

V S P C

Vermont System  
Planning Committee

*All grid solutions considered*

Quarterly Meeting  
Capitol Plaza  
Montpelier, VT  
July 22, 2015  
9:30am–4:00pm

# Agenda

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**NOTE:** Appointment of distribution utility representative to the Act 56 Solar Siting Task Force will be taken up under Coordinating Subcommittee Report if not yet resolved by meeting time.

## ▶ Morning

- ▶ GT Subcomm report
- ▶ Forecasting Subcomm report
- ▶ Public Participation Subcomm report
- ▶ Presentation: VECAN and public engagement on energy issues
- ▶ Presentation: GMP Solar Mapping Project

## ▶ Afternoon

- ▶ Regional update
- ▶ Coordinating Subcomm report
- ▶ Old business
  - ▶ Act 56
  - ▶ Net metering
  - ▶ Interconnection
  - ▶ DG database
  - ▶ VT Weather Analytics Center
- ▶ Project updates



# Geographic Targeting Subcommittee

# Subcommittee met June 23

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- ▶ John Woodward assumed role of chairperson
- ▶ Main focus: review utility projects to identify any with NTA potential to move through “Screening Framework & Guideline per Docket 7874
- ▶ Reviewed
  - ▶ VEC capital project spreadsheet
  - ▶ GMP projects spreadsheet
  - ▶ Verbal reports from other utilities indicating no other load growth-related projects have been identified
- ▶ Reviewed VELCO PV20 cable replacement project NTA screening

# Process check-in, next steps

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- ▶ 2015 VT Long-Range Transmission Plan filed June 25; no new bulk system issues requiring NTA analysis
- ▶ June 23: reviewed NTA screenings for all identified T & D constraints. Two GMP projects have NTA potential:
  - ▶ Rutland area: previously identified and reliability plan filed; need is now beyond 10-year horizon
  - ▶ Hinesburg area: currently being analyzed (see next slide); Subcommittee will meet August 5 to hear study results
- ▶ September: Subcommittee recommends need for reliability plans (if any) to VSPC
- ▶ October 14: VSPC receives GT subcommittee recommendations; files with PSB by October 30
  - ▶ Any new area that “screens in” for full NTA analysis (Hinesburg is only possibility at this time)
  - ▶ Commencement of new geotargeted EE
  - ▶ Continue/discontinue existing GT EE (none at this time)

# VEC capital projects report

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- ▶ All projects identified on VEC capital projects spreadsheet characterized as asset condition and reconductoring.
- ▶ NEK connector projects: economic development including federal grant to bring in three-phase power.
- ▶ VEC currently updating IRP, but they are not seeing load growth sufficient to trigger the need for upgrades.

## GMP NTA projects spreadsheet

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- ▶ GMP described a new approach to analyzing Chittenden County area, considering 8 relevant substations together. Wider view will help optimize system.
- ▶ Hinesburg *may* need a reliability plan in 2016:
  - ▶ GMP has identified a way to address protection issues
  - ▶ Now working with ResAmerica on feasibility of storage to resolve motor-starting issue at end of feeder
  - ▶ If ResAmerica solution is feasible, a reliability plan will then be needed; to be discussed at August 5 subcommittee meeting
- ▶ Other issues identified by GMP “screen out” using the applicable screening tool

# Forecasting Subcommittee

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## Meeting Update May 12, 2015

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- ▶ Increased uncertainty in forecast inputs (public policy matters, climate, new technologies) has led subcommittee to consider taking a scenario modeling approach to developing forecast for next VT Long-Range Transmission Plan (LRTP)
- ▶ Hantz presented slides on Vermont vs ISO-NE loads
  - ISO-NE summer peaks more “peaky” than VT peaks
    - ▶ VT load factor higher with less response to severe summer weather
  - VT seasonal peaks not coincident with ISO-NE peaks
  - VT summer monthly peak timing later compared with previous years while ISO-NE monthly peak timing same over years
  - VT summer annual peaks occur earlier in day
    - ▶ ISO-NE 2 p.m. —VT 4 or 5 p.m.
  - Solar power has greater effect on VT load shape than ISO-NE load shape

# Forecasting Subcommittee

## Meeting Update July 9, 2015

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- ▶ Discussion of pulling demand and generation resource data by VT load zone to address locational aspect of resources. May be relevant to energy efficiency savings, electric vehicles, heat pump consumption and photovoltaic installations.
- ▶ Continued discussion about increasing levels of uncertainty in load forecast inputs. Sensitivity analysis is being suggested to consider impact on load forecast of electric vehicles, heat pumps, other technologies, and impacts of Act 56 Tier 3 goals.
- ▶ John Woodward contacted Tom Kavet, state economist, to discuss economic modeling. Kavet is working on customizing Moody's model equations to better predict VT macroeconomic indicators.



# Public Participation Subcommittee

# Public Participation Subcommittee Meeting Report—July 10, 2015

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- ▶ New chair assumed leadership: Kelly Lucci, VEIC
- ▶ New participants: Mike Kanarick (BED), Ed Delhagan (PSD), Andrea Cohen (VEC)
- ▶ Subcommittee discussed lessons learned from recent energy-related public engagement processes
  - ▶ Comprehensive Energy Plan update (in process)
  - ▶ VELCO 2015 VT Long-Range Transmission Plan
  - ▶ Key learning: people want more education and outreach from credible sources, but forums and strategies less clear
  - ▶ Key learning: “general public” not drawn to meetings unless they are focused on a specific controversy with personal impact; regional forums have some success

# Public Participation Subcommittee Meeting Report—July 10, 2015, contd.

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- ▶ Energy Action Network meeting on energy-related communication held in June; broad group of communications experts and energy leaders
  - ▶ Success on state's 90X50 energy goal require success on two public communications objectives
    - ▶ Consumer behavior change, e.g., adopting energy efficient practices, heat pumps, electric vehicles, distributed renewables, etc.
    - ▶ Support for policies and implementation, e.g., EE charge, siting-related policies, overcoming "NIMBY-ism," etc.
  - ▶ Networked communication model, similar to Vermont Food Network and the model used by the Smart Grid Communications Working Group may have promise
    - ▶ Premise: Stakeholders will disagree on some issues, but there is a core where a high level of agreement and support exists. Find the core and develop consistent messages usable by all to communicate the core
    - ▶ Message consistency: jointly developed materials that can be used by all for social media and other channels
- ▶ Not yet consensus on whether or how to network, but EAN is continuing conversation and has asked to present at VSPC in October.

# Public Participation Subcommittee

## Next steps

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- ▶ Next meeting September 25, 9:30 a.m., VEIC
  - ▶ Continue discussion of network for energy-related communication
  - ▶ Review progress on plan to provide VSPC-related social media content to VSPC participant organizations (utilities, VEIC, REV, etc.)
  - ▶ Review website content revisions/refresh
- ▶ Intent to meet quarterly going forward

# Vermont Energy & Climate Change Network overview

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- ▶ Presentation to follow



## Coordinating Subcommittee

# 2015-2016 meeting dates

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- ▶ July 22, 2015—Montpelier
- ▶ October 14, 2015—Rutland
- ▶ January 20, 2016—Burlington

## Proposed 2016 dates:

- ▶ April 27, 2016—Middlebury
- ▶ July 20, 2016—Montpelier
- ▶ October 12, 2016—Rutland

# Act 56 appointment of DU rep to solar siting task force (if not resolved by meeting time)

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- ▶ This item will be addressed if still open
- ▶ Act 56 of 2015 legislature requires VSPC to appoint a distribution representative to the Solar Siting Task Force
- ▶ Task force charge: “study the design, siting, and regulatory review of solar electric generation facilities” and “provide a report in the form of proposed legislation with the rationale for each proposal.”  
See <http://www.vspc.com/Act56SolarTF>
- ▶ GMP has offered Robert Dostis as its representative
- ▶ No other names received
- ▶ **Question for VSPC action: shall you appoint Robert Dostis of GMP as the distribution utility representative to the Act 56 Solar Siting Task Force?**