

Vermont System Planning Committee
Geotargeting Subcommittee
October 1, 2013
Meeting Summary

In Attendance:

Gillian Eaton, VEIC
Mike Wickenden, VEIC
Steve Litkovitz, GMP
Deena Frankel, VELCO
Hantz Presume, VELCO
Kim Jones, GMP
Diana Lee, VELCO
TJ Poor, PSD
Melissa Bailey, VPPSA

Agenda:

- Discussion of November 1st Filing Date for EE GT Plans
- Modifications to Geotargeting Process Documents
- Review of August 28, 2013 Meeting Minutes
- Review/Discussion of Current Geotargeting Areas
- Next Meeting

Discussions:

- Discussion of November 1st Filing Date for EE GT Plans
 - GMP raised the concern that, according to the Board's February 16, 2012 Order in Docket No. EEU-2010-6 at page 6, DU's plans for energy efficiency geotargeting for the upcoming year are to be filed with the Board at the same time as the EEU's Annual Plan, i.e., November 1st.
 - It was recognized that this filing date is not consistent with the recent process reform. One suggestion was that GMP raise this conflict with the Board hearing officer at the upcoming October 8, 2013 workshop.
 - Changing the November 1st filing requirement would likely require a formal ruling from the Board.
- Modifications to Geotargeting Process Documents
 - The geotargeting process documents have recently been updated to account for the comments received at the September 11, 2013 VSPC quarterly meeting.

- Deena will provide electronic copies of the changes to the subcommittee. Any comments on these changes should be circulated no later than noon October 2nd.

- Review of August 28, 2013 Meeting Minutes
 - Any comments on the August 28, 2013 draft meeting minutes should be provided no later than Thursday, October 3rd. Absent comments, the draft meeting minutes will be considered final and posted to the VSPC website.

- Review/Discussion of Current Geotargeting Areas
 - Susie Wilson
 - GMP is recommending discontinuing GT in Susie Wilson Road area. Under any scenario, analysis shows that the need date is beyond 10 years.
 - The critical load for the area was determined to be 52.7 MW due to feeder constraints and 34.5 kV to 12.47 kV substation transformer constraints. The all-time peak for the area is 36.0 MW which occurred in July 2013.
 - Rationale:
 - 90/10 weather this summer did not produce the load that had been expected.
 - Industrial load in the area is 80% installed. GMP has been working with this customer to understand the load characteristics. GMP previously assumed 75% demand factor in the original forecast, but the actual is 42%.
 - Background load growth has proven to be flatter than expected.
 - How the actual peak compared to the forecast:
 - GMP identified 3 MW of load that was transferred between circuits and not accounted for that resulted in a higher forecast in 2012
 - Actual peak was much lower than expected for reasons discussed above.
 - Load appears to be growing at about 2% or less. Even with a hypothetical 3% growth, upgrade not needed until 2026, well beyond the ten-year threshold for geotargeting. Based on discussions with the area's largest industrial customer, 1100 kW more, up to 5100 kW, is expected to be connected by 2014. Beyond 2014, an additional 1200 kW may be added. To be conservative, GMP's forecast places this somewhat speculative 1200 kW future load in 2015. GMP also considered new ability-to-serve letters. These totaled 700 kW in 2013. The load forecast assumes that this level of load growth is embedded in the 2% load growth assumption.
 - Timing of "stop GT" for Susie Wilson:
 - As soon as programmatically practicable.
 - If VSPC files recommendation in late October, may have an order as soon as early December.

- Subcommittee agrees that no reliability plan is required for this area, however GMP will confirm with National Grid the capability for line transfers, and perhaps establish a more formal agreement with National Grid for this possibility.
- Stratton
 - Peak load attained in 2012 was 14.05 MVA. The winter thermal rating of the existing transformer is 16 MVA.
 - A 15/28 MVA transformer spare is presently located, but not energized, at the substation.
 - GMP intends to file a Section 248 petition to install the 15/28 MVA transformer in place of the 10/14 MVA unit. After the swap, the 10/14 MVA unit would become the back-up.
 - 7.4 MW of new snowmaking is expected from the local ski area due to diesel to electric compressor conversion.
 - Cost of the upgrade is estimated at \$500,000 (or \$83k annually)
 - Screening tool to be run and provided for this area.
 - Subcommittee agrees that determination on whether a reliability plan is required for this area will happen after screening is completed. This constraint was newly identified (summer 2013), and therefore falls outside the standard timeline for this year's VSPC reliability plans recommendations.
- Haystack
 - Significant expansion is planned for this area. A recently provided ability-to-serve request for 3 MW takes the Dover transformer to its thermal limit.
 - In addition, a further 8 MW of load for snow making is anticipated because of conversion of diesel compressors to electric compressors.
 - This load addition would result in new substation between Dover and Wilmington. The cost will be shared between the local ski area and GMP as it would provide enhanced reliability to the Dover-Wilmington area.
 - Screening tool to be run and provided for this area. After the screening tool is run, a determination will be made whether a reliability plan is needed.
- St. Albans
 - St. Albans has been a GT area since 2007. GMP is presently completing its reliability plan.
 - The peak load attained in July 2013 was 23.96 MW (6pm). This is a 90/10 load and less than previously forecasted, which was 26.35 MW.
 - The all-time peak load for this area was 26.5 MW.
 - Approximately 6 MW of new load is expected, mostly from industrial load.
 - There is one Standard Offer (2 MW solar) project expected in the area. The forecast assumes a 35% coincidence factor with the peak load.
 - GMP has considered demand response (approximately 2 MW) together with additional net metering for the area.

- The remaining gap may be resolved by 2014 or 2018 with NTAs, depending on economics of the various programs. The final recommendation from GMP will depend on the economic analysis presently being performed.
- Presently, the gap appears to be diminishing, although an unexpected spot load could change GMP's recommendations very quickly.
- The reliability plan for this area will be completed by November 25th.
- The recommendation of the subcommittee is to continue GT in this area and to complete the reliability plan to see if other NTA's may be cost-effective.
- GMP will touch base with the large industrial load in the area to determine coincidence of their equipment with peak (changing this assumption from 0.9 to 0.75 has a significant effect on the Reliability Gap), and if there are any updates re: the status and effects of the land deal between the State and the customer.
- Rutland Area Distribution
 - There is no growth in this area. The Solar Capital initiative is expected to decrease load.
 - This area does overlap with the Rutland Transmission constraint, for which a Reliability Plan is being separately created.
- White River Junction
 - Previous year's recommendation was that there was insufficient time for GT to address the constraint. In addition, reliability benefits in the form of feeder back-up are valuable for this dense urban area. GMP is reluctant to defer the reliability benefits.
 - Several ability-to-serve requests were recently received in this area amounting to more than 2 MW reinforcing the conclusion that there is insufficient time for NTA's to be effective.
 - Screening tool to be run and provided for this area.
 - Subcommittee agrees that no reliability plan is required for this area.

➤ Next Meeting:

- Tuesday November 12th, 1:00 PM, Montpelier