

Greetings!

This email is being sent to all members of the Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op and contains a list of board nominees, a description of proposed changes to our bylaws, and a mail in ballot to be filled out in case you are unable to attend our Annual Meeting on March 31, 2016.

Acorn Energy Co-op Annual Meeting Notice

**Annual Meeting Set for
Thursday, March 31st, 2016**



The 8th annual meeting of the Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op will be held between **5 and 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2016 in the lower social space at Two Brothers Tavern, 86 Main Street in Middlebury**, Vermont. The Nominating Committee has prepared a slate of director candidates for the 2016-2017 board of the co-op ([see biographies here](#)).

The meeting will start with a presentation by Acorn Energy Co-op board member Taborri Bruhl of New Haven, entitled, "Here's How We Fix It! Solving the World's Sustainability Problems," that will offer the big picture view of existing technologies that could solve many of these problems, and the lifestyle changes that might result from their wider implementation and use.

The membership will also hear officers' reports, a description of proposed changes to our bylaws necessitated by a need to correct some problems with our original Articles of Incorporation, and any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

A little background on the bylaw changes. Last year, we learned that there were a number of technical issues with our original Articles of Incorporation that needed to be fixed. We authorized the preparation of Articles of Amendment and Restatement to eliminate those issues. In brief, the new Articles contain most of the original information we filed with the Secretary of State back in 2008-2009 with some technical additions/corrections. For a full text of the proposed Amendment and Restatement go [here](#). For a detailed description of the changes, go [here](#).

This in turn has necessitated some technical adjustments to our bylaws to bring the two documents into agreement. Most of these changes are fairly minor or technical, with two exceptions. Section 7.2 - Certificates, has been deleted, since we, like most other consumer co-ops in Vermont, have never sent out certificates of ownership to our members. They're simply not required, and we wanted to eliminate this section to reflect that reality. The second major change is Section 9.3 - Liquidation, which has been deleted and moved to the Articles of Amendment, where our legal counsel says it more properly belongs. For the full text of the proposed bylaw changes, go [here](#). For a detailed description of the changes by section number, go [here](#).

Your board of directors has already reviewed and approved the changes to the Articles of Amendment and Restatement, as well as the changes to the bylaws. We recommend approval by our membership.

Mail-in ballot instructions:

You may print this ballot (which are pages 2-3 of this email) fill in and sign the form and mail it to Acorn Energy Co-op, PO Box 65, Middlebury, VT 05753.

Alternatively, you may forward this ballot via email to gpahl@sover.net. If you return it via email, please type in all the information as well as your name in two places on the lines provided at the bottom of this form.

Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op Annual Meeting Mail-in Ballot

I will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting of the Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op on March 31, 2016. I therefore cast my absentee mail-in ballot for the following candidates for director.

CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR - Vote for four (4)

****Please refer to proposed slate of directors [here](#)****

Peter Carothers, Middlebury, three years	(2016-2019)	<input type="checkbox"/>
J. Thomas Dunne, Middlebury, three years	(2016-2019)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andrea Murray, Middlebury, three years	(2016-2019)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Suzy Hodgson, Charlotte, two years	(2016-2018)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write-in Candidate		

******PROPOSED ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT******

The board is proposing the submission of Articles of Amendment and Restatement to the Vermont Secretary of State to correct some defects in the original Articles of Incorporation in 2008-2009. For the full text of the proposed changes, go [here](#). For a detailed description of the changes, go [here](#).

I wish to vote **yes** for the proposed Articles of Amendment and Restatement

I wish to vote **no** for the proposed Articles of Amendment and Restatement

******PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS******

The board is proposing a number of changes to the bylaws, shown [here](#). For a detailed description of the changes, go [here](#).

I wish to vote **yes** to the proposed changes to the bylaws

I wish to vote **no** to the proposed changes to the bylaws

All mail-in ballots must be received by March 31, 2016

Signature:

(sign here if returning via mail)

Date:

Email ballot instructions:

You may return this ballot to the co-op via email to gpahl@sover.net. If you return it via email, please fill in all the ballot information above and also your name on the line below.

I, _____, wish to cast my ballot via email.
(type in your name here for email response)

Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op

Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op

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