

FINAL VELCO Operating Committee MINUTES

DATE: March 17, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Virtual Meeting (ZOOM)

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

- **Burlington Electric Department (BED):** James Gibbons, Munir Kasti
- **Green Mountain Power (GMP):**
- **Stowe Electric Department (SED):** Brent Lilley
- **Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC):** Peter Rossi, Kris Smith
- **Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO):** Chris Root, Tina Stevens
- **Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA):** Stephen Fitzhugh
- **Washington Electric Cooperative (WEC):** Bill Powell

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Morgan Casella (Dynamic Organics), Brian Connaughton (VELCO), Ken Couture (GMP), Kerrick Johnson (VELCO), Shana Louiselle (VELCO), Dan Nelson (VELCO), Colin Owyang (VELCO), Dan Poulin (VELCO), Hantz Pr sum  (VELCO), Allen Stamp (AP Stamp, Inc.)

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Root verified a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

DRAFT MINUTES APPROVAL

Mr. Root presented the meeting minutes from February 17, 2022 for approval.

Mr. Fitzhugh moved for approval, Mr. Rossi seconded, and the minutes were approved as presented without objection.

TELECOM WORKING GROUP

Mr. Stamp provided an update noting there is still work going on in the WEC area. They had a positive meeting last week with WEC concerning end equipment and what can be deployed in substations. The group is currently working with both GMP and VEC on 3.7 applications. There is approximately 80 miles under review with both utilities. They will be reaching out to Stowe and BED in the near future, along with reviewing the VPPSA routing. Mr. Stamp noted that he still owes the group some lease rates on fiber. Finally, he noted they have been getting the material for this year's construction and will be going to market for cable placement.

ISO UPDATE

Mr. Presume indicated both the Reliability Committee (RC) and the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) had meetings this week.

Reliability Committee

- The K42 line proposed plan application was reviewed. ISO-NE agreed there are no adverse impacts and the proposed plan application was approved. There is no further ISO-NE analysis required.
- Planning Procedure 5-6 Interconnection Planning Procedure for Generation and Elective Transmission Upgrades (PP5-6) is being revised. They are clarifying to explain the redispatch philosophy in studies. Previously could not redispatch for issues on a subtransmission

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system. Revising it to indicate the Transmission Planner can redispatch to avoid those issues. The problem is that Transmission Operators do not see the distribution connected resources nor have the ability to redispatch at the distribution level. Only the Maine control center has this ability. Therefore, can't rely on this procedure in Vermont.

- ISO-NE has started an analysis of extreme weather. This is being done as a first step to look at energy security for New England under extreme weather. They are working with EPRI and looking at both summer and winter. As part of the analysis, they looked at all the weather stations in New England. They saw extreme heat is occurring at a higher frequency and temperature variability is larger in winter than summer.

Planning Advisory Committee

- The 2050 planning study is being reviewed. The preliminary results indicate that at the 2050 load level, approximately 50% of the lines in New England would be overloaded. The majority of the impacts were at the winter peak. The projected 2050 load level is 57,000 GW vs the 20,000 GW load level today. The majority of the overloads in northern New England were due to excess generation while the majority of overloads in southern New England were due to excess load.
- ISO-NE began the Future Grid Reliability Study last year, which is an Economic Study that examines the effects of changes to the future grid on operations and reliability of the system to identify system needs and possible ways to meet those needs. The study includes production cost analysis, ancillary services simulation, and resource adequacy analysis. ISO-NE found that net revenues for gas generators will be negative, which will result in uplift payments, and that resource adequacy will be an issue. This study is expected to continue into 2023.
- ISO-NE is completing its load forecast. The new forecast includes electric vehicle fleet. Looking 10 years out, the forecast is a little higher, a 1.4% increase in the next ten years in load.

LOAD SHED PROGRESS

Ms. Stevens provided an update which included:

- Approaching the end of the winter months and fuel supplies appear to be adequate. An Energy Emergency is unlikely.
- The VT Winter Readiness group is going to continue to meet to discuss load shedding.
- The group will continue to explore how much load can be supported by HQ, provided HQ is available to help.
- The group will continue to work with non-control center loads to understand how they will participate in any extended load shed event.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABS (PNNL)

Mr. Connaughton provided a presentation which included slides on the project background, project demonstration activity, project team and current status, OC subcommittee proposal and proposed subcommittee action plan. Mr. Connaughton indicated the project is likely to be awarded in the near future and would like to have the subcommittee formed by April. Those that

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would like to participate on the subcommittee should send their contact information to Mr. Connaughton by the end of March. The subcommittee is expected to meet monthly, with the kickoff meeting occurring in April. A summary of the project was requested and an excerpt of the project proposal was provided to the committee by Ms. Stevens after the meeting.

See presentation for details.

STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT – WEIGHTED AVERAGE

To be presented at the next meeting.

FLORENCE AND NORTH RUTLAND PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Poulin provided updates on both the Florence and North Rutland projects.

The North Rutland project has begun, with commissioning expected in November 2022. The scope of work includes the following:

- Replacing the existing control building with a larger control building.
- Replacing the transformer high-side circuit switcher with a circuit breaker.
- Replacing and expanding the existing substation fence.
- Maintenance related improvements.
- Utilizing the existing 46kV for temporary power during construction and relocating the existing transformer.

The Florence project is expected to receive its CPG this month, with commissioning expected in June 2023. The scope of work includes the following:

- Replacing the existing 46kV radial bus substation with a new substation arranged in a 46kV ring bus configuration adjacent to the existing substation.
- Removing the existing 46kV radial bus substation after commissioning the new substation.
- Purchasing 3 acres of land from OMYA.
- Increasing the size of the existing capacitor bank from 5.4 MVAR to 10 MVAR.

See presentation for details.

TRANSMISSION ASKS RELATED TO FEDERAL INVESTMENTS/JOBS

Mr. Johnson presented some slides highlighting federal funding opportunities that are the direct result of the federal \$1.2 trillion-dollar Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Mr. Johnson made note of the following:

1. Section 40101 Preventing outages and enhancing the resilience of the electric grid.
2. Section 40103 Electric grid reliability and resilience research, development, and demonstration. Not really a fit for VELCO, but may be for others.
3. Section 40106 Transmission Facilitation Program.
4. Section 40107 Deployment of Technologies to Enhance Grid Flexibility.

Mr. Johnson also provided a link to the searchable database:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/>

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FERC ANOPR ON TRANSMISSION

Mr. Johnson indicated the NOPR on the transmission planning portion of the overall ANOPR will likely come out first and this is expected to be sometime in early June. There are no other updates beyond this information at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

Open discussion

- Appointment of Colin Owyang
 - Mr. Root noted Mr. Owyang is taking over as Chair of the Operating Committee as of April 1, 2022 due to his retirement.

Next meeting

Date: May 19, 2022, 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Green Mountain Power Montpelier, VT

Possible topics for discussion

- Telecom Working Group – standing agenda item
- ISO update
- PNNL Project update
- FERC Order 881 update
- Structure replacement – weighted average - Dan Poulin
- New Haven Operations Center update – Dan Poulin
- FERC NOPR on Transmission

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Powell moved to adjourn, Mr. Fitzhugh seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Stevens
VELCO OC Secretary