

Vermont System Planning Committee
Forecasting Subcommittee Agenda
May 12, 2015, 1-4 pm
VELCO, Rutland

Attending:

Mike Leach, BED (phone)

Rip Kirby, GMP

Nathaniel Vandal, Green Peak Solar (phone)

John Woodward, PSD

Carole Hakstian, VEIC

Deena Frankel, VELCO

Hantz Presume, VELCO

Bernadette Fernandes, VELCO

TJ Poor, VPPSA

1. Leadership: John W agreed to continue in the role of deputy Chair of the Forecasting Committee (in addition to assuming the Chair position for the VSPC GT Subcommittee).
2. Market uncertainties: The group discussed increased levels of uncertainty in forecast inputs (public policy matters, climate, new technologies) and has resolved to take a scenario modeling approach to developing the next Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP). The next step is to outline fundamental questions that those scenarios will address and call out relevant variables as well as known and expected policy initiatives and strategies.
3. Hantz presented slides on the comparison of Vermont and ISO-NE loads. Vermont loads behave differently than NE loads. Examples,
 - a. ISO-NE summer peaks are more 'peaky' than Vermont's peaks. Vermont's load factor is higher and does not seem to respond to severe summer weather
 - b. Vermont seasonal peaks are not coincident with ISO-NE peaks
 - c. Vermont summer monthly peak timing has started to occur later while ISO-NE monthly peak timing has remained stable
 - d. Vermont summer annual peaks occur earlier in the day at 2pm compared with ISO-NE peaks occurring at 4 or 5pm
 - e. Solar power is having a greater effect on the Vermont load shape as compared to the ISO-NE load shape.

VELCO will continue to monitor these data and report relevant information to the VSPC.

4. Discussion about the locational aspect of demand and generation resources in forecast. There was a question about pulling data by zone for: heat pumps, PV, EVs. Zonal forecast of energy efficiency has already been created by VEIC. Can we develop a zonal forecast for other resources?

5. Vermont Economic Outlook: John W contacted Tom Kavet, state economist, and continues to wait for a response. The group discussed the relationship between economic growth and load and John presented an Itron graph illustrating that economic growth and load are not always in direct relationship with one another. In some cases, economic growth rises but load does not. Why? Possible factor include the impacts of energy efficiency, renewable energy, a decline in the high electric intensive manufacturing sector and other. With the burgeoning service industry, economic growth escalates but electric load may not follow suit. One possible area of exploration for the Load Forecast Committee (LFC) would be to determine which economic indicators are most correlated with VT load. ISO-NE's forecasting model uses only GDP as an explanatory variable. ITRON uses population, number of households, and personal income.

To-Do's:

1. Carole to speak with VEIC's EM&V group to determine level of savings at different peak hours than the FCM definition. The question has to do with EE's impact on load forecast at different times than ISO requires.
2. Carole will contact Scott Sawyer at Vt Sustainable Jobs Fund to obtain solar installation data for Nathaniel to analyze in order to try to predict where solar development might occur in the state. **Data has been received by VSJB.**
3. John will bring a proposal to next meeting for how VSPC could develop work products of use to DUs for developing consistent methodology for IRP inputs. John will propose areas where VSPC might be able to provide template.