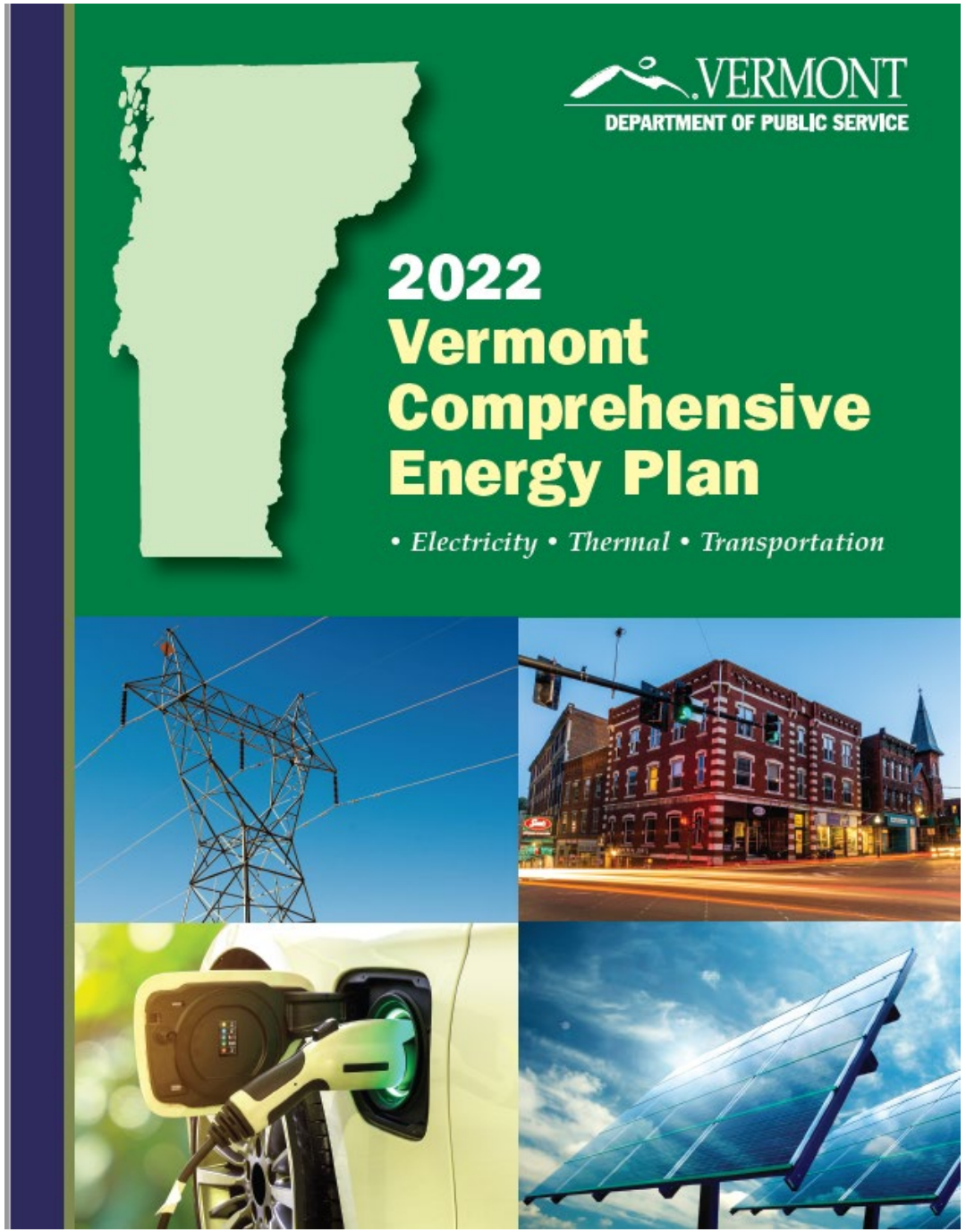
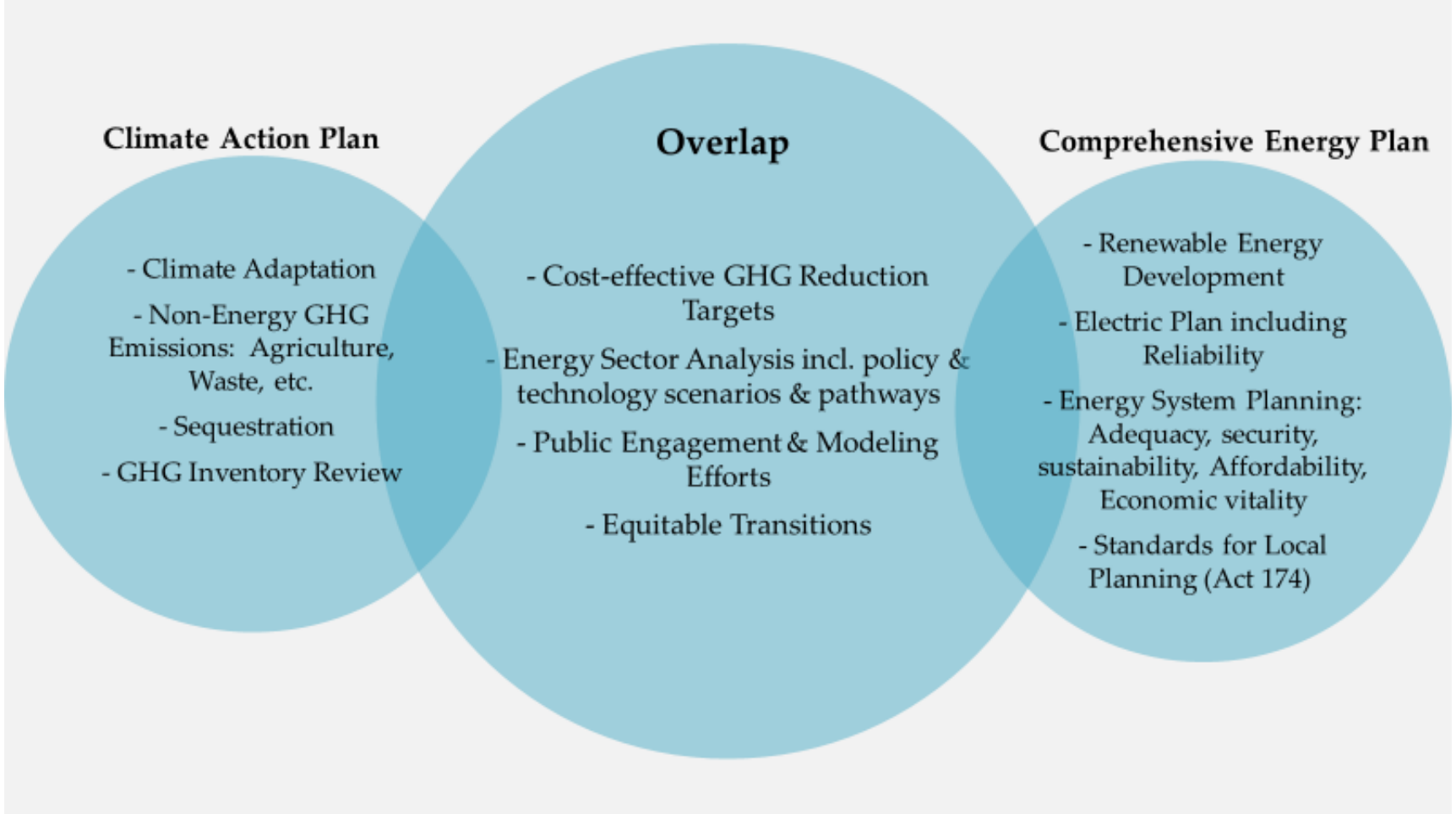
Overview of Vermont's **Comprehensive Energy Plan**



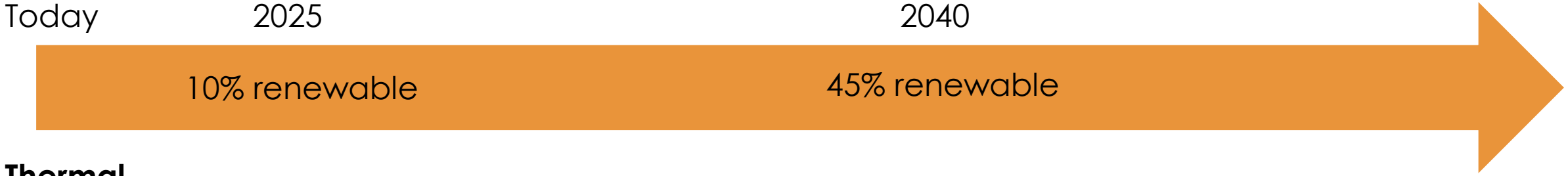
Comprehensive Energy Plan & Climate Action Plan



GHG Emission Requirements

Sector-Specific Goals

Transportation



Thermal

Electric

Equity

Energy Inequity

- Energy burden (% of income spent on energy expenditures) is as high as 20% in some VT communities
  - Renters vs. homeowners; non-white vs. white
- Adoption of clean technologies has mostly occurred in communities with low energy burden

Key Recommendations from the CEP:

- Equity should be considered as core criteria in all decision-making that guides energy policy in Vermont
- DPS should complete a review of energy-related public processes and recommend changes to encourage more inclusive and transparent engagement with Vermonters
- Act 174 enhanced energy plans should include analyses of the potential equity impacts of proposed policies, objectives, and goals in the plans

Transportation and Land Use

- Pathways and strategies largely the same as the CAP
  - Heavy focus on electrification
- Encourages regional and municipal planning to identify preferred locations for public-serving DC fast chargers
  - Coincides with National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program

Photo credit: Evgo. https://www.evgo.com/case-studies/green-mountain-power/

Thermal

- Same policy/program recommendations as the CAP (Weatherization at Scale, Clean Heat Standard, Workforce Development, etc.)
- Net-zero ready new construction standards by 2030 (but no enforcement)
- Consider mandatory 200-amp service for new construction at next code update

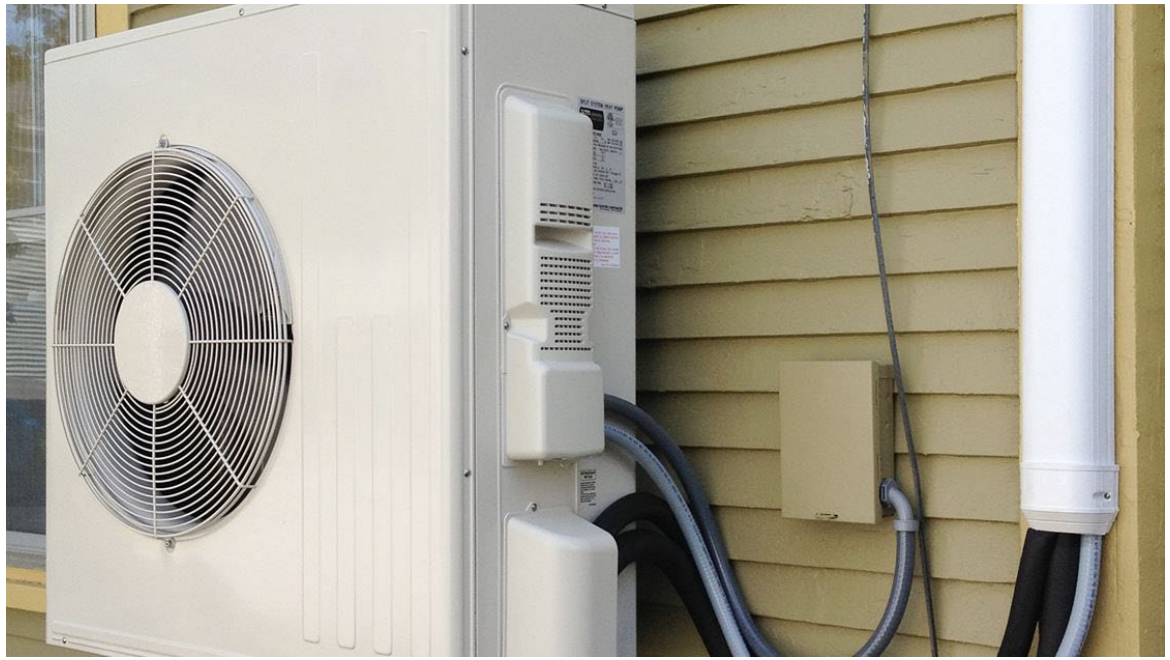


Photo credit: Efficiency Vermont.
https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/products-technologies/heating-cooling-ventilation/heat-pumps

Electric Resources

- Consider a 100% renewable or carbon-free Renewable Energy Standard
- Consider development of a community solar program to make access to renewable energy more equitable
- Encourage more detailed, proactive planning around siting of renewables

Photo credit: Norwich Technologies. https://norwichsolar.com/projects/town-of-woodstock-vermont/

TRORC Grid Constraints

Installed Solar PV as of 2020 (MW)	Optimized Solar PV Distribution (MW)	2025 Target (Existing Solar + New Renewables (MW)	2035 Target (Existing Solar + New Renewables (MW)	2050 Target (Existing Solar + New Renewables (MW)
38.7	98	66.5	125.5	190.5

Act 174 Updates

- Effective Jan. 14, 2022
- "All plans submitted after the 2022 CEP was issued are expected to meet these updated standards, *except of plans for regions or municipalities who can demonstrate they had meaningfully initiated the planning process* (e.g. through proof of a publicly noticed meeting) *before the 2022 CEP was published*."

Act 174 Updates Cont.

- Updates to the standards, which can be found on DPS' website, include, but are not limited to:

- Streamlined language

- Enhanced consideration of climate and grid resilience, equity, and advances in technologies

- Updates to the *Mapping Standards* to emphasize the value of forest lands in sequestering and storing carbon, consistent with Vermont's Climate Action Plan

Act 174 Updates Cont.

Estimated Timeline:

January 2022:
Compilation and posting of all the municipal and regional recommendations in the CEP

April 2022:
Updated guidance for regional and municipal plans

May 2022:
Regionalized LEAP scenarios/workbook tools, consistent with statewide LEAP modeling and targets adopted for the CEP and CAP

July 2022:
Generation target scenarios tool
Map layers in VCGI

The ***generation target scenarios tool*** will include several potential scenarios for planners to consider in their local target setting, including sensitivities for electrification demand, grid constraints, and renewability of utility power supply.