

DRAFT VELCO Operating Committee MINUTES

DATE: March 21, 2024, 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, Ken Couture
- **Hyde Park (HP):** Brian Evans-Mongeon
- **Stowe Electric Department (SED):** Jackie Pratt
- **Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC):** Peter Rossi, Kris Smith
- **Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO):** Jason Pew, Tina Stevens, Jaime Smyrski
- **Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA):** Stephen Fitzhugh
- **Washington Electric Cooperative (WEC):** Bill Powell

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Cyril Brunner (VEC), Josh Castonguay (GMP), Betsy Bloomer (VELCO), Tom Dunn (VELCO), Dan Kopin (VELCO), Scott Mallory (VELCO), Kyle Landis- Marinello (VELCO), Shana Louisiella (VELCO), Hantz Pr sum  (VELCO), Mark Sciarrotta (VELCO), Doug Smith (GMP), Gunner Tuttle (VELCO), Mike Sullivan (Hardwick)

OPENING REMARKS

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

SAFETY TOPIC

Mr. Pew discussed snow tire safety suggesting May 1st as the date to remove snow tires.

DRAFT MINUTES APPROVAL

Mr. Pew presented the meeting minutes from February 15, 2024 for approval.

Mr. Rossi moved for approval, Mr. Gibbons seconded, and the minutes were approved without objection.

PNNL UPDATE

Mr. Kopin and Mr. Brunner discussed ISO-NE requirements and what the distribution utilities need to do to ensure these requirements are met. Including, time and duration of low power factor. Mr. Kopin discussed the use cases and a cost estimate to solve the problem with non-inverter devices.

DISASTER TECH UPDATE

Mr. Tuttle provided an update on Disaster Tech reviewing the scope of the project including the purchase of the 10 year license to the Disaster Tech platform. Disaster Tech DU workshop was held earlier in the month which included a demo on the current platform and future dashboard. Next steps include developing a super user group and finalize a list of feature requests.

DOE PARTIAL FUNDING OF GETS TECHNOLOGY AT SOUTH HERO

Not covered. This will be covered at the next meeting.

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HIGHGATE CONVERTER AND 1429 TTC DISCUSSION

Mr. Pew discussed the Total Transfer Capability at the Highgate Converter including current operating restrictions and the proposal to increase the limit of the presidential permit. This would support both Converter imports and Highgate blockload. There was a discussion on the impact of an increased TTC of 2 MW. Mr. Pew then discussed next steps.

FRANKLIN COUNTY LINE UPGRADE

Mr. Mallory provided an update.

THE GREAT ECLIPSE OF 2024

Mr. Pew provided some slides highlighting an overview of the upcoming solar eclipse. The slides included ISO New England's analysis of forecasted impacts, along with an overview of ISO's eclipse simulation. It was noted that there are no reliability concerns.

FIBER GRID RELIABILITY

No update

ITRON UPDATE

No update

NEEDS ASSESMENT & OPEN ACTION ITEM REVIEW

No update

ISO UPDATE

No update

VEC WINTER READINESS UPDATE

This was covered under the Highgate Converter and 1429 TTC discussion.

TELECOM WORKING GROUP

No update

NEW ENGLAND T&D TECHNICAL FORUM

No update

VELCO OPERATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

No update

Open discussion

- None

Next meeting

Date: April 18, 2024, 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Green Mountain Power Colchester, VT

Possible topics for discussion

- New Tech at South Hero
- ITRON update (by exception)

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- Fiber Grid Reliability (by exception)
- Needs Assessment & Open Action Item review (by exception)
- ISO update (by exception)
- VEC Winter Readiness update (by exception)
- Telecom Working Group (by exception)
- New England T&D Technical Forum (by exception)
- VELCO Operations highlights (by exception)

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Rossi moved to adjourn, Mr. Burke seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Smyrski