



Via First Class Mail and ePUC

June 24, 2026

Re: Petition of Green Mountain Power for a Certificate of Public Good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the relocation and rebuild of the Taftsville Substation in the Towns of Woodstock, Hartford, and Hartland, Vermont

45-Day Advance Notice Package

Dear Community Leaders and Neighbors,

This letter provides advance notice to let you know that Green Mountain Power (“GMP”) is preparing to file a Petition with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) for approval to relocate and rebuild GMP’s Taftsville Substation in the Towns of Woodstock, Hartford, and Hartland, Vermont (the “Project”). The Project is needed to upgrade equipment, which will increase the reliability of service provided to customers in the Towns of Woodstock, Hartland, and Quechee.

We anticipate filing the Petition with the Commission on or around August 10, 2026, and are providing the following Project overview and related information in this 45-day advance notice package in accordance with Commission Rule 5.402 and 30 V.S.A. § 248 (“Section 248”). The information below includes the following: 1) an overall description of the Project, 2) an explanation of the need for the Project, including an assessment of alternatives considered, 3) an overview of the impact of the Project, and 4) information on the Commission review process, including participation by municipal and regional planning commissions, as well as links to guidance on the Commission’s review process.

I. Project Overall Description:

The existing Taftsville Substation is located adjacent to a hydroelectric generation facility licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”), and components of the existing substation are within the FERC project boundaries. This Project description provides an overall summary of this proposed GMP Project to remove and rebuild the Taftsville Substation. However, please note that some of the facilities to be removed and modified are subject to FERC jurisdiction, and therefore, will not be part of the Vermont Public Utility Commission’s review under Section 248. GMP’s Petition filing will provide further detail on what specific Project components it is requesting the Public Utility Commission review and approve.

The Project consists of removing the existing Taftsville Substation from its current location at 2693 East Woodstock Road, in Woodstock, and rebuilding it at a new location, approximately 0.6 miles to the east, at the intersection of US Route 4 and VT Route 12 in Hartland, Vermont, where a temporary substation currently exists. As described below, the substation relocation requires transmission line modifications, including limited line work in Hartford, Vermont.

The Project includes installing new substation equipment together with the installation of a new fence, oil containment system, security, lights, animal fence, surface material, and ground grid. New equipment includes, but is not limited to, the installation of four new 46 kV transmission line breakers, a new 10/14 MVA 46 kV/12.47 kV transformer, one 12.47 kV distribution breaker, three new circuit regulators, remote terminal unit, switches, a battery bank for protection and control, new control building, and other standard equipment necessary for modern substation construction. The existing substation, including steel structures and foundations will be retired from service and removed from the existing Taftsville Substation site. The hydro generation facility interconnection at the existing Taftsville Substation site will be transferred from the 46kV bus to the TA-G12 12.47 kV distribution feeder, and several spans of transmission conductor will be removed, thus modifying these facilities from a double circuit configuration to a single circuit configuration.

An aerial photograph of the Project site is attached here as **Attachment 1**. Detailed site plans for the Project construction are attached as **Attachment 2**, **Attachment 3**, and **Attachment 4**.

II. Project Need:

The retirement of the existing Taftsville Substation removes from service equipment at the end of its useful life to improve substation safety and reliability for Woodstock and the surrounding Towns of Hartland and Quechee. The new Taftsville Substation transmission breakers and the associated ring bus design will continue to allow for automatic sectionalizing of the transmission system during faulted conditions, which improves service reliability. The upgrade of the transmission bus design will also enhance maintenance capabilities, precluding the need for bus outages and/or the installation of a portable substation to repair, maintain, or replace most substation equipment. The new 10/14 MVA transformer, which will replace the 1968 vintage power transformer, will contain bushing mounted current transformers to enhance reliability through the implementation of advanced protection schemes.

On August 13, 2025, the existing Taftsville Substation transformer suffered a catastrophic fault, and on August 19, 2025, GMP petitioned the Commission for the emergency installation of a temporary substation to serve the Taftsville load while permanent plans could be developed. Subsequent to Commission approval, the temporary substation was constructed at the location proposed for the new substation, and the temporary substation has been carrying the Taftsville customer load since September 30, 2025.

In connection with planning this Project, GMP considered the following alternatives: 1) rebuilding the substation at its existing location, 2) rebuilding the substation in a radial bus configuration, and 3) installing a 7.5/10.5 MVA transformer rather than the proposed 10/14 MVA transformer. GMP is not proposing the alternatives listed above for the following reasons. First, GMP chose not to rebuild the substation at the existing location because the existing location is space constrained and does not afford adequate space to improve safe working clearances, or to install additional aesthetic screening. The Taftsville hydro generation facility and dam, along with the adjacent covered bridge are frequently visited by the public. Although a public safety hazard does not exist, this location is not desirable because of the change in grade from the US Route 4 down to the hydro generation facility. This location also suffered severe flooding during Hurricane Irene, and the proposed removal will ensure that customer reliability is maintained in the event of another severe flood. Second, a radial bus design was not selected because of the convergence of three transmission terminals. Constructing the proposed substation in a ring configuration will allow for more dynamic switching and preclude the need for bus or line outages when performing repairs, maintenance, or equipment replacements. Third, while installing a 7.5/10.5 MVA transformer, rather than the proposed 10/14 MVA transformer, would result in Project cost savings, the 7.5/10.5 MVA transformer would not be capable of carrying feeder backup load of both the Taftsville and Quechee substations.

III. Project Impact:

GMP plans to retire and remove the existing Taftsville Substation and construct a new Taftsville Substation at the location of the Taftsville temporary substation in Hartland and expand the substation. The existing substation yard is approximately 4,646 square feet, and the new substation yard will be approximately 27,679 square feet. Increasing the size of the substation yard will facilitate access to all equipment in the substation and improve clearance to energized equipment, which improves safety for GMP employees.

GMP has engaged VHB Inc. to inventory and assess natural resource features in the Project area, and to address options for properly avoiding or mitigating any potential impacts and identifying any applicable collateral environmental permits. The current Project design would involve some tree clearing and new impervious surfaces, and VHB will be evaluating impacts and requirements of applicable permits and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources' expectations based on the resources present and design constraints. VHB is also completing an assessment of sound levels from the rebuilt substation to ensure that any sound emanating from the Project is within accepted standards. Northeast Archaeological Resource Center of Farmington, Maine, has conducted an archaeological resource assessment of the Project and determined that the Project will not impact any sensitive areas, and therefore, no further investigation is needed.

Materials will be transported to the construction site by truck over US Route 4 and VT Route 12 in Woodstock and Hartland. Any traffic impacts will be minor and limited almost entirely to the period of Project construction.

In terms of visual impact, the Project consists of constructing a new substation approximately 2,600 feet southeast of where GMP's existing substation facilities are located. The new substation location is situated within the southwest quadrant of the US Route 4 and VT Route 12 intersection, approximately 300 feet southwest of the intersection and just west of GMP's existing temporary substation. The new substation location is elevated approximately 35-40 feet above the intersection but is and will remain separated by existing mature deciduous vegetation that buffers the site from the roadways. T.J. Boyle Associates ("T.J. Boyle") conducted a preliminary review of potential aesthetic impacts of the new substation location. Based on its review, T.J. Boyle did not find that additional landscape mitigation plantings are warranted because of the existing vegetative buffer and intervening landform that currently separates the new substation area from the adjacent roads, thereby resulting in limited visibility from the surrounding area. Additionally, as part of the Project, two fenced Taftsville Substation areas west and south of the Taftsville covered bridge will be removed. A third fenced substation area northwest of the bridge will have all equipment removed and a smaller sized GSU transformer will be installed. The proposed changes to the existing substation site will significantly reduce visibility of electric infrastructure currently visible from the area around the Taftsville covered bridge.

GMP has hired T.J. Boyle to perform a more detailed aesthetic assessment, including further evaluating the need for any landscape mitigation, which will be provided with GMP's Petition to the Commission and will further examine local and regional planning documents for criteria that address scenic resources and open space.

IV. Information Regarding the Project Review Process:

As noted above, GMP has enclosed an aerial photo and site plans with this letter, showing the location and proposed design of the Project's elements. The information contained in this package is intended to provide a general understanding of the Project and could change based on further analysis and the requirements of applicable permits.

Before beginning work on the Project, GMP must obtain a Certificate of Public Good ("CPG") from the Commission under 30 V.S.A. Section 248. Before issuing a CPG, the Commission must find, among other things, that the Project will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the recommendations of the municipal and regional planning commissions, the recommendations of the municipal legislative bodies, and the land conservation measures contained in the plan of any affected municipality.

Section 248(f) of Title 30 provides information regarding participation of municipal and regional planning commissions in Section 248 proceedings. Per 30 V.S.A. § 248(f)(1)(A), each municipal and regional planning commission may convene a public hearing on the proposed petition. Pursuant to section 248(f)(1)(C), each planning commission may submit recommendations to the petitioner within 40 days of the petitioner's submittal to the planning commissions, which is August 3, 2026, for this Project. The petitioner's application to the Commission must address any written comments provided to the petitioner in response to the 45-day advance submission that are related to the Section 248(b) criteria and any oral comments related to those criteria made at any public hearing conducted pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §

248(f)(1)(A). Section 248(f)(1)(D) provides that once the petition is filed with the Commission, each planning commission may make recommendations to the Commission.

For additional information regarding the Commission's review process, please reference the Commission's document labeled, "Public Participation and Intervention in Proceedings Before the Public Utility Commission," which can be found on the Commission's website at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/public-participation-and-intervention-proceedings-public-utility-commission>. Specific information about Section 248 cases can be found on the Commission website at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/section-248-procedures>.

If you have any questions about the Project or have any feedback, please reach out and I will be happy to help. My email address is kamran.hassan@greenmountainpower.com and my phone number is 802-353-9950.

Sincerely,



Kamran Hassan
Director of Substation Operations

Enclosures: Attachments 1, 2, 3, and 4

cc: Service List per Certificate of Service

NORTH

**EXISTING TAFTSVILLE
SUBSTATION**

ESN 250
WOODSTOCK PD
WOODSTOCK FD
WOODSTOCK AMB-WOODSTOCK
NONE LISTED

ESN 509
ROYALTON VSP
HARTLAND FD
WOODSTOCK AMB-HARTLAND
NONE LISTED

EXISTING TEMPORARY
TAFTSVILLE SUBSTATION

PROJECT BOUNDARY

ISSUED FOR PERMITTING
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

PROPOSED NEW
TAFTSVILLE SUB

[illegible]

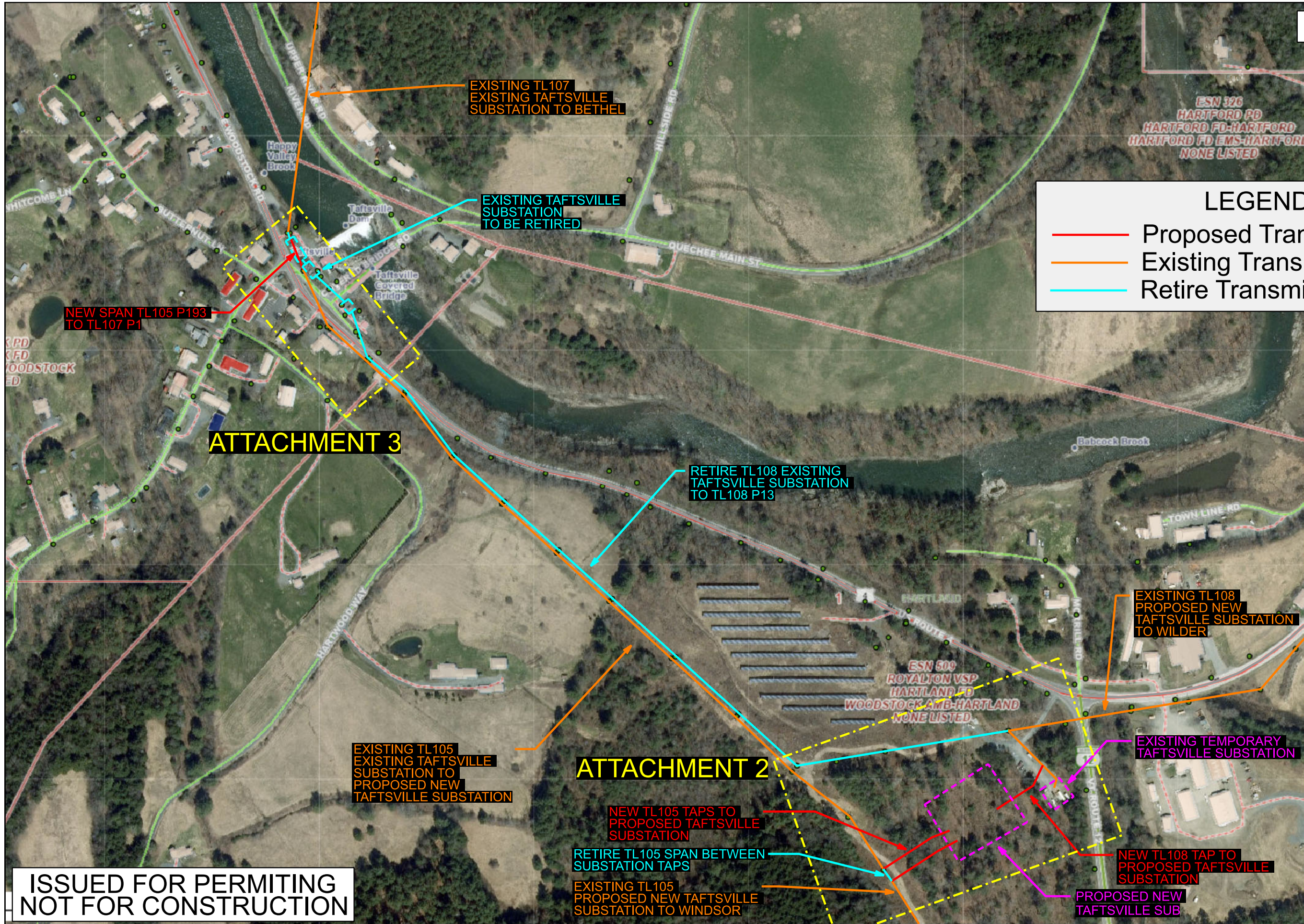
GRAPHIC SCALE

0 30' 60'

1"=30' (22X34)

1"=60' (11X17)

[illegible]



LEGEND

- Proposed Transmission Install
- Existing Transmission
- Retire Transmission

ATTACHMENT 3

ATTACHMENT 2

ISSUED FOR PERMITTING
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

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