## **VELCO Operating Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, October 15, 2009 11:00 a.m. Location: VPPSA

**Committee Members present**: Kevin Perry (VEC), Ken Nolan (BED), Don Rendall "on the phone" (GMP), Ken Mason (LED), Greg White (CVPS), Pat Householder (SED), Neal Robinson, and Frank Ettori (VELCO).

Other present: Thad Omand, Deana Frankel

# I. Minutes of Meeting from the August 20, 2009 meeting

The minutes were approved as drafted.

#### II. Administration

Neal Robinson indicated that Frank Ettori is now a full time member on the Operating Committee. Ernie Hiatt is no longer involved in the Committee and Frank is replacing him.

#### III. 340 line structure issue

Frank Ettori gave a presentation on the recent 340 line structure failure that occurred recently and the effort necessary to repair the structure. The structure was hit by lightning and the line was taken out of service on a planned bases before the structure failed. There was some discussion as to what the system impacts were on taking the 345 kV line out of service. Frank indicated that because the loads were light the system was dispatched accordingly to allow us to take the line out of service. Greg White commented that if the line tripped under peak load conditions it would be quite likely that CVPS would be shedding load in the Central Vermont area. He also indicated that the reliance on the 340 line is exactly why the new Coolidge Connector project is being built.

#### IV. Emergency Preparedness meeting

Frank Ettori gave a presentation on the September 25<sup>th</sup> emergency preparedness meeting. He indicated that the meeting was well represented by most Vermont utilities, Comcast, and the DPS.

## V. Vermont Operators Forum

Frank Ettori presented an update on the August 18<sup>th</sup> Vermont Operators Forum meeting. The meeting was well represented by most utilities. Frank indicated that the meeting had good dialog and discussed a large range of operational issues from under frequency load shedding, Control center integration, operating procedures, and switching and tagging rules.

# VI. Recent BED outage

Frank Ettori gave a presentation on the VELCO E. Avenue transformer differential operation that occurred a couple weeks ago. The originating incident occurred when a BED switchman connected personnel protective grounds to an energized 13.8 kV transmission line. Frank discussed the ground fault caused the E. Avenue Basler

transformer differential to operate on circulating ground current. The reason the circulating ground current occurred was the CT inputs for the future breaker were connected in to the differential scheme.

#### VII. VELCO state-wide load forecasts and load data

The group discussed the suggesting that VELCO post a load forecast and actual loads on VELCO's web site. Frank provided a recommendation that VELCO could provide a forecast based on the last three years real time data. Ken Nolan provided a link to the <a href="https://www.cvx.com">www.cvx.com</a> webpage that showed CONVEX load and forecast. In the end, Frank indicated that VELCO could provide similar data to CONVEX in that we would provide real time data and a forecast based on a percentage of ISO-NE's load forecast. The group agreed that was the best approach.

# VIII. Input on VSPC Evaluation

Deana Frankel discussed the requirement that the VSPC needs to provide a list of recommendations to the PSB by the end of this year. The discussion revolved around the process is working but it should be streamlined. The group doesn't have a desire to start over, the current system works but needs to be streamlined.

### IX. VTA Re-Settlement

Thad Omand handed out a letter from himself to Neal Robinson regarding the VELCO VTA resettlement process. The base of the discussion and memo was that VELCO would have a resettlement process of up to 1 year. If the error is greater than 1 year the DU will incorporate the error in their rate case. There was a lot of discussion for the smaller utilities having a greater issue with ensuring their bills are accurate. There may be some desire to have a threshold for dollars, and an increase in time greater than 1 year, or maybe even a percentage of total bill. Neal and Thad will work with VELCO legal to develop a different recommendation for this issue. Don Rendall suggested that VELCO provide a half day meeting for how to read your VELCO bill. Neal will bring that to the next CFO forum meeting.

### X. B22 Update

Thad indicated that with the Stowe substation going in service this week and next, the billing for the Morrisville B22 needs to have an adjusted loss factor. Thad proposed that they create a fictitious meter reading and use that meter to perform a reconciliation of the historical loss issue. Thad is trying to receive approval for this methodology. He has received approval from Stowe, Hardwick, and Morrisville. He needs concurrence from GMP and CVPS.

# XI. MV90 Update

Thad Omand gave an update on the VELCO MV90 implementation. Within the next few weeks we will be using MV90 to read all of our meters that we have that available to us. For example, we do not have MV90 connectivity to the Newport and Plattsburgh meters.

#### XII. Other Business

Neal asked if the frequency is appropriate for these meetings. The group indicated that the frequency is appropriate and we should keep the meetings as scheduled. If we find that on occasion we don't need meet we can cancel meetings as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Ettori