VERMONT PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY AUTHORITY MINUTES OF LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(numbers in bold type correspond with agenda item numbers)

January 18, 2017

(1) The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. at the office of the Authority, located at 5195 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Ctr., Vermont.

Committee Directors present (X indicates present):

X Reginald Beliveau, Swanton X Meredith Birkett, Johnson
X Jonathan Elwell, Enosburg

Other Directors present:

Alternates present:

Others present:

Melissa Bailey, VPPSA Jamie Feehan, Primmer

- (2) Melissa asked if there were requests for changes and/or modifications to the current agenda. The group offered none. The agenda was rearranged to accommodate having the legislative update take place at 12:30. The RES pilot discussion was moved to the start of the agenda.
- (3) Melissa asked if there were public comments and/or individuals who would like to address the Board. There was no public presence and therefore no comments were made.
- (4) The committee approved the meeting minutes from the May and November meetings.
- (5) Melissa provided an overview of the planning efforts staff has undertaken thus far regarding Tier 3 of the Renewable Energy Standard (RES). She explained that VPPSA staff is recommending that the member systems implement programs on a pilot basis in late 2017 and 2018. She asked for feedback on the recommended pilot design, which could include weatherization and heat pumps, electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, and biodiesel for home heating. Staff is also investigating the feasibility of energy storage technologies. The committee discussed the relative cost-effectiveness of various measures that could be offered in a pilot program, as well as likely customer satisfaction concerns. The directors noted that there could be confusion between proposed VPPSA programs and existing Efficiency Vermont programs. Further discussion of this topic will take place at the upcoming VPPSA Board Meeting on February 1st.

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- (6) Jamie Feehan from Primmer provided the Committee with a Legislative update for the current session. He noted that the Department of Public Service Commissioner had been appointed, but the Deputy Commissioner slot is still vacant. The Deputy Commissioner has mostly been present at the Legislature in recent years. Due to a lot of turnover on the legislative committees, as well as committee restructuring in the House, many committees have spent the first few weeks of the session getting familiar with their jurisdiction and hosting organizations related to their work. VPPSA has provided presentations to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Energy and Technology Committee last week. Jamie identified members of the relevant legislative committees and members discussed possible outreach strategies on topics of interest to VPPSA members, including hydro relicensing. Jamie also updated the directors regarding the proposed Net Metering Rule, which will be before the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules on January 20th.
- Melissa briefed the committee on several current regulatory proceedings. The template for Rule 4.100 contracts was circulated to the VPPSA directors and will be filed with the Public Service Board. Melissa and Eli Emerson are working on behalf of the VPPSA members with VEIC and the other utilities to determine whether additional data needs to be transferred to Efficiency Vermont. Ms. Birkett raised the question of how Efficiency Vermont will use the requested data. This is still being explored. Finally, Melissa advised the committee that VPPSA staff is looking into the impact of Standard Offer transmission charges being incurred by the VPPSA members and exploring options for mitigating the effect of these charges. The committee and the VPPSA Board will be kept informed on this topic.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Bailey, Acting Secretary Legislative & Regulatory Committee

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