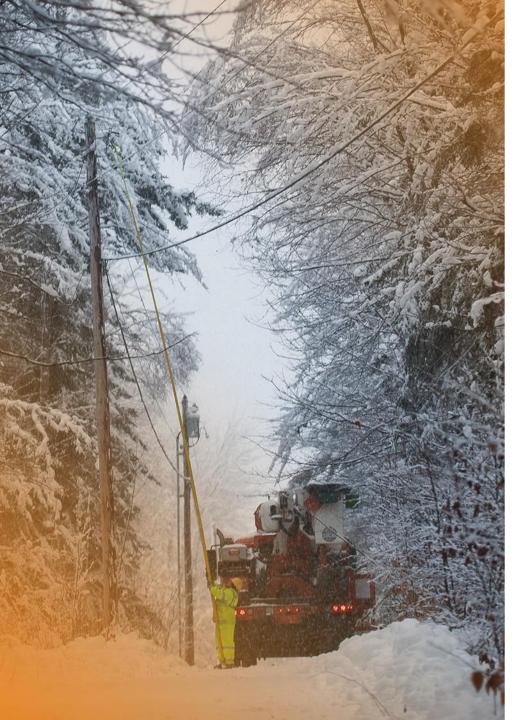


# **GMP RESILIENCY ZONES**

Empowering customers, keeping communities connected

GreenMountainPower.com





## **GMP's Proactive Climate Plan**

- Targeted initiatives to strengthen the grid
  - undergrounding, installing insulated wire, replacing poles, adding batteries
- Prevent outages
- Recover more quickly when they happen
- In addition to regular grid work
- Features faster timeline and Resiliency Zones



## Burlington Free Press

Stop the spread . Avoid close contact with others . Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others . Wash your hands often . Cover coughs and sneezes . Clean and disinfect often . Monitor your health daily

## **GMP** pioneers with Panton microgrid



#### Solar project will be first of its kind in US

Burtington Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

PANTON - Most of the pieces for a pioneering "microgrid" that will act as a giant solar-powered backup battery during electrical outages are in place on the wideopen fields of Panton outside of Ver-

The solar-powered microgrid will be the first of its kind in the country, according to Josh Castonguay, chief Innovation and engineering executive for Green Mountain Power. So are the 677 souls (plus 3,528 cows and 74,239 chipmunks, according to the town website) in this small Vermont village beside themselves with excite-

"It's nothing really exciting for most of the

the town in 2015 about building the solar old in a farmer's leased field on Panton eed. Hall said that in a town where the "With microgrids powered by chase of a wheelbarrow is the subject debate, the \$40,000 yearly in tax reve-



Power's chief innovation and engine ecutive, explains how the Pantor "Actually, no, they're not," said Howard microgrid will work, as seen on March 16

clean energy and paired with rue the solar installation produces was a batteries to store and deploy "We have one store in our town," he said. that power when it's needed

#### SoBu hot air balloon event causes traffic jam Saturday

A hot air balloon event Saturday night was so popular it caused a traffic jam in South Burlington. Hundreds of cars lined up for the Light the Night

event. Maybe it was the warm temperatures or the drivable event which allowed visitors to stay CO-VID-safe remaining in their cars that caused people to come out in droves.

South Burlington police put out an advisory that night saying "traffic is significantly backed up on Kimball Ave, Community Dr, Gregory Dr and Kennedy Rd due to a hot air balloon parade of some

While the police may have not known all the details of the event, South Burlington Recreation & Parks were there to assist as motorists drove through Technology Park. Event organizers and partners of the nonprofit Light the Night handed out QR codes for people to electronically donate to the Vermont Foodbank and collected food dona-

The event was free, but donations were encouraged. It began at 7:30 p.m. and lasted a couple of hours. Traffic was able to get back to normal at that

Traffic jams caused by an event, not something experienced for about a year while many stayed in isolation during the COVID-19 pundemic, could be the first stens of a return to normal.

Contact April Barton at abarton@freepers dia.com or 802-660-1854. Foxious her on Thetitler



brought out hundreds of cars in South Burlingto on Saturday to support the Vermont Foodbani

**USA TODAY** 

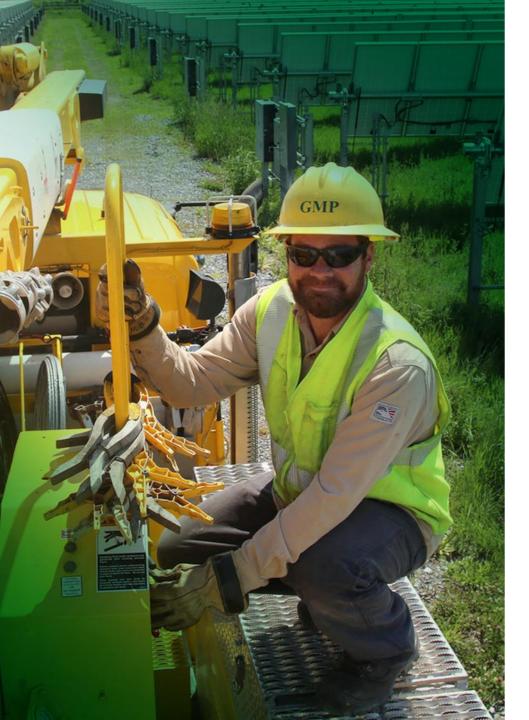
#### **Promising candidate**

University released the first picture Monday of the large chiscal trial they have run in the U.S. for their COVID-19 vaccine, finding that It is safe and pre-

## What's a Resiliency Zone?

- Community hub that stays connected, even when severe weather hits
- Can include: batteries, local power generation (solar), communications
- Custom plan in partnership with community





## **Panton microgrid**

- Partnered with community several years ago
- Local solar first, providing clean power close to where it is consumed
- Then added batteries = this saves all GMP customers money
- Added microgrid capability, came online in 2022





# How are Resiliency Zone communities selected?

- Reliability
- Communications infrastructure
- CDC social vulnerability
- Community's interest in partnering with GMP



## What's next?

- We'd like to work with 3 communities each year in pilot phase
- Offer help with planning, expertise, leveraging funding available
- Community questionnaire asks about:
  - Community contact info
  - Planning
  - Community infrastructure





# Questions?

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