As a formerly non-political person, I attended my first rally in March, to protest Act 181, about a week after became aware of the details. As you are aware, the grassroots group, Rural Vermont Rising, of which I am a part, was able to be heard during the legislative session and some meaningful changes happened with the most onerous parts.

The overreach is coming from all directions: I now see TRORC doing it.

I attended the TRORC informational meeting in Randolph to hear about the plan for myself. Concerned citizens asked important questions, most of which were not answered. They were avoided, ignored, and danced around. It was shocking and unacceptable. Situations like what happened at that meeting have created a severe lack of trust which really needs to be remedied. I am concerned about our farmers, in particular, but also basic freedoms and rights for all of us. It's honestly quite despicable to see so much control exerted over private property, for which Vermonters pay dearly in taxes.

I consider myself to be a lover of the environment. Always have been. However, the excessive mandatory provisions of an unelected group go way too far! People forget that

Vermont's rural beauty is largely thanks to the stewardship of private landowners.

Please, rein the TRORC in and review their mission. Is their original purpose even still valid? How much have they veered from their original assignments, I wonder. I suspect that some people have been at this for so long, they are taking advantage of being in a position of power and really pushing things too far. It's WRONG.

Thank you,
Barbara Baumann
Randolph, VT