

Generation Constraint Subcommittee – Curtailment Working Group
DRAFT Meeting Notes
8/12/2020

Attendees: Ed McNamara, Lou Cecere, Marc Allen, Doug Smith, Morgan Casella, Nathaniel Vandal, Dan Kopin, Tim Duggan, Shana Louiselle

Objective: The group will consider how to optimize grid efficiency through curtailment beginning with a focus on distribution level constraints using the Vergennes Substation as a model.

The group discussed several draft considerations and issues including:

- Forced/automatic curtailment by the utility would be necessary to ensure reliability, with consideration for partial curtailment.
- A contractual arrangement/mutual agreement would be necessary to take advantage of the flexibility of curtailment, and would likely entail payment for lost value. The arrangement would need to be economic for generation resources owners to participate. Need fiber, newer inverters, and DTT for partial curtailment. May need to collect data on what generators have communication infrastructure.
- Would curtailment framework apply to only new generation or every generator? Opening curtailment to existing generators may not be viable with current contracts. Group will focus on new larger generation for the initial and look at smaller, pre-existing generation at another time.
- FERC/NERC regulatory perspective/legal implications
- Cost/benefit – what are the costs to implement a curtailment scheme to upgrading infrastructure? Group needs to consider how distribution or bulk grid investments have enabled additional hosting capacity, and how that translates into a cost/benefit analysis.

Next steps:

- Description of potential barriers to expanding curtailment to existing generation (Nathaniel Vandal)
- Identify the number of hours we would want to curtail a new generation resource to ensure it doesn't violate its limits (need Vergennes granular data)
- Further discussion on FERC/NERC/ISO-NE reaction to curtailment as an option
- Develop metrics for a curtailment scheme