

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 23-3734-PET

Petition of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. and Vermont Transco LLC, for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing upgrades to the K42 transmission line in Georgia, St. Albans, Swanton, and Highgate, Vermont	
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Order entered: 11/21/2023

ORDER ESTABLISHING SCHEDULE AND ADDRESSING MOTION TO INTERVENE

This case involves a petition filed with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) by Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. and Vermont Transco LLC (collectively “VELCO”). VELCO requests a certificate of public good (“CPG”), under 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing upgrades to the K42 transmission line in Georgia, St. Albans, Swanton, and Highgate, Vermont (the proposed “Project”).

Schedule

On November 17, 2023, I held a scheduling conference in this matter with representatives of VELCO, the Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”), and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (“ANR”).

At the scheduling conference, the parties discussed a schedule proposed by VELCO. Based on the discussion, I adopt the following schedule. The schedule includes two timelines, with and without parties filing a stipulation or reaching an agreement.

December 8, 2023	Deadline for motions to intervene and deadline for requesting public hearing and/or site visit
December 15, 2023	Deadline for round I discovery on VELCO by Department, ANR, and other state agency parties
December 15, 2023	Deadline for responses to motions to intervene
December 20-21, 2023	Placeholder for virtual public hearing, if requested
January 5, 2024	Deadline for VELCO responses to round I discovery by Department, ANR, and other state agency parties

January 5, 2024	Deadline for discovery on VELCO by other intervenors
January 19, 2024	Deadline for VELCO to respond to other intervenors' discovery
February 2, 2024	Deadline for round II discovery on VELCO by all parties
February 16, 2024	Deadline for VELCO to respond to round II discovery
<i>If stipulation or parties reach agreement</i>	
March 8, 2024	Deadline for parties to file stipulations (or testimony regarding review and support of Project) and any requests for a hearing
March 29, 2024	Tentative date for evidentiary hearing if requested, or deadline for proposed findings if no hearing is requested
April 12, 2024	Deadline for proposed findings if evidentiary hearing is requested
May 17, 2024	Tentative date for proposal for decision
<i>If no stipulation or agreement</i>	
April 5, 2024	Deadline for Department, ANR, and intervenor parties to file testimony
April 12, 2024	Deadline for discovery requests on Department, ANR, and intervenors
May 3, 2024	Deadline for discovery responses from Department, ANR, and intervenors
May 10, 2024	Deadline for rebuttal testimony by VELCO
May 22, 2024	Deadline for discovery on VELCO
June 5, 2024	Deadline for discovery response by VELCO
June 20-21, 2024	Placeholder for evidentiary hearing with live surrebuttal testimony
July 11, 2024	Deadline for proposed finding and briefs
July 25, 2024	Deadline for reply briefs
August 23, 2024	Tentative date for proposal for decision

Members of the public interested in this proceeding may participate by submitting public comments or by intervening as a formal party to the case. Members of the public may also simply monitor the Commission's actions in a specific case. Guidance on how to monitor, comment on, or actively participate in Commission proceedings is available in the document

“Public Participation and Intervention in Proceedings before the Public Utility Commission,” which is available on the Commission’s website at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/public-participation-and-intervention-proceedings-public-utility-commission>.

Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 20 and 21, VELCO will be responsible for court reporter costs incurred by the Commission during the course of this proceeding and billed back to VELCO. Unless VELCO informs the Commission otherwise, the Commission will mail the invoice for these costs to the attorney of record or the official representative for VELCO.

Motion for Intervention

On November 14, 2023, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation (“DHP”) filed a motion for intervention, pursuant to Commission Rule 2.209(B).

DHP states that it is the relevant state entity responsible for reviewing matters concerning historic sites arising under 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) and under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. DHP argues that it has substantial interests which may be adversely affected by the outcome of this proceeding. DHP maintains that its interests will not be adequately protected by any other party to this proceeding, and DHP has no other way to protect its interests at stake in this proceeding. DHP states that its intervention will not unduly delay the proceeding or prejudice the interests of any existing party or the public.

At the November 17, 2023, scheduling conference, VELCO, the Department, and ANR stated that they had no objections to DHP’s motion.

I conclude that DHP has demonstrated it shares a question of law or fact in common with the matters that must be resolved in the proceeding. Accordingly, I grant DHP’s motion on a permissive basis, under Commission Rule 2.209(B).

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 21st day of November, 2023.

Mary Jo Krolewski

Mary Jo Krolewski
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: November 21, 2023

Attest: Holly R. Anderson
Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

PUC Case No. 23-3734-PET - SERVICE LIST

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^Motion to Intervene pending.

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