

VERMONT SYSTEM PLANNING COMMITTEE

July 30, 2012

Mrs. Susan Hudson, Clerk
Vermont Public Service Board
112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

RE: Docket 7081: Investigation into Least-Cost Integrated Resource
Planning for VELCO's Transmission System
Follow-up on Board's order of 1/30/2012

Dear Mrs. Hudson:

The purpose of this letter is to provide a status report to the Public Service Board regarding updating of the Non-Transmission Alternatives (NTA) Screening Tool utilized by the Vermont System Planning Committee to identify reliability deficiencies that require full NTA analysis.

On 1/30/2012, the Board issued an order approving some VSPC-proposed amendments to the Docket 7081 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), modifying some amendments, and placing additional conditions on the parties. Among those conditions was a requirement that:

2. Within six months of the date of this Order, the non-transmission alternatives ("NTA") screening tool shall be updated and filed with the Board, in accordance with the process set forth in paragraph 21 of the MOU. If, despite good-faith efforts, the VSPC has not completed the revisions to the NTA screening tool within six months, the Parties must file a status report on the actions and efforts to date on completing revisions to the NTA screening tool with an estimate as to when the revisions will be completed and final.

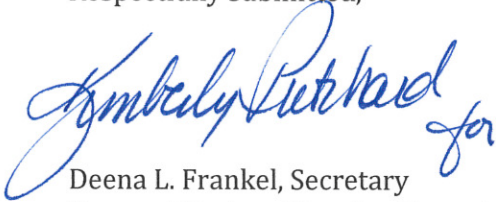
3. The Parties, through the VSPC process outlined in Paragraph 21 of the MOU, shall further define the terms "impracticable" and "uneconomic" in the context of revising the NTA screening tool. These definitions shall be filed with the Board by July 31, 2012, for the Board's approval. Parties shall have two weeks from the date that the definitions are filed to submit comments on the definitions. (PSB Docket 7081 order approving MOU amendments, 1/30/2012, p. 12)

Following issuance of the Board's 1/30/2012 order, the VSPC tasked a subcommittee led by Bruce Bentley then of Central Vermont Public Service to revise the NTA screening tool. The subcommittee has been working to define the terms "impracticable" and "uneconomic" through revision of the screening tool and has also determined that a number of components in the screening tool require updating. The group is evaluating the existing screening tool based on scenarios that have arisen to date to identify examples of what is working and what is not.

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At the VSPC's June quarterly meeting, the subcommittee reported its progress and its need for additional time to recommend a product to the full VSPC for approval at the September quarterly meeting. The VSPC, therefore, respectfully requests the Board grant additional time so that the VSPC may file its proposed NTA Screening Tool revision by October 1, 2012. This request for additional time applies to the requirements of both order clauses 2 and 3 quoted above.

Respectfully submitted,



Deena L. Frankel, Secretary
Vermont System Planning Committee

cc. EEU Service List