



**Draft Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2023
Killington, Vermont**

The Vermont System Planning Committee held a quarterly meeting on January 25, 2023. Shana Louiselle called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Steve Litkovitz moved to approve the October 26, 2022 minutes, and Michael Wickenden seconded. The minutes were approved without objection.

Introductions

A list of attendees by sector appears at the end of these minutes.

Annual Report

Shana Louiselle reported that draft VSPC annual report has been sent to the full committee for review. **Michael Wickenden moved and George Gross seconded approval of the draft annual report. The motions was adopted without objection.**

[Note: the report was filed with the Vermont Public Utility Commission on January 30, 2023].

Presentation: New England Clean Power Link update

Donald Jessome, CEO of Transmission Developers Incorporated New England (TDI-NE), provided an overview of the New England Clean Power Link project. The proposed project a buried 1000MW HVDC transmission line that would travel from the Canadian border to Ludlow, Vermont and interconnect with the ISO-NE system. The technology is bi-directional to provide energy flow north-to-south, and south-to-north as needed. TDI-NE is seeking to update their permits for the bi-directional technology to be utilized. Mr. Jessome shared that the TDI-NE submitted an applications to the Department of Energy to receive federal funding through the DOE Transmission Facilitation and partnered with Vermont in another application under the Grid Innovation Program (BIL Sec. 40103(B)). DOE is expected to select projects by this summer. The full presentation is available [here](#).

Load Forecasting Subcommittee

Hantz Pr sum , Director of Transmission Planning for VELCO, reported that the subcommittee met in November to discuss the 2023 load forecast approach and discuss technology trends and policy considerations to include in the development of the 2024 Vermont Long-Range Transmission Plan. The committee is considering cold climate heat pump penetration, electric vehicles growth, energy efficiency, load control and storage as key data inputs into the forecast scenarios. The final forecast will be ready in June 2023. Additionally, Efficiency Vermont presented an update to their Demand Resource Plan.

Coordinating Subcommittee

Shana Louiselle reviewed the following 2023 VSPC meeting dates:

- April 19, 2023 – Middlebury College, Middlebury
- July 19, 2023 – Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe
- October 25, 2023 – Killington Grant Hotel, Killington

Ms. Louiselle shared that the VSPC website will be redesigned in 2023, and that draft plans will be shared with the Public Participation Subcommittee to receive feedback for improved user experience on www.vermontspc.com.

Regional Update

Sarah Adams and Eric Johnson, Vermont External Affairs Representatives for ISO-NE, provided an overview of initiatives underway at the ISO-NE including Forward Capacity Auction #17, Winter Outlook, Vermont Needs Assessment, transmission planning updates, reliability and market enhancement projects, and FERC filings. The full presentation is available [here](#).

Presentation: Vermont's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program

Patrick Murphy, Sustainability and Innovations Project Manager at Vermont Agency of Transportation, provided an overview of Vermont's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program, a federal program established through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to dedicate funding to states to deploy electric vehicle charging infrastructure along key interstate and state highway corridors. For federal fiscal years 2022-2026, Vermont will receive \$21.2M for corridor charging. The program requires 4 charging ports of 150 kW each (600 kW total per site), 50-mile distance from the next charging location, and only one-mile from the interstate exit or state highways intersection. The state is still waiting on further guidance on other requirements (e.g. minimum standards for equipment, Buy America requirements, etc.). Vermont Agency of Transportation has identified 15 locations to upgrade or build out. Locations include Bradford, Derby/Newport, Randolph, Rutland, St. Johnsbury, Springfield, and Wilmington. The remaining sites will be looked at as part of an RFP process. The full presentation is available [here](#).

Presentation: FERC NOPR on Reliability Standards to Address Inverter-Based Resource

Dan Kopin, Innovation Manager at VELCO, provided an overview of FERC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) on Reliability Standards to Address Inverter-Based Resources. In November 2022, FERC issued three orders intended to address the reliability impacts of the rapid integration of inverter-based resources (IBRs) on the bulk electric system and the resulting reliability gaps. The second order, in Docket No. RM22-12, FERC directs NERC to develop Reliability Standards that would require IBR data sharing, IBR model validation, IBR planning and operational studies, and registered IBR performance. FERC requests comments by February 6, 2023, and proposed that within 90 days of final rule, NERC submit a comprehensive plan to address the IBR-related reliability gaps identified within the rule within 36 months. Mr. Kopin noted that VELCO is proactively preparing for FERC, NERC and ISO-NE's new reliability requirements with no-regret investments to support planner and operators. The full presentation is available [here](#).

Policy and Project Updates

- **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding Opportunities:** Lou Cecere, Planning Engineer at the Public Service Department, reviewed the current federal funding opportunities including the IJJA 40101(d) formula grant funding, competitive funding under the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) Program, and the Transmission Facilitation Program. The full presentation is available [here](#).
- **PSD Energy Policy and Program Review update:** Lou Cecere, Planning Engineer at the Public Service Department, reported the Public Service Department is reviewing energy policy and programs through a public engagement process to create recommendations for the Legislature in 2024. The PSD is hosting a webinar series over the next several months to share information and answer questions about Vermont's current electric system. The webinar series is the first phase of the public engagement opportunities planned as part of the process to comprehensively review the state's renewable and clean electricity policies and programs.
- **VT Public Utility Commission Rule 5.500:** Shana Louiselle reported the Public Utility Commission is holding a workshop on January 26 to discuss VELCO's comments about digitization of interconnection applications.
- **2024 EVT Demand Resource Plan update:** Dave Westman reported that Efficiency Vermont will present the final results of the 2024-2026 Demand Resource Plan to the Public Utility Commission on February 2, 2023. Details about the workshop can be found within Case No. 22-2954.

Attendance

* Indicates voting member

** Indicates alternate

Public Sector

- *Michael Wickenden, Residential representative
- **Tim Duggan, Residential alternate
- *Michael Kirick, Commercial representative
- **Jeff Forward, Commercial representative
- **George Gross, Regional Planning rep
- *Johanna Miller, Environmental representative
- **Steve Crowley, Environmental representative

Transmission Utility (VELCO)

- *Hantz Pr sum , VELCO
- **Frank Etori, VELCO

Distribution Utilities Providing Transmission (GMP, VEC)

- *Steve Litkovitz, GMP
- **Doug Smith, GMP

Large Transmission-Dependent Distribution Utilities (BED, WEC)

- *Bill Powell, WEC
- *Munir Kasti, BED

Transmission Dependent Distribution Utilities (Municipals)

Sarah Braese, VPPSA

Supply & Demand Resources

- *Dave Westman, EVT

Non-Voting Members

Philip Picotte, DPS

Staff

Shana Louiselle, VELCO

Guests

Amber Widmayer, BED
Anne Margolis, DPS
Betsy Bloomer, VELCO
Brad Williams, BED
Brian Hall, VEC
Colin Owyang, VELCO
Cyril Brunner, VEC
Dan Kopin, VELCO
Danielle Hammond, VELCO
David Mullet, All Earth Renewables
David Woodhouse, VEC
Donald Jessome, TDI-New England
Eric Johnson, ISO-NE
Jackie Pratt, Stowe Electric
Jay Pilliod, EVT
John Dasaro, Village of Enosburg
Kamran Hassan, GMP
Kerrick Johnson, VELCO
Khalid Osman, VELCO
Lincoln Sprague, DynaPower
Lou Cecere, DPS
Luke Looman, VELCO
Marc Allen, VELCO
Mark Sciarrotta, VELCO
Morgan Casella, DO
Patrick Murphy, VTrans
Paul Lambert, EVT
Robert Ide, National Grid
Ryan Darlow, VERA
Sarah Adams, ISO-NE
Scott Johnsonstone, Morrisville Water & Light
Thomas Lyle, BED
Tom Petraska, Ludlow Electric
Warren Coleman, MMR