

TOWN OF LYME CHARGE
LYME ENERGY COMMITTEE

I. MISSION:

The mission of the Lyme Energy Committee is to promote energy conservation, energy efficiency, and the use of renewable energy resources among Lyme residents, businesses, community organizations, town government, and the Lyme School through education, action, and oversight.

II. BACKGROUND:

The Lyme Energy Committee was formed in accordance with NH RSA 38-D in 2003, and is one of a number of town Energy Committees in neighboring communities throughout the Upper Connecticut River Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire. The Committee is a dynamic organization whose duties and responsibilities have evolved, and will continue to evolve, over time.

III. MEMBERSHIP:

The Lyme Energy Committee shall consist of not less than five nor more than nine Lyme residents appointed by the Board of Selectmen and shall include one Selectman as a voting ex-officio member.

IV. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Committee shall:

- A. elect its own chair and establish its own organization;
- B. assist town government and the Lyme School in auditing their energy use and implementing energy-conservation practices;
- C. serve in an advisory capacity as arbiters of whether or not any and all energy-related changes to town government buildings are in the public interest;
- D. provide the residents of Lyme with: tools to measure their energy consumption; education regarding energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy; and, as able, assistance in implementing conservation, efficiency, or renewable energy measures;
- E. work with local businesses, schools, and organizations to promote sustainable energy practices;
- F. contribute to a dialogue in the State of New Hampshire about public policy on energy issues;
- G. prepare and submit an annual report to the Board of Selectmen, to be included in the Town's Annual Report, of the accomplishments in the preceding year and objectives for the ensuing year.

V. OBJECTIVES:

- A. **Education:** Build awareness among Lyme residents about energy conservation,

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energy efficiency, and renewable energy opportunities in their homes as well as in town and school buildings through a variety of mediums, including but not limited to postings on the Lyme Listserv, newsletters, surveys, resources at the town library, or public events and lectures.

- B. **Action:** Advocate for maximum feasible energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy measures in the design and construction or alteration of new Town and Lyme School facilities to insure a sustainable, energy-efficient final design that minimizes energy costs and maximizes town benefits over the life of the building.
- C. **Oversight:** By a simple majority vote, the Energy Committee shall have the ability to approve or deny – in an advisory capacity – any and all energy-related changes to town government buildings. The Lyme Town Buildings Maintenance Committee, the Lyme School, and the Converse Free Library are encouraged to bring any and all such proposed changes before the Energy Committee for consideration prior to implementation.

Susan J. Mackenzie, Chair

Patricia G. Jenks

Charles J. Smith

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