

## WELCOME!

Thank you for being here. We hope you will find this forum as valuable as we do.

Vermont Electric Power Company and Green Mountain Power are proposing the Gorge Area Reinforcement (GAR) Project to maintain reliability as area load increases on the electric system currently serving customers in northern Chittenden County. This project is the second part of a three-phase, 20-year electric reliability plan that includes the GAR Project, the East Avenue Loop Project (already filed with the Public Service Board) and a future project in the Essex area. We are engaged in a public involvement process with community leaders, land owners and the general public. Local and state leaders had the opportunity to participate in a previous meeting to gain understanding and assist in refining the proposal.

Tonight's informational open house is an important part of this process, and your input is critical in helping us determine how best to adjust our proposal to meet the reliability needs of northern Chittenden County in a manner that also addresses your concerns.

Consistent with our legal obligation to ensure reliable power for our customers, we plan to submit a proposal for this project to the Vermont Public Service Board. The project will then be subject to a formal regulatory process, including additional opportunities for public involvement and comment. The Public Service Board makes the final determination as to whether the project meets the requirements necessary to receive a "Certificate of Public Good" or other applicable authorization. Various additional environmental permits are also required for certain aspects of the proposal.

## YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT!

Comment Cards are available at various locations throughout the open house and one has been included in this packet. Please share your thoughts about the GAR Project presented this evening, as well as the format of this open house. Finally, we are providing you with a pre-addressed envelope if you need more time to consider the information from tonight's session before commenting. Please mail the comment card in the next 1-2 days to ensure your comments are included in the next stakeholder meeting analysis.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We have set up a web site that contains additional information including a description of the project and the improvements it will bring to identified reliability problems, materials and notes from each of the public meetings, and links to additional resources. You can also provide your comments by e-mail to either Kerrick Johnson at VELCO ([kjohnson@velco.com](mailto:kjohnson@velco.com)) or Dotty Schnure at Green Mountain Power ([schnure@greenmountainpower.biz](mailto:schnure@greenmountainpower.biz)).

Please visit the site at <http://www.velco.com/Templates/default.asp?pageid=166>.

