

**VELCO Operating Committee Conference Call**  
**April 16, 2015**  
**FINAL MINUTES**

**Participating Members:** Ellen Burt (Town of Stowe Electric Department), Ken Couture (GMP), Ken Mason (Town of Lyndonville), Bill Powell (Washington Electric Coop), Ken Nolan (Burlington Electric), Jeff Wright (Vermont Electric Coop), Chris Root (VELCO)

**Other Participants:** Kerrick Johnson (VELCO), Karen O'Neill (VELCO), Deena Frankel (VELCO)

**Opening:**

Mr. Root called the Operating Committee call to order at 11:01am

**Safety Topic:**

Mr. Root described an accident that occurred on April 15 involving a line contractor working on the K24 Line in Bolton. The worker was struck in the head/back area and experienced a crushed vertebrae which had to be surgically repaired last night. A VELCO incident investigation team was formed and is on site to determine the facts and make recommendations. OSHA was called and will be doing an investigation.

**Minutes Approved:**

Ken Mason moved and Jeff Wright seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. They were approved by the committee.

**Load Shed Planning Update:**

Mr. Mason reported that the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority Board approved a load-shed plan that keeps VT in compliance with the ISO-NE requirements for manual load shedding in emergencies. VELCO is working with Brian Evan-Mongeon to implement the plan within 3 months.

Jeff Wright questioned whether this plan would impact the VEC control center that is off one of the subtransmission lines that would be disconnected in a manual load shed. Mr. Root recommended that Mr. Wright talk to Dave Haas to coordinate concerns.

Mr. Johnson will communicate to the DPS the manual load-shed requirements of ISO-NE.

**VELCO remaining Designated Entity for Vermont Electric Power Company:**

GMP's entry into the frequency control market with its new storage device project in Rutland has raised the question of whether VELCO needs to be the middle person between ISO-NE and GMP. Since GMP will have installed the equipment anyway, it was suggested that it might be more efficient for them to communicate this information directly to ISO-NE. There does not seem to be value added from having it go through VELCO. GMP will investigate any cost implications and report back to the committee.

**FERC Order 1000 Update:**

Kerrick Johnson described the order FERC issued recently regarding ISO-NE's Order 1000 compliance filing. One major issue decided was that Public Policy Projects would be paid for through a 70/30 split with 70% of costs being shared throughout NE and 30% of costs being paid by the state(s) receiving the benefits. VELCO and the other parties that contested the 70/30 cost allocation before FERC do not feel that an appeal of this order would be successful. Starting in January, ISO-NE will be talking to the states to determine what they see as their public policy needs requiring new transmission. Mr. Johnson noted that it is uncertain whether a transmission project that wins in the MA/CT/RI RFI process for renewable energy would be eligible for cost sharing as a public policy project.

**Interconnection Rule Making:**

Deena Frankel described the Interconnection Rulemaking for which preliminary workshops are underway led by the Public Service Department. ISO-NE presented to the group last week in support of incorporating the new IEEE 1547a standard into the state rules. The group agreed to the need for a follow-up call with engineering personal from the interested distribution utilities to discuss the technical issues being raised on low voltage ride through and over/under frequency controls. Deena will coordinate a call with representatives from the DUs.

**Other Business:**

Kerrick Johnson was asked to testify on at the legislature in the context of H. 40, the pending energy legislation, on the benefits of energy efficiency.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Jeff Wright made a motion to adjourn at 11:57am. Ellen Burke seconded the motion which passed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chris Root  
VELCO