

Vermont System Planning Committee  
Geotargeting Subcommittee  
May 31, 2019  
Draft Meeting Minutes

Minutes from prior meeting– approved. Moved by Mr. Litkovitz, seconded by Mr. Presume.

**Green Mountain Power**

GMP does not have any projects driven by growth and eligible for avoidance by NTAs; however, GMP provided an overview of reliability projects it is pursuing.

Hinesburg

GMP filed a reliability plan in 2016, which included installation of a battery and joint substation with VEC at VEC's Hinesburg substation. GMP presented updated information regarding loading on the Hinesburg substation: peak was 6.5 MW in 2016 and 5.6 MW in 2018. To date, GMP has not seen the expected load growth at the substation. However, GMP expects to have Tier 3 project coming online soon, including changing out diesel units at a gravel pit that is expected to add 1 MW.

Additionally, GMP is piloting a DVAR which could help with adding additional load and solar. GMP had installed and energized the DVAR for about a week and half, and then encountered problems with communications.

North Brattleboro

The results of a dissolved gas analysis test indicated that unit is gassing, which is usually a trigger for replacement. GMP is considering expanding the capacity of the transformer from 10/14 to 15/28 to allow the transformer to provide backup for other substations.

There was some discussion regarding the factors that need to be reviewed when determining whether one substation can back up another. Ms. Jones indicated that the primary issues are: thermal and voltage limits, as well as protection schemes.

Waterford and Moretown

These two are some of the few remaining 4 kV substations owned by GMP. GMP is planning to rebuild these substations and bring them up to 12 kV; this increases the efficiency of the equipment and reduces the need for 4 kV equipment in inventory.

Lowell

GMP will be proposing a rebuild of the B20 and B22 subtransmission lines for both asset maintenance and to reduce congestion in SHEI. The 45-day pre-filing notice has been sent out.

Legare and Berlin

Both substations have aging infrastructure, with equipment from 1971/1970, and the equipment needs to be replaced.

### **Vermont Electric Coop**

VEC does not have any projects that have screened in for NTAs; however, VEC provided an overview of reliability projects it is pursuing.

#### **Sheldon**

NextEra would like to interconnect a 20 MW solar project at the substation and would pay for a joint substation. VEC indicated that the Sheldon substation needs asset maintenance regardless.

#### **Hinesburg**

VEC is not pursuing relocation of the substation at this point. This means that the substation would have to be rebuilt in place, although this would be challenging.

A utility-scale battery is being installed at the substation and the battery owner participating in frequency market. VEC will be looking at whether operation of the battery will result in the need for the transformer upgrade.

#### **H16 and distribution reconductoring**

This is an asset management project that also provides feeder backup.

### **Vermont Public Power Supply Authority**

VPPSA indicated that there are no projects that would trigger the NTA screen. The projects being pursued are very small and reliability based.

### **Washington Electric Coop**

WEC responded that it has no projects to report on.

### **Burlington Electric**

BED had not responded to Ms. Louiselle's inquiry.

### **Stowe Electric**

Ms. Louiselle indicated that she will reach out to Stowe.

[Note: Stowe Electric confirmed they had no projects to report on.]

### **Vermont Electric Power Company**

VELCO does not have any projects that can be met through NTAs.

Mr. Presume provided an overview of the NTA screening of its SandBar Substation Condition Asset project. The substation has restricted space and VELCO needs to install telecommunications equipment in the control house. The oil breakers and disconnect switches and porcelain insulators installed in 1975 and are beyond their useful lives. VELCO is proposing to construct a new control building/protection and controls/oil circuit breakers; porcelain insulators; and some sections of fence. Because this is an asset management driven project, it is screened out of consideration for NTA alternatives. There were no objections to this finding.

VELCO is developing a cost estimate for the project but expects that the work will be funded as a Pool Transmission Facility. VELCO will be presenting at the ISO-NE Planning Advisory Committee regarding the proposed project.

### **Administrative**

The groups decided that it does not need to meet again prior to October. VSPC staff will circulate draft recommendation letter to GT subcommittee for comment in September for approval at the VSPC October meeting.