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Vermont System Planning Committee
Forecasting Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2019 | 1:00 pm
Green Mountain Power, Montpelier

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In attendance:

- Tom Lyle, BED
- Jay Pilliod, EVT
- Bill Powell, WEC
- Leigh Seddon, EAN
- Andrew Quint, GMP
- Lou Cecere, VELCO
- Hantz Présumé, VELCO
- Eric Fox, ITRON
- Mike Leach, BED
- Maria Fischer, DPS
- Phillip Picotte, DPS
- Dave Westman, EVT

On the phone:

- Shana Louiselle, VELCO
- Mike Russo, ITRON
- Nathaniel Vandal, Supply representative
- Morgan Casella, Dynamic Organics
- Tim Costa, ISO-NE

ITRON Presentation – Eric Fox presented on ITRON's planned efforts to create a forecast for use in the 2021 Long-Range Transmission Plan. By beginning the forecasting process in December, more time will be allowed for VELCO to perform analysis for the LRTP. ITRON's research found that growth in delivered electrical energy ended with the recession, and a decrease in energy demand occurred afterwards, along with a decrease in residential and commercial energy intensity. These factors contributed to energy sales dropping faster than forecasted. It was found that winter peaks in Vermont are largely driven by residential demand, with most zones being winter peaking. The exceptions to this trend are areas with significant commercial or industrial loads. In the long-term, average temperatures are expected to increase. Where past forecasts have used 20-year historical average data to inform future behavior, this forecast will assume a constant increase in temperature.

Electricity prices have been held constant in real terms in previous forecasts; ITRON is considering what prices should be forecasted given Vermont's renewables goals. EV charging load shapes will be informed by data from an Idaho National Laboratory study, considering profiles that are affected by incentives and profiles that are not affected by incentives, as well as public charging profiles. Hourly, zone-level forecasts for electric demand will be based on regional economic data. The reference case is expected to be completed by March, with forecast scenarios to be completed by April, and the final forecast compiled by June. ITRON is looking for input on their forecasting process; any comments should be directed to Hantz Présumé.

EVT Demand Resource Plan (DRP) – Jay Pilliod presented Efficiency Vermont's Demand Resource Plan, which is to be filed in December. Establishing EVT's budget and goals over a span of three years from 2021 to 2023, it lays out which types of measures and programs will be targeted, and at what cost. The plan highlights EVT's intent to establish greenhouse gas metrics for measures, and to focus on weatherization, partnerships with distribution utilities, and greenhouse gas reductions, while stating that the energy efficiency charge will remain flat for three years. EVT has also engaged in a pilot with GMP to establish flexible load resources, and engaged with customers on refrigeration management. Along with the Energy Efficiency Potential Study commissioned by the Department of Public Service, the DRP evaluates the technical, economic, achievable, and program potential of energy efficiency measures in Vermont.

Next meeting –

- The next meeting of the subcommittee will take place in January, 2020
- ITRON to collaborate VELCO, EVT, and others as necessary
- ITRON to create list of data needs for their forecasting process