

DRAFT VELCO Operating Committee MINUTES

DATE: August 19, 2021, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Virtual Meeting (ZOOM)

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

- **Burlington Electric Department (BED):** James Gibbons
- **Green Mountain Power (GMP):** Mike Burke
- **Stowe Electric Department (SED):**
- **Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC):** Peter Rossi
- **Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO):** Chris Root, Frank Etori, Tina Stevens
- **Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA):** Stephen Fitzhugh
- **Washington Electric Cooperative (WEC):** Bill Powell

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Brian Connaughton (VELCO), Kerrick Johnson (VELCO), Dan Nelson (VELCO), Jason Pew (VELCO), Hantz Pr sum  (VELCO), Mark Sciarrotta (VELCO), Doug Smith (GMP), Allen Stamp (AP Stamp, Inc.)

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Root verified a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

SAFETY TOPIC

Mr. Root discussed concerns around flooding and undermined roads due to the recent storms. Mr. Burke noted there are still some areas without roads from the storms that occurred last month.

Mr. Root next discussed tropical storm Henri and its potential to impact Vermont. Mr. Burke noted the current track indicates it may go out to sea, but is subject to change. Mr. Pew noted that ISO-NE, as discussed during the MLCC Heads call this morning, is preparing for a direct hit from a New England perspective.

DRAFT MINUTES APPROVAL

Mr. Root presented the meeting minutes from June 17, 2021 for approval.

Mr. Powell moved for approval, Mr. Rossi seconded, and the minutes were approved as presented without objection.

TELECOM WORKING GROUP

Mr. Stamp provided an update from the group: approximately 300 of the 800 miles have been reviewed with respect to routing; working on fiber allocation and lease rates; currently reviewing congestion on the existing network as a result of additional traffic, along with fixes for the congestion; lay down area has been set up at WEC; cable installer mobilizing this month; started make-ready at WEC; continuing to receive fiber and should have approximately 180 miles of fiber on the ground this month; firming up installation specs; adjusting some fiber manufacturing specs.

GLOBAL FOUNDRIES – FACILITY CLASSIFICATION

Mr. Connaughton provided a status update noting that VELCO is currently working with GMP and Global Foundries on a list of work that is necessary prior to the asset transfer, if approved by the

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PUC. The expected timeframe for VELCO to take ownership of the assets is October 2022. VELCO is also working on information needs and beginning to draft agreements.

Mr. Etori next reviewed the Facility Classification diagram.

WEATHER STATIONS DISCUSSION

Mr. Connaughton indicated he and Mr. Pew have been working on weather forecasting needs of the company. In late spring, an RFP was sent for a weather forecasting tool. The two finalists are DTN and IBM. DTN is the current front-runner.

Mr. Connaughton noted that one of the questions asked of both DTN and IBM is whether or not the VELCO weather stations were needed to support their weather tool. Both initially seem to indicate these weather stations are not needed. The driver behind this question is that some of these weather stations are in need of replacement and others in need of maintenance. Defining the business need for these weather stations will determine whether any can be retired, reducing the cost of replacement and maintenance.

Mr. Johnson asked if any of the VT Distribution Utilities have a need for these weather stations. Discussion ensued over the potential use for the weather stations. Mr. Root indicated VELCO will put together a proposal to bring back to the group so the VT Distribution Utilities can review possible use cases.

ONGOING LESSONS LEARNED BED RELATIVE TO DELTA CLIMB INNOVATION PROJECTS

Mr. Gibbons noted BED is currently engaged with Delta Climb. This is BED's 5th year with them. Mr. Gibbons then provided a brief overview of some select projects with Delta Climb, along with the status of each project.

K42 PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Presume indicated the K42 line is a line that requires a lot of maintenance and has multiple structures in need of replacement, approximately 70% of the structures on this line will require replacement within the next four years. Outages of the K42 line are extremely impactful. VELCO has been reviewing the possibility of rebuilding this line, including changing the conductor to a larger conductor to reduce losses. VELCO is proposing a 100 percent PTF funded project with a single-pole line in place of structure replacement. VELCO will be making the presentation at the ISO-NE Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) in September.

OTHER BUSINESS

Open discussion

- Appointment of Brent Lilley – Stowe Electric Department
 - Mr. Root noted Mr. Lilley is replacing Mr. Kresock. Mr. Root asked for a motion. Mr. Gibbons made a motion for approval and Mr. Burke seconded. There were no objections to the motion.

Next meeting

Date: September 16, 2021, CFO/OC Joint Annual, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Meeting (ZOOM)

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Possible topics for discussion

- Telecom Working Group – standing agenda item
- ISO behind-the-meter update
- Storage Update – quarterly agenda item
- Update on load shed plans and rotating
- K42 Project Update – Hantz Presume
- FERC 2222 order – update in the Fall

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Gibbons moved to adjourn, Mr. Fitzhugh seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Stevens
VELCO OC Secretary