

Vermont System Planning Committee Charter Development

VELCO Operating Committee

May 19, 2016

Status of draft

- VSPC provided direction on draft language at April 27 quarterly meeting
- Ad hoc group will convene prior to prepare a proposed final draft for July VSPC meeting
- Main point to be worked out concerns language on VSPC role regarding grid adaptation/transformation
- Following slides do not reflect last round of comments, which have not yet been reviewed by the VSPC

Draft purpose

The Vermont System Planning Committee (VSPC) is a collaborative body comprised of representatives of stakeholder group with an interest in electric system reliability. Its purpose is to ensure full, fair, and timely consideration of all societally cost-effective solutions to resolve electric grid reliability issues, including non-wires alternatives (NWA).

Draft objectives

1. Collaborate with and provide formal input to VELCO in the development and review of the Vermont Long-Range Transmission Plan (LRTP) as established in the Docket 7081 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and such other processes as may be adopted.
2. Review all identified reliability issues (transmission, subtransmission and distribution) at least annually to provide shared insight and collaboration across the electric grid.
3. For those identified reliability issues that have the potential to be resolved with NWAs – distributed energy resources (DER), energy efficiency, demand response, or a combination of those measures, or a hybrid of alternatives and upgrades – utilize the screening and analysis process established in the MOU and the Docket 7874 Screening Framework.
4. Enhance transparency and public engagement in electric system planning.
5. Provide a forum to account for the impact of trends and emerging technologies, such as storage, electric vehicles, electrification of space heating, and others, on Vermont load.
6. Seek consensus on the Vermont load forecast to support LRTP development.
7. Monitor the development of DER to provide broadly shared insight about DER integration and advance [support?] the development of tools and processes needed to maintain reliability in an increasingly distributed electric grid.
8. Maintain regular communication with ISO New England to increase Vermont stakeholder and ISO New England understanding of mutually relevant issues, such as forecasting and grid management.

In carrying out this charter, the VSPC will recognize the utility-specific obligations in individual utility Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs).

Draft deliverables

1. Provide formal input to the LRTP as required by the MOU.
2. Provide input to the Vermont load forecast.
3. Annually review utility NWA screenings and make geographic targeting recommendations for energy efficiency and standard offer above the cap to the Public Service Board.
4. Recommend candidates for PSB appointments to public seats.
5. Identify and address gaps (if any) in current membership structure and stakeholder representation
6. Maintain transparency of the VSPC through a VSPC website and adherence to VSPC procedures for meeting notice and open meetings.
7. Maintain a regularly updated, easily understood, publicly available tracking tool for the status of all screened reliability issues. [Note: the information currently exists on the VSPC website, but is not organized in an easily referenced fashion.]
8. Provide information about policy, programmatic and technological developments, such as Order 1000, rule and legislative changes, research projects, etc.
9. Provide a forum for sharing of utility IRPs. [This has been done inconsistently.]
- ~~10. Identify and address gaps in current planning process and tools created by the current and projected effects of transformation to an increasingly distributed grid. [This item may need further definition to be meaningful.]~~
11. Modify project screening tools as needed/when necessary to ensure continued consistency with purpose and objectives. [A revision process exists and has been used for minor adaptation.]