

Operating Committee meeting

March 17, 2011 meeting

# **ISO-NE VT/NH 10-YR STUDY**

# Study Update

- Presently evaluating transmission solutions
- System is split into a number of subareas
  - The work is being performed by the TOs and ISO-NE
  - Cost estimates are being prepared at the same time
- The ISO-NE NTA analysis has started
  - Modeling a generator at each 115 kV bus
    - Proxy for actual location, i.e. Gorge 115 kV vs. Gorge 34.5 kV
    - Info about VT generation projects is good to have, but not critical to ISO-NE at this stage
- Results of solutions study (transmission and NTA) to be presented to PAC in April

# Preliminary Indications of Transmission Solution Analysis

- Southeast VT/Southwest NH
  - Fitzwilliam-Monadnock line with 100 MVAR synchronous condenser at Vernon or Fitzwilliam
    - Alternative to second 381 line (Vernon-Northfield 345 kV)
- Connecticut River
  - K-31 (Coolidge-Ascutney) line upgrade with capacitors at Ascutney and send auto at Coolidge
    - K-31 may be a second line as opposed to a line rebuild
- Central Vermont
  - Second 115 kV line between Coolidge and West Rutland
    - Alternative to second 350 line or rebuild of parallel 115 kV lines
    - Built at 345 kV Standards, Operated at 115 kV

# Preliminary Indications of Transmission Solution Analysis

- Northwest VT
  - 115 kV line rebuild from West Rutland to Williston
    - Alternative to second 345 line (W Rutland to Champlain 345 kV
      - Could also be energized at 115 kV
  - Being able to bring in 100 MW across PV-20 will be evaluated as an alternative to avoid these upgrades
    - ISO-NE is considering this option as an NTA – we need clarification about how to make this happen (i.e. Contractual Commitments)
- Northern VT
  - Capacitor banks at Newport
    - Alternative to second 115 kV line from Highgate to Georgia
      - This is likely to be a postponement, not a replacement

# Notable Issues

- VELCO and the DUs need to continuously push ISO-NE on the issue of NTA funding and provide assistance to ISO-NE
- The VSPC plans to invite ISO-NE to discuss reliability criteria and study assumptions
  - To better understand what appears to be ISO-NE's conservative interpretation of the NERC standards
- Vermont stakeholders need to be involved in the regional process to influence outcomes
  - Discussing concerns at the VSPC is ineffective and untimely