

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 21-3883-RULE

Proposed creation of Vermont Public Utility Commission Rule Concerning Energy Storage	
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COMMENTS OF THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

The Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) filed proposed Commission Rule 9.000 (the “Energy Storage Rule”) with the Vermont Secretary of State on September 11, 2025, after receiving multiple rounds of comments and hosting a series of webinars in this proceeding. The Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) supports the proposed Energy Storage Rule, which creates clear application processes for energy storage facilities 100 kW and larger and ensures that energy storage systems of all sizes meet appropriate interconnection and safety standards.

In reviewing the proposed rule, the Department identified two provisions which may warrant further clarification or revision. First, the Department’s understanding is that the IEEE National Electric Safety Code (“NESC”) listed under Rule 9.202(3) applies only to utility-owned facilities. Because Rule 9.202 generally lists safety standards “applicable to all energy storage facilities installed and operated in the State of Vermont,” the Department suggests clarifying the intended application of Rule 9.202(3). Second, Rule 9.304(A) states:

This section applies to battery energy storage facilities with a nameplate rating greater than 5 MW, **battery energy storage facilities with a nameplate rating greater than 1 MW that require any earth disturbance or vegetation clearing for the facility’s installation or interconnection**, and non-battery storage facilities with a nameplate rating of 100 kW or greater.

Based on the Department’s review, the separate provisions of Rule 9.303 already apply to battery energy storage facilities between 100 kW and 5 MW which require earth disturbance or vegetation clearing. As such, the Department recommends removing the language in bold above from Rule 9.304(A).

The Department thanks the Commission for its significant collaborative work in developing the proposed Energy Storage Rule, and for the opportunity to provide comments.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 7th day of October 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

By: /s/ Ben Civiletti
Ben Civiletti, Special Counsel
112 State Street
Montpelier VT 05602
(802)-622-4388
benjamin.civiletti@vermont.gov