

Vermont System Planning Committee
Forecasting Subcommittee Notes
Thursday, July 9, 2015, 1-4 pm
VPPSA, Waterbury

DRAFT MINUTES

Participants:

Mike Leach, BED
Tom Lyle, BED
Rip Kirby, GMP
Andrew Quint, GMP
John Woodward, PSD
Carole Hakstian, VEIC
Deena Frankel, VELCO
Hantz Presume, VELCO
Bernadette Fernandes, VELCO
TJ Poor, VPPSA
Bill Powell, WEC

1) Act 56:

The subcommittee has no additional information since the bill was passed in May 2015. The PSD will conduct informational meetings with the DU's (BED, GMP, VEC, WEC) this summer. Bill Powell provided feedback that he would like to see regulatory pre-approval and guidance (possibly a manual). At this time, we are waiting for an opening Board Order on 8/31/15. (Docket 8311 is closed).

2) Locational aspect of demand and generation resources in forecast:

Hantz suggested the subcommittee consider more granular data in the load forecast. Currently, VELCO's zonal forecast calculates granular data for load and EE only. Rip would like to see more load zones to differentiate between urban and rural areas. To address to locational aspect of resources, the subcommittee will calculate energy efficiency savings, electric vehicles count, heat pump consumption and photovoltaic installations by load zone. For future consideration, battery storage for commercial customers (customers with demand charges only) may be added to the list of resources to analyze.

There is concern that, because the number of photovoltaic installations is calculated based on the CPG, the number may not be accurate as some installations never occur. BED is aware of the number of installations in their territory.

The subcommittee will engage in the following steps:

- 1) Determine zones, possibly new zone will be added: Rip will redraft zones
- 2) Pull EE data: Carole
- 3) Pull EV data: Carole (will talk to Karen about determining where drivers charge)
- 4) Pull heat pump data: Carole
- 5) Pull PV data: Nathaniel

3) Avoided T&D:

John asked whether the VSPC should be involved in evaluating avoided T&D. The subcommittee did not make a decision either way but a suggestion was made that an ad hoc group could be formed to perform this evaluation and that the group could include members from different VSPC subcommittees.

4) Vermont Economic Outlook:

John contacted Tom Kavet, state economist, to discuss economic modeling. Tom explained that he is working on a better economic model for Vermont, different than that available from Moody's. John presented slides of historical trends of data inputs used in economic modeling.

5) Scenario Modeling:

There was continued discussion about increasing levels of uncertainty in load forecast inputs. Andrew cautioned against scenario modeling due to time commitment and accuracy of results. He suggested a sensitivity analysis. Hantz agrees that a sensitivity analysis is what he is suggesting. The issue is to determine the impact of EV's, heat pumps, other technologies and meeting Act 56 Tier 3 goals on the load forecast. TJ recommended placing probabilities on sensitivities for different variables as a way to address the potential value of impacts.

6) Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP):

A question was asked about the operational importance (or not) of the LRTP. VELCO responded that the existence of a state-wide forecast is important for dealing with the ISO. Also, the LRTP is a vehicle to provide the public with information on system needs solutions as well as results. VELCO is beginning discussion of how to make the plan more operationally useful.