

# **DRAFT 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

## **DRAFT VELCO Operating Committee MINUTES**

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 21<sup>st</sup>, 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