

Vermont System Planning Committee  
Geotargeting Subcommittee  
March 28, 2017  
Meeting Summary

In Attendance:

Gillian Eaton, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC)  
Deena Frankel, Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO)  
Kim Jones, Green Mountain Power (GMP)  
Al St. Peter, Vermont Public Service Department (PSD)  
Riley Allen, PSD  
Mellissa Bailey, Vermont Public Power Supply Authority  
Mike Beaulieu, Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC)  
Cyril Brunner, VEC  
Nathaniel Vandal, Green Peak Solar  
David Westman, VEIC  
Hantz Presume, VELCO  
Shana Louiselle, VELCO  
Steve Litkovitz, GMP  
John Woodward, PSD, Chair  
Bill Powell, Washington Electric Cooperative

Agenda:

Review and approval of the January 10, 2017 meeting minutes  
NTA screening of St. Albans Asset Condition Mitigation Project  
Check-in on Hinesburg reliability plan  
Continue discussion of the project review spreadsheet  
Schedule for annual project review  
Next meeting date

Discussions:

- Review and approval of the January 10, 2017, meeting minutes
  - The most recent draft of the minutes has been circulated. Absent further comment, the minutes will be considered approved and posted to the VSPC website.
  
- NTA screening of St. Albans Asset Condition Mitigation Project
  - The purpose of this project is to address asset condition. The VELCO St. Albans substation was constructed in 1958. Asset conditions include cracking concrete foundations, rusted control house, and circuit breakers that are beyond their useful lives. The presently existing two transformers will be replaced with a single transformer that is already in VELCO's inventory.

- This project does not address load concerns. There will be no addition of capacity to the facility.
  - The radial tap line to the substation will be substantially rebuilt with 12 structures requiring replacement due to poor condition.
  - The tap station, which connects the Highgate to Georgia line to the radial tap line, will get a new steel structure and motor operated switch.
  - VELCO subjected this project to NTA screening. Because the project is maintenance related, it screens out of further NTA analysis.
  - This project and associated NTA analysis will be placed on the schedule of the April 2017 VSPC quarterly meeting.
- Check-in on Hinesburg reliability plan
    - On March 3, 2017, the PSB issued an order approving the VSPC's October 2016 recommendations on geotargeted energy efficiency and the need for reliability plans in accordance with the Screening Framework and Guidelines. Based on GMP's Hinesburg Reliability Plan, the PSB found that the Hinesburg reliability issue cannot be solved with geotargeting or standard-offer resources above the cap.
    - The new VEC Hinesburg substation, of which GMP would have feeder positions, is now planned for construction in approximately 2021.
    - GMP is presently seeking property for the location of a battery energy storage system (BESS).
    - With the BESS in place, a gravel pit/rock crushing facility, presently powered by a diesel generator, may come onto grid. This energy transformation project may be eligible for Tier 3 credit.
    - The BESS will help address the uncertainty of load growth in the Hinesburg area.
- Continue discussion of the project review spreadsheet
    - At the previous GT subcommittee meeting, we addressed whether the spreadsheet tool presently in use continues to be appropriate. Is this the best tool for all utilities? Should it be revised or replaced?
    - A blank spreadsheet file is available on the VSPC website. The first page provides an overview of all projects under consideration. A goal for the next GT subcommittee meeting would be for all utilities to complete this overview. A question was raised that, if there is no load growth, is it necessary to provide the further information required in the so-called Phase 1 tab, i.e., the follow-up detailed spreadsheet? Consensus was not reached on this question, but can be revisited at the next GT subcommittee meeting.
    - The question was raised as to whether this process captures distribution related issues that may be subject to analysis for resolution by standard offer generation. The consensus is that the vast majority of distribution projects in Vermont are asset related and not avoidable by non-wires alternatives.

- Schedule for annual project review
  - A tentative date of May 23<sup>rd</sup> for project review has been set.
  
- Next meeting date
  - The next meeting has been tentatively set for May 23, 2017. The time and location is to be determined.