

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RAP Announces New Hires

MONTPELIER, VT. - The Regulatory Assistance Project has recently hired new staff members to assist in management, research, policy and communications efforts as the non-profit group of energy and climate policy advisors continues to expand its work in the United States, European Union, China and other regions.

Barbara Wagner recently joined RAP as chief operations officer. Previously she served as vice president of operations for the Vermont Land Trust, where she was responsible for financial management and investments, information technology, organizational and employee development, board governance and strategic planning. Before joining VLT she served as director of finance and administration for the Mid-Atlantic Regional office of the Trust for Public Land, and facilities manager for the Appalachian Mountain Club. In addition to her land conservation and environmental work, Barbara has consulted to non-profits in the areas of organizational assessment, strategy design and impact evaluation, as well as organizational growth, culture change and systems design. She has a BS in Forest Biology from Syracuse University, and a MBA from the Yale School of Management, where she concentrated on non-profit management.

J. Riley Allen joins RAP as research manager, having previously served as the senior policy advisor to the Vermont Public Service Board and director of utility planning at the Department of Public Service. For almost 20 years, Allen served as an economist, expert witness, and hearing examiner on a variety of major state-level policy investigations for Vermont regulators. Most recently, he led portions of an expedited regulatory proceeding to establish a statewide renewable standard offer (feed-in tariff) program in Vermont. From 2001 to 2004, Allen served as technical advisor on several development projects to assist governments and communications regulators and in Southern Africa. He received a MA in Economics from the University of Virginia and a BA in Economics from the University of Florida.

Christopher James joins RAP as a senior associate, dividing his time between China and the U.S. He was previously with Synapse Energy Economics, and served as manager of climate change and energy programs with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. He was an environmental engineer for many years with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He received an AM in Environmental Studies from Brown University and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Diane Derby will serve as RAP's communications manager. A former journalist, she served as communications director for U.S. Sen. Jim Jeffords and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, and more recently with the Georgetown State-Federal Climate Resource Center. She was also the media relations director at Vermont Law School. She received a BA in journalism from Northeastern University, and has served on the boards of several literacy projects.

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THE REGULATORY ASSISTANCE PROJECT

The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) is a small, high-impact NGO focusing on the sustainable development of the power and natural gas sectors. We provide policy development, research, analysis, and technical assistance to public officials on a broad range of issues. These include end-use energy efficiency and demand management, renewable resources, electric and gas utility structures and markets, utility regulation, pricing, transmission and distribution, intersections with carbon markets and policies, and other power and gas sector issues. RAP has worked extensively in the US since 1992, in China since 1999, and has assisted governments in more than 18 nations and 50 states and provinces. In addition to the expertise of its own staff, RAP functions as the hub of a network of high-level experts working around the globe.

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