

FINAL VELCO Operating Committee MINUTES

DATE: November 16, 2023, 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Green Mountain Power Colchester, VT

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

- **Burlington Electric Department (BED):** James Gibbons
- **Green Mountain Power (GMP):** Mike Burke
- **Stowe Electric Department:** Jackie Pratt
- **Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC):** Peter Rossi
- **Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO):** Jason Pew, Jaime Smyrski
- **Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA):** Mike Sullivan
- **Washington Electric Cooperative (WEC):**

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Doug Smith (GMP), Ken Couture (GMP), Emily Stebbins-Wheelock (BED), Mathieu Lepage (BED), Tom Dunn (VELCO), Lisa Adamsen (VELCO), Frank Etori (VELCO), Betsy Bloomer (VELCO), Michele Nelson (VELCO), Kerrick Johnson (VELCO), Donna Kemnitzer (VELCO), Dan Kopin (VELCO), Dan Poulin (VELCO), Mike Fiske (VELCO), Dan Nelson (VELCO), Doug Smith (GMP) Lynn Paradis (Swanton), Brian Evans-Mongeon (Hyde Park), Penny Jones (Morrisville), Sarah Juzek (Stowe), Steve Fitzhugh (Northfield)

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Dunn verified a quorum and called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

SAFETY TOPIC

Mr. Dunn shared a safety topic on dig safe and underground safety.

DRAFT MINUTES APPROVAL

Mr. Pew presented the meeting minutes from October 19, 2023 for approval.

Mr. Sullivan moved for approval, Mr. Gibbons seconded, and the minutes were approved.

2024 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Ms. Nelson presented the 2024 Operating Budget, including 2024 Transmission costs and the 2023 Operating Budget vs. 2024 Operating Budget. Ms. Nelson discussed property insurance, headcount and an increase in software agreement costs. Ms. Kemnitzer provided an overview of the proposed 2024 Capital Project Budget. Most of the additional headcount that Ms. Nelson explained will be captured in the Capital Budget.

VTAM UPDATE

Mr. Pew noted that the redlined VTAM has been uploaded to the Operating Committee site for review. The Operating Committee will vote on these proposed changes at the December Operating Committee meeting.

GLOBAL FOUNDRIES UPDATE

Mr. Pew shared that during construction a ground rod was driven through an underground cable. No one was hurt during this event, but did cause a significant impact to the Global Foundries plant. We will update this committee as we continue to investigate the impacts of

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this event.

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Mr. Pew provided an Operations Update including upcoming Joint Utilities Emergency Preparedness event and Tabletop Exercise.

VERMONT NEEDS ASSESSMENT & OPEN ACTION ITEM REVIEW

Mr. Ettori shared that ISO-NE will share the results of the needs assessment in January.

ISO UPDATE

No Update

PNNL PROJECT UPDATE

This project is successfully back on track with data sharing from the distribution utilities and VELCO. This project will have a nationwide significance.

VEC WINTER READINESS UPDATE

No Update

NEW ENGLAND T&D TECHNICAL FORUM

Mr. Pew will share all minutes from these meetings with the Operating Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next meeting

Date: December 21st, 2023, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: VIA ZOOM ONLY

Possible topics for discussion

- New England T&D Technical Forum (Jason Pew)
- VELCO Operations Monthly highlights – standing agenda item
- Needs Assessment & Open Action Item review – standing agenda item (by exception)
- Telecom Working Group – standing agenda item (by exception)
- ISO update – standing agenda item (by exception)
- PNNL project update – standing agenda item (by exception)
- VEC Winter Readiness update – standing agenda item (by exception)

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Fitzhugh moved to adjourn, Mr. Gibbons seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Smyrski
VELCO OC Secretary