



Responses to Stakeholder Comments on the New Hampshire (NH) 2029 Solutions Study Update¹ Presentation

Comments from New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Comment 1

Hi Folks, this is a follow up comment question JinLin's presentation at the PAC this week.

Regarding the Central NH portions of the assessment, I have not gone in to look at the study results behind the summary presentation, but two things New Hampshire Electric Co-op is interested in and concerned about, as much of our retail load is concentrated in the Central NH Study area.

One is the point that was raised in the meeting about taking into account the NECEC facilities either being completed or not being completed or only partially – we agree it would seem that could make a difference in the assessments and determination of facilities needs.

Another one we're particularly concerned about: NHEC has a large (for us) 115 kV delivery point from Eversource NH serving the North Conway, NH area. It is shown on the one-lines as "Intervale" and it hangs radially off of the PSNH C106 line out of Saco Valley. As I recall in the last round of studies, low voltage conditions at most busses got satisfied by proposed facilities changes but the Intervale bus low voltage condition did not. That point is not PTF, but totally dependent on the Saco / Lovell / Whitefield area conditions. We're concerned that violations and/or inferior conditions at our Intervale 115 kV bus be required to be observed, noted and addressed as part of the assessment and plan, and hoping you and Eversource can affirm that will be taken into account for us.

ISO Response to Comment 1

The B112 line uprate is part of the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) project upgrades. According to the Eversource's PPA ES-20-T27 Thermal uprate of 115 kV line B112, the B112 line is to be upgraded by replacing the existing conductor splices with higher temperature splices to achieve an increase in the Long Time Emergency (LTE) rating of the line. The upgrade is not expected to change the impedance of the line. Therefore, this upgrade would only change the ratings of the B112 line itself and it does not have any impact on the voltage needs identified in the Central New Hampshire area.

As described in the comment, Intervale is served radially from Saco Valley, making it a non-PTF facility. Therefore, it is not the ISO's role to identify needs at this facility or develop solutions with the sole purpose of addressing any needs at this facility. A low voltage on the Intervale 115 kV bus was reported in the results of the 2027 NH Needs Assessment (NA) based on the CELT 2018 load

¹ New Hampshire 2029 Solutions Study Update, presented June 17, 2020, <https://www.iso-ne.com/system-planning/key-study-areas/vt-nh/>

forecast. In the 2029 NA, low voltage violation conditions were not observed on the Intervale 115 kV bus, based on CELT 2019 load forecast. Load reduction between CELT 2018 and CELT 2019, along with the study assumption changes between 2027 and 2029 NA are two factors that resulted in a change in the results on the Intervale 115 kV bus.