

# **DRAFT VELCO Operating Committee MINUTES**

**DATE:** May 18, 2023, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Green Mountain Power Colchester, VT

## **PARTICIPATING MEMBERS**

- **Burlington Electric Department (BED):** Jackie Pratt, James Gibbons
- **Green Mountain Power (GMP):** Doug Smith, Josh Castonguay
- **Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC):** Peter Rossi, Kris Smith
- **Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO):** Colin Owyang, Jaime Smyrski, Tina Stevens
- **Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA):** Mike Sullivan
- **Washington Electric Cooperative (WEC):** Bill Powell

## **OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

Dan Kopin (VELCO), Hantz Presume (VELCO), Tom Dunn (VELCO), Dan Nelson (VELCO), Betsy Bloomer (VELCO), Shana Louiselle (VELCO), Steve Fitzhugh (Northfield)

## **OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Owyang verified a quorum and called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

## **SAFETY TOPIC**

Mr. Owyang provided a quick safety topic.

## **DRAFT MINUTES APPROVAL**

Mr. Owyang presented the meeting minutes from April 20, 2023 for approval.

Mr. Fitzhugh moved for approval, Mr. Castonguay seconded, and the minutes were approved without objection.

## **APRIL VELCO BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENTATION**

Ms. Stevens shared how our system operators continue to reliably operate the VELCO system during the advancing energy transformation despite not having visibility into the increasing number of connected distributed energy resources (DERs). Mr. Presume discussed how DERs play a role in transmission planning and the ISO-NE Pilot study. The planners need solar data to ensure that their studies model reality including the amount of distributed generation. It would be helpful for the developers to provide that information. Mr. Kopin shared the emerging requirements from FERC and NERC. Mr. Owyang discussed the visibility and the ask from VELCO to the distribution utilities that may come in the future.

## **OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Ms. Stevens provided an operations update including the spring load trend, Vermont's export of power in May, a geomagnetic disturbance that took place on April 23rd, and an overall activity update.

## **NEEDS ASSESSMENT & OPEN ACTION ITEM REVIEW**

No Update

## **ISO UPDATE**

Mr. Etori provided an update on the winter readiness study that was conducted stating it was

## **DRAFT VELCO Operating Committee MINUTES**

determined that as long as the cold snap is no longer than 21 days, it should be manageable.

### **PNNL PROJECT UPDATE**

No Update

### **VEC WINTER READINESS UPDATE**

VELCO and DU's met and came to the conclusion we will proceed with the studies.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Open discussion**

#### **Next meeting**

**Date:** July 20, 2023, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Green Mountain Power Colchester, VT

#### **Possible topics for discussion**

- VELCO Operations Monthly highlights – standing agenda item
- Needs Assessment & Open Action Item review – standing agenda item
- Telecom Working Group – standing agenda item (by exception)
- ISO update (by exception)
- PNNL project update (by exception)
- VEC Winter Readiness update – standing agenda item (by exception)

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mr. Gibbons moved to adjourn, Mr. Powell seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Smyrski  
VELCO OC Secretary