

# Administrative Procedures – Economic Impact Statement

## Instructions:

In completing the economic impact statement, an agency analyzes and evaluates the anticipated costs and benefits to be expected from adoption of the rule. This form must be completed for the following filings made during the rulemaking process:

- Proposed Rule Filing
- Final Proposed Filing
- Adopted Rule Filing
- Emergency Rule Filing

Rules affecting or regulating public education and public schools must include cost implications to local school districts and taxpayers in the impact statement (see 3 V.S.A. § 832b for details).

The economic impact statement also contains a section relating to the impact of the rule on greenhouse gases. Agencies are required to explain how the rule has been crafted to reduce the extent to which greenhouse gases are emitted (see 3 V.S.A. § 838(c)(4) for details).

All forms requiring a signature shall be original signatures of the appropriate adopting authority or authorized person.

**Certification Statement:** As the adopting Authority of this rule (see 3 V.S.A. § 801 (b) (11) for a definition), I conclude that this rule is the most appropriate method of achieving the regulatory purpose. In support of this conclusion I have attached all findings required by 3 V.S.A. §§ 832a, 832b, and 838(c) for the filing of the rule entitled:

**Rule Title: Snowmobiling On State-Owned Lands Rules**

 \_\_\_\_\_, on 8-31-16  
(signature) (date)

Printed Name and Title:

Deb Markowitz, Secretary  
Agency of Natural Resources

*BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE IN THE COMPLETION OF THIS FORM, GIVING FULL INFORMATION ON YOUR ASSUMPTIONS, DATABASES, AND ATTEMPTS TO GATHER OTHER INFORMATION ON THE NATURE OF THE COSTS AND BENEFITS INVOLVED. COSTS AND BENEFITS CAN INCLUDE ANY TANGIBLE OR INTANGIBLE ENTITIES OR FORCES WHICH WILL MAKE AN IMPACT ON LIFE WITHOUT THIS RULE.*

1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

Snowmobiling On State-Owned Lands Rules

2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

Agency of Natural Resources

3. CATEGORY OF AFFECTED PARTIES:

*LIST CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE, ENTERPRISES, AND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY THE ADOPTION OF THIS RULE AND THE ESTIMATED COSTS AND BENEFITS ANTICIPATED:*

Snowmobiling clubs, organizations, associations, and enthusiasts; members of the public who use and enjoy state lands; ice fishing clubs, organizations, associations, and enthusiasts; business owners; and Agency of Natural Resources personnel.

Any potential costs of this Rule are outweighed by the benefits. Costs may include a negligible decrease in revenues for the ice fishing industry and increased costs associated with rule enforcement. However, the City of Montpelier and the Town of Berlin will receive substantial public health benefits from safeguarding Berlin Pond from water contamination caused by snowmobiles.

4. IMPACT ON SCHOOLS:

*INDICATE ANY IMPACT THAT THE RULE WILL HAVE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOLS, LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS:*

None.

5. COMPARISON:

*COMPARE THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RULE WITH THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO THE RULE, INCLUDING NO RULE ON THE SUBJECT OR A RULE HAVING SEPARATE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESS:*

Prohibiting the use of snowmobiles on Berlin Pond may have an economic impact on businesses associated with

ice fishing. Snowmobiles are commonly used to transport ice shanties onto the ice.

However, the possible economic impact on the ice fishing industry is vastly outweighed by the economic impact of a compromised public water supply. Berlin Pond is the source of the public water supply for the City of Montpelier and is also the source of the public water supply for certain areas and facilities in the Town of Berlin. The Montpelier Water Treatment Facility was not designed with the express purpose of removing petroleum products from the raw water. The concern that snowmobiles may fall through the ice is a serious one.

#### 6. FLEXIBILITY STATEMENT:

*COMPARE THE BURDEN IMPOSED ON SMALL BUSINESS BY COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULE TO THE BURDEN WHICH WOULD BE IMPOSED BY ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED IN 3 V.S.A. § 832a:*

There may be negligible impacts on small businesses if prohibiting snowmobiles from Berlin Pond reduces the presence of ice fishing. Snowmobiles are sometimes used to transport ice shanties onto the ice. However, there are several kinds of ice shanties and it is not always necessary for ice anglers to use snowmobiles to install these temporary structures.

#### 7. GREENHOUSE GAS IMPACT: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE WAS CRAFTED TO REDUCE THE EXTENT TO WHICH GREENHOUSE GASES ARE EMITTED, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FROM THE FOLLOWING SECTORS OF ACTIVITIES:*

##### a. TRANSPORTATION —

*IMPACTS BASED ON THE TRANSPORTATION OF PEOPLE OR PRODUCTS (e.g., "THE RULE HAS PROVISIONS FOR CONFERENCE CALLS INSTEAD OF TRAVEL TO MEETINGS" OR "LOCAL PRODUCTS ARE PREFERENTIALLY PURCHASED TO REDUCE SHIPPING DISTANCE."):*

By prohibiting the use of snowmobiles on Berlin Pond, this Rule may reduce the release of greenhouse gases.

##### b. LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT —

*IMPACTS BASED ON LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT, FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE ETC. (e.g., "THE RULE WILL RESULT IN ENHANCED, HIGHER DENSITY DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT." OR "THE RULE MAINTAINS OPEN SPACE, FORESTED LAND AND /OR AGRICULTURAL LAND."):*

None.

c. BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE —

*IMPACTS BASED ON THE HEATING, COOLING AND ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION NEEDS (e.g., “THE RULE PROMOTES WEATHERIZATION TO REDUCE BUILDING HEATING AND COOLING DEMANDS.” OR “THE PURCHASE AND USE OF EFFICIENT ENERGY STAR APPLIANCES IS REQUIRED TO REDUCE ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION.”):*

None.

d. WASTE GENERATION / REDUCTION —

*IMPACTS BASED ON THE GENERATION OF WASTE OR THE REDUCTION, REUSE, AND RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE (e.g., “THE RULE WILL RESULT IN REUSE OF PACKING MATERIALS.” OR “AS A RESULT OF THE RULE, FOOD AND OTHER ORGANIC WASTE WILL BE COMPOSTED OR DIVERTED TO A ‘METHANE TO ENERGY PROJECT’.”):*

None.

e. OTHER —

*IMPACTS BASED ON OTHER CRITERIA NOT PREVIOUSLY LISTED:*

None.