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Following college at CU Boulder and UVM, and before moving to East Montpelier in 2018, I lived in Waitsfield, Washington (state), Colorado, and Burlington. I grew up in the Northeast Kingdom where my parents operated a small country store. I experienced a wide range of perspectives serving people in one of the state's most economically disadvantaged areas. Since then, I founded, developed, and continue to run a small business in Vermont. I am aware of Vermont's equity challenges, regulatory climate, and what service organizations face today. We live in a complicated world that rarely is well served by binary "yes" or "no" answers; there is a lot of gray area in many decisions. I am pragmatic and understand that the perfect can be the enemy of the very good. Compromise is often needed to create true progress. I strive to peel back layers of topics to reveal the heart of the big picture and discover the most likely long-term results of different paths.

WEC faces significant issues today and tomorrow. At present, we have to work to systematically improve the reliability of our broad, rough, and tree-laden grid. We have to support broadband accessibility and the desire of many members to adopt more electricity-intensive technology (EV charging, heat pumps, etc...). When it comes to regulations, we need to continue to advocate for ourselves while simultaneously meeting the expectations the legislature and the Public Utilities Commission have structured for utilities. We also need to maintain a workforce of high-quality and skilled people.

In the longer term, WEC needs to continue to secure adequate clean power to support increasing electrical demand; we need to explore ideas to help overcome our quantity of scale limitations and lower kWh rates; and we need to remain competitive in a marketplace that will continue to shift. We should learn from other utilities while managing risk so that we innovate and progress without overexposure. We should continue to pursue a future where affordable and clean are not mutually exclusive but are also both kept in perspective.

I am aware of the double-edged tendencies of technology and how promises and realities do not always align. I am committed to doing what I can to have technology help us more than it hurts us. My family has an electric vehicle and we converted our old farmhouse to primarily rely on hydronic heat pumps. These conversions, particularly the HVAC, took more planning, experimentation, money, and advocacy than should be required. We can't be blind to how nascent many of these technologies still are or how large the demands on our already compromised grid will be. I am committed to understanding and playing a role in guiding how WEC supports the accessibility of these technologies (lowering costs, improving ease of installation, providing an adequate grid...) to members in a manageable, affordable, and realistic manner.

As recent outages have demonstrated, living without grid power for any length of time is not an option for most of us. WEC is one of the most important resources in our communities.

I commit and work hard to the things I believe in. As a member of the WEC Board, I will explore how WEC is structured to flesh out where the best opportunities exist. I will listen and process what members and other board members say while putting in the planning, analysis, and effort necessary to make informed recommendations and decisions. We need to work cooperatively and creatively to build the brightest and most reliable future possible.

Don't hesitate to reach out. I'd like to earn your vote.