

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Joint Petition of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.,)
(VELCO) Vermont Transco LLC, Green Mountain Power)
Corporation (GMP) and Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.)
(VEC) for a Certificate of Public Good pursuant to)
30 V.S.A. § 248 authorizing them to upgrade VELCO's)
Tafts Corners substation in Williston, Vermont and to)
Remove VEC's existing substation)

Docket No. 7453

**SUPPLEMENTAL PREFILED TESTIMONY OF
HARRY R. ABENDROTH
ON BEHALF OF
VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Summary of Testimony

Harry R. Abendroth's testimony responds to questions raised by the hearing officers at a site visit held on October 15, 2008.

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Introduction

1 Q1. What is the purpose of this testimony?

2 A1. On October 15, 2008, the Public Service Board Hearing Officer in this Docket visited the
3 existing VEC Williston Substation. The Hearing Officer asked that VEC submit
4 additional information on the benefits of replacing the present Williston Substation with
5 the proposed Project. The Hearing Officer also asked about VEC's plans for removal of
6 the existing Williston Substation. My testimony responds to these questions.

7

8 Q2. What is the need for the Project, from VEC's perspective?

1 A2. From VEC's perspective, the Project is essentially an "in-kind" replacement for a
2 substation that has reached the end of useful life. Replacement of the existing Williston
3 Substation is required so that VEC may continue to provide reliable electric service.

4
5 Q3 Why is reconstruction or replacement of the present VEC Williston Substation at its
6 present location not considered a viable option?

7 A3 Reconstruction of the existing Williston Substation at its present site is not a viable
8 option due to the small piece of property on which the substation is located, present-day
9 Williston zoning concerns, and the transformation of the rural, agricultural area that once
10 surrounded the substation site into a residential area.

11
12 Q4. What are the benefits of expanding of the existing Tafts Corners Substation?

13 A4. From VEC's perspective, expansion of the existing Tafts Corners Substation eliminates
14 the need for VEC to construct a separate substation and associated 34.5 kV transmission
15 lines in the Route 2A corridor through Williston and St. George. As I have noted
16 previously in my testimony, two-thirds of the load served by the VEC Williston
17 Substation is located within one-half mile of the Tafts Corner Substation. By serving this
18 load from the expanded Tafts Corners Substation, VEC will experience a reduction in
19 system line losses of approximately 20 kW at peak load conditions. This is equivalent to

1 an annual energy savings of 140,000 kw-hr, which is worth \$12,000 annually at a power
2 supply cost of \$0.085 per kw-hr.

3

4 Q5 If the proposed Project is approved, when would VEC remove its existing Williston
5 Substation?

6 A5. Based on our recent experience with the retirement of a similar substation, VEC would
7 reasonably expect to complete all work associated with removal of the substation within
8 18 months of the successful commissioning of the proposed Project.

9

10 Q6. Does this conclude your testimony?

11 A6. Yes.

12