



Steward's Journal

November 2018

Our Recent Stewardship

- ❖ Helping religious institution “care for creation” by supporting renewable energy projects development to supply electricity to its churches, schools, camps, and facilities, and to other religious and charitable organizations.
- ❖ Helped acquire a home for What Cheer Flower Farm and form and organize - see <https://www.ecori.org/smart-growth/2018/8/3/new-urban-farm-gives-back-to-community-literally>
- ❖ Structure farm cooperative for owner of conserved, agricultural land in Massachusetts.
- ❖ Pushing utility to accept streetlight metering for enhanced control, efficiency, and “smart cities.”
- ❖ Provide legal support on transactions siting renewable energy on former gravel pits, brownfields and landfills to supply electricity to institutions across Rhode Island.
- ❖ Represented 7 entities as “New Energy Rhode Island,” an intervenor in the distribution rate case, pressing for utility business model reform and power sector transformation.
- ❖ Appealing tax valuations on property beneath renewable energy projects under our 2017 tax law that only allows towns to tax renewables as tangible property.
- ❖ Advocating for a smart and urgent solution to renewable energy siting impediments, while promoting projects on preferred sites like landfills, rooftops and brownfields.
- ❖ Successfully advocated to amend National Grid’s tariff provisions on community net metering to allow more time for development when delays are beyond the applicant’s control.
- ❖ Supported tax regulations that maintain favorable tax treatment for collocated renewable energy.

Other News & Resources

- ❖ Helen was elected to represent Ward 2 on the Providence City Council!
- ❖ Utility Dive covered the distribution rate case here - <https://www.utilitydive.com/news/rhode-island-approves-national-grid-modernization-plan-rate-increase/530924/>
- ❖ Seth presented to the Rhode Island Bar on hot topics in environmental and energy law.
- ❖ Vermont Law School’s Center for Agriculture & Food Systems profiled our farm and food work here - <https://farmlandaccess.org/farm-lawyers/>
- ❖ We continued to publish on the transition to a cleaner and cheaper energy future - <http://www.golocalprov.com/news/projo-spouts-more-hot-air-guest-mindsetter-seth-handy1>
- ❖ RI’s State Energy Plan is here - <http://www.energy.ri.gov/policies-programs/ri-energy-laws/state-energy-plan.php>
- ❖ America’s Power Plan - <https://americaspowerplan.com>
- ❖ CERES is transforming our economy for a sustainable future - <https://www.ceres.org>
- ❖ Land for Good provides good tools for our farmers and landowners - landforgood.org