

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 26-__-PET

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 and related facilities in the Towns of Woodstock, Hartford, and Hartland, Vermont	
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**PETITION OF GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD
PURSUANT TO 30 V.S.A. § 248**

By this Petition, Green Mountain Power (“GMP” or “Petitioner”) requests that the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) issue a Certificate of Public Good (“CPG”), pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the relocation and rebuild of the Taftsville Substation and related facilities in the Towns of Woodstock, Hartford, and Hartland, Vermont (the “Project”). In support of this Petition, GMP states the following based on the prefiled testimony and exhibits submitted by GMP in this Case.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PETITIONER

1. GMP is a duly organized public service corporation with a principal place of business at 163 Acorn Lane, Colchester, Vermont, and is subject to the Commission’s jurisdiction pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 203.

2. Construction of the Project requires a CPG pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

3. The Project is further detailed in the Petitioner’s prefiled testimony. Through this Project, GMP proposes removing the existing Taftsville Substation from its current location at 2693 East Woodstock Road, in Woodstock, Vermont, 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. Prefiled Testimony of Kamran Hassan (“Hassan pf.”) at 4.

4. This Project involves the following components: 1) relocation and rebuilding of the proposed Taftsville Substation, 2) the retirement of the existing Taftsville Substation, and 3) the related reconfiguration of existing 46 kV transmission lines 105, 107, & 108, along with the proposed modifications of the existing distribution circuit. Prefiled Testimony of John Fiske (“Fiske pf.”) at 3.

5. This Project is needed at this time because the proposed 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. Hassan pf. at 5.

6. On August 13, 2025, the existing Taftsville Substation transformer suffered a catastrophic fault, and on August 19, 2025, GMP petitioned the Commission in Case No. 25-1821-PET, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(k), 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. Hassan pf. at 5-6.

7. The Commission’s August 20, 2025 Order Granting Waiver Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(k), issued in Case No. 25-1821-PET, required GMP to file a petition requesting a

certificate of public good for the permanent installation of a new substation within 12 months of the date of the Order.¹

8. As detailed further in the prefiled testimony and exhibits, the existing Taftsville Substation is located adjacent to GMP's Taftsville Hydroelectric Project, which is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). The majority of the transmission and distribution assets at the existing Taftsville Substation site are within the FERC Project Boundary for the hydroelectric generation facility, and therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of FERC. Hassan pf. at 6.

9. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(a)(2), hydroelectric generation facilities within the licensing jurisdiction of FERC, are not subject to review by the Vermont Public Utility Commission.

10. GMP will separately seek FERC review of the removal and modification of assets within the Project Boundary of GMP's FERC licensed Taftsville Hydroelectric Project. Hassan pf. at 6.

Proposed Decommissioning of the Existing Taftsville Substation

11. The existing Taftsville Substation equipment is enclosed by three individually fenced-in yards (yards #1, #2, and #3 on the site plan) connected with overhead strain bus, located adjacent to GMP's FERC licensed hydroelectric generation facility. Fiske pf. at 4; see Exhibit GMP KAH-1 (FERC Project Boundary Maps).

12. GMP proposes that the existing Taftsville Substation, including steel structures and foundations will be retired from service and removed from the existing Taftsville Substation

¹ *Petition of Green Mountain Power for a waiver pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(k) for the emergency installation of a temporary substation in Hartland, Vermont to serve as the GMP Taftsville Substation in Woodstock, Vermont*, Case No. 25-1821-PET, Order Granting Waiver Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(k), at 5 (Vt. Pub. Util. Comm'n, Aug. 20, 2025).

site. The hydroelectric 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. Hassan pf. at 5.

13. The removal and modifications of the existing GMP Taftsville Substation yards #1 and #2, and the associated 46kV overhead strain bus are within the FERC project boundary, thus subject to FERC jurisdiction. The existing yard #3 and a portion of the 46kV overhead strain bus between yards #2 and #3 are outside of the FERC boundary and are part of this Project for the Public Utility Commission's review under Section 248. Fiske pf. at 4.

Proposed New Taftsville Substation

14. The proposed rebuilt GMP Taftsville Substation in Hartland, Vermont will include the following:

- (1) Installation of a new fence with foundations to create a polygon shaped fenced in yard (approximately 150' x 185' in area, 9' high). The new fence will meet National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) requirements and facilitate access to construction and maintenance vehicles. Substation yard lighting and security cameras will be installed on steel poles inside the substation fence to accommodate maintenance, emergency, and surveillance activities. The steel poles will be approximately 18 feet in height. Additional yard lighting will be installed on the fence.
- (2) Installation of new equipment foundations, ground grid, and below grade trench and conduit systems.
- (3) Installation of four (4) new 46 kV line vacuum circuit breakers (VCB) (B-1, B-2, B-3 & B-4), two (2) 46kV steel dead-end structures (each 26 feet wide, 31 feet 6 inches tall, and 1 foot deep) with associated 16 foot lightning rods, 46 kV bus work and insulators, eight (8) sets of three 46 kV gang operated disconnect switches (019, 018, 029, 028, 039, 038, 049, 048), four (4) Motor

- Operated Load Break (MOLB) switches (108, 107, 105, 340), four (4) sets of three 46 kV phase to ground line potential transformers (VT1, VT2, VT3 & VT4) with associated fusing (PF-VT1, PF-VT2, PF-VT3 & PF-VT4), and three (3) sets of three 46 kV intermediate class lightning arresters.
- (4) Installation of one (1) 10/14 MVA 46/12.5 kV power transformer (T1), three (3) 46 kV station class lightning arresters, three (3) 12.5 kV station class lightning arresters, and one (1) pedestal mounted Gang Operated Load Break (GOLB) switch (928).
 - (5) Installation of two (2) new 12.47 kV VCBs (12 & 13), two (2) bays of steel structures (each 18 feet wide, 26 feet 2 inches tall, and 5 feet deep) with associated 16 foot lightning rods, 12.47 kV bus work and insulators, four (4) sets of three 12.47 kV single blade line disconnect switches (129, 128, 139, 138), three (3) 12.47 kV phase to ground bus potential transformers (VT5) with associated fusing (PF-VT5), two (2) 12.47 kV phase to ground line potential transformers (VT12 & VT13) with associated fusing (PF-VT12 & PF-VT13), six (6) 12.47 kV intermediate class lightning arresters, and a station service transformer (SS1) with associated fusing (PF-SS1).
 - (6) Installation of six (6) new 438 Amp voltage regulators with associated regulator controls.
 - (7) Installation of a new control building (approximately 18 feet wide, 30 feet long, 15 feet tall with a peaked roof). The control building will house the protection and control switchgear, the communications equipment, the DC battery system, the AC and DC distribution panels, the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment, and other various control equipment. A GPS receiver antenna and a “Gatekeeper” antenna (each approximately 12” in height) will be mounted on the side of the control building.
 - (8) Installation of a new security system. The security system will be housed in the new control building.
 - (9) Installation of an oil containment system with a volume of no less than 110% of the proposed power transformer’s oil capacity plus 5 inches of freeboard

rain.

Fiske pf. at 6-9; Exhibits GMP JRF-2 through GMP JRF-9.

Transmission and Distribution Line Modifications

15. The existing Taftsville Substation is connected to a 46kV networked system via three transmission lines, Transmission Line 105 (TL105), Transmission Line 107 (TL107), and Transmission Line 108 (TL108). Fiske pf. at 9.

16. The relocated and rebuilt Taftsville Substation is proposed to be located along the existing TL105 corridor approximately 0.5 line-miles towards the Windsor Substation. The proposed Taftsville Substation maintains its 46kV networked system with modifications of the three transmission lines (TL105, TL107 and TL108) that currently supply the existing Taftsville Substation, along with related fiber optic cable modifications. Fiske pf. at 11, 14.

17. TL105 modifications are required at the existing Taftsville Substation yard #1, along the existing TL105 P182 to P193, and at the relocated and rebuilt Taftsville Substation. The TL105 modifications at the existing Taftsville Substation yard #1 are required to accommodate the removal of infrastructure in Taftsville Substation yard #1 and to facilitate connecting the Bethel source into the proposed Taftsville Substation. These modifications involve the installation of approximately 135' of three phase overhead transmission line from TL105 P193 to TL107 P1 in order to connect TL105 to TL107. This connection allows the Bethel 46 kV source connection to the proposed Taftsville Substation tap along existing TL105 P193 to P182. Fiske pf. at 11; Exhibit GMP JRF-12A.

18. Completion of the Bethel 46kV source into the proposed Taftsville Substation requires the installation of three (3) sections of 46kV line from the new TL105 PX182 to the proposed Taftsville Substation steel structure. The construction of the three (3) sections of

46kV line consists of: 1) installation of a 55' midspan pole PX182 approximately 168' from the existing TL105 P183X; 2) installation of one (1) 55' pole at new P182, one (1) 50' pole at new P182X and approximately 382' of three phase overhead transmission line from TL105 PX182 to the proposed Taftsville Substation steel structure; and 3) retirement of approximately 50' of three phase overhead transmission line from new TL105 PX182 to new TL105 P181X. Fiske pf. at 11-12; Exhibit GMP JRF-12A.

19. Modifications of TL105 to connect the Windsor 46kV source into the proposed Taftsville Substation require the installation of three (3) sections of 46kV line from the TL105 P181X to the proposed Taftsville Substation steel structure. The construction of the three (3) sections of 46kV line consist of: installation of one (1) 55' pole at new P181X, one (1) 55' pole at new P181, one (1) 50' pole at new PX181 and approximately 412' of three phase overhead transmission line from TL105 P181X to the proposed Taftsville Substation steel structure. Fiske pf. at 12; Exhibit GMP JRF-12A.

20. TL107 is being modified with replacement of P1, P2, and the installation of one (1) SCADA controlled motor operator on the existing 251 GOLB at the Woodstock tap. The existing H-Frame 45' 1983 vintage pole at P1 and 50' 1983 vintage P1A are being replaced with one (1) new 55' and one (1) new (60') to improve clearance between the phase conductors and the fiber optic cable. The existing 55' 1966 vintage P2 is being replaced with a new 55' for improved clearance and safety while working on P1. The 251 GOLB switch is being retrofitted with a SCADA controlled motor operator to improve sectionalizing capabilities for the radial tap to the Woodstock Substation. New overhead fiber cable and new secondary cable are being installed from TL107 P5 to TL107 P3 to provide SCADA communications and motor operator power to the 251 switch. Fiske pf. at 12-13; Exhibit GMP JRF-12A.

21. TL108 modifications are required at the existing Taftsville Substation yard #3, along the existing TL108 P2 to P13, and at the relocated and rebuilt Taftsville Substation. Fiske pf. at 13.

22. The TL108 modifications at the existing Taftsville Substation yard #3 are required to accommodate the removal of infrastructure in Taftsville Substation yard #3. These modifications involve the retirement of two sections of overhead 46kV from the existing Taftsville Substation yard #3 to TL108 P2. TL108 P2 to P9 is a joint transmission line with TL105 P191 to P184. The TL108 conductor and associated hardware is being retired in these sections and TL105 structures are being modified to become a single circuit pole line. Five sections of TL108 46kV overhead transmission line from P10 to P13 will be retired. Fiske pf. at 13.

23. Connection of the Hartford 46kV source into the proposed Taftsville Substation requires the installation of two (2) sections of 46kV line from the TL108 P12 to the proposed Taftsville Substation steel structure. The construction of these two (2) sections of 46kV line consists of: 1) installation of approximately 223' of three phase overhead transmission line from existing TL108 P12 to the proposed Taftsville Substation steel structure; and 2) reconfiguration of existing 60' 2026 vintage P13 structure type, installation of a new 50' pole P12, and reconfiguration of existing 65' 2026 vintage pole P14. Fiske pf. 13; Exhibit GMP JRF-12B.

24. GMP is planning distribution line modifications associated with the planned retirement of the existing Taftsville Substation and connection of the generation facility to a new three phase 750 kVA pad-mounted GSU. All retired and new equipment for the connection of the Taftsville generator is within the FERC project boundary. Fiske pf. at 14-15; Exhibit GMP JRF-10.

25. The Project includes distribution line modifications associated with the proposed new Taftsville Substation. Fiske pf. at 15.

26. There is one (1) existing 12.47 kV three phase overhead distribution circuit (12) emanating from the existing Taftsville Substation. The distribution substation equipment in the existing Taftsville Substation yard #2 will be retired and the distribution load will be served out of the relocated Taftsville Substation. Fiske pf. at 15.

27. The proposed relocated Taftsville Substation will be constructed with two 12.47 kV circuits (12 & 13). On the 12 circuit, three new sections of 12.47kV conductors, one (1) 45' pole (L1P1), two (2) 50' poles (L1P2 & L1P3) and associated anchoring will be installed to connect to the existing distribution circuit. On the 13 circuit, three new sections of 12.47kV conductors, one (1) 45' pole (L2P1), two (2) 50' poles (L2P2 & L2P3) and associated anchoring will be installed to connect to the existing distribution circuit. An alternate station service transformer will be installed on L2P1 and the installation of secondary cable from L2P1 to the Taftsville Substation. One (1) set of three in-line single blade disconnects (124) will be installed on the 12 circuit between the substation and L1P1 and one (1) set of three in-line single blade disconnects (134) will be installed on the 13 circuit between the substation and L2P1. A new (GOLB) switch (1213) will be installed between L1P2 and L2P2 to provide a circuit tie for future maintenance needs. Fiske pf. at 15-16; Exhibits GMP JRF-2 and GMP JRF-3.

Other Construction Details

28. The proposed Taftsville Substation can be constructed while the distribution load is being served from the temporary substation installed pursuant to GMP's petition for waiver pursuant to 30 V.S.A § 248(k) for the emergency installation of the temporary substation. Fiske pf. at 16.

29. The fence, oil containment berm and filters, T1 transformer, and regulators associated with the temporary substation will be removed after the construction of the new Taftsville Substation is complete. The two sections of 46kV overhead conductor and associated poles and anchors from TL108 P12 to TL108 P12-2, the one section of 12.47 kV overhead conductor and associated poles and anchors from TP1 to TP2, gravel and ground grid will be retained for future portable installations. Fiske pf. at 16; Exhibit GMP JRF-3; Exhibit GMP JRF-11.

30. The construction of the rebuilt substation will be performed without an outage of the Taftsville Substation. Fiske pf. at 17.

III. PROJECT COST AND SCHEDULE

31. GMP estimates that the capital costs of the Project will be approximately \$9,455,675, which includes a 20% contingency. Hassan pf. at 15; Exhibit GMP KAH-2.

32. Subject to Commission approval, this Project is proposed to commence in March 2027 and conclude by September of 2027. Fiske pf. at 18.

33. Construction is planned to take place between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, and between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. on Saturdays. No construction will take place on Sundays, federal holidays, and state holidays except where construction activities must be performed during required outages needed to maintain system reliability. Fiske pf. at 18.

IV. NOTICE OF THE PROJECT

34. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(f) and Commission Rule 5.402, GMP provided and served the required advance submission for this Project. Witness Hassan describes the comments received in response to the 45-day notice.

35. Once the Petition is deemed complete by the Commission, service of copies of the Petition filing will be made on the state agency parties specified in 30 V.S.A. § 248(a)(4)(C) by the Commission through ePUC and by GMP to the town and regional planning officials via U.S. mail, and email where authorized. Pursuant to Commission Rule 5.407(B), GMP will also serve the required notices of the Petition filing.

V. COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 248 CRITERIA

As summarized below (and in the filed Rule 5.403(A)(16) Filing Index) and demonstrated in the prefiled testimony and exhibits submitted by GMP, the Project meets all Section 248 criteria:

<u>Witness</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Kamran A. Hassan	Kamran Hassan provides the estimated Project cost, and explains how the Project complies with 30 V.S.A. §§ 248(b)(2), (b)(3), (b)(4), (b)(6), (b)(7), and (b)(10).
John R. Fiske	Describes the Project, and explains how the Project complies with 30 V.S.A. § 248 (b)(5) (public health and safety).
Timothy O. Upton	Provides testimony demonstrating that the Project will not interfere with the orderly development of the region consistent with 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(1). He also describes how the Project will not have undue adverse effects on aesthetics, historic sites, air and water purity, or the natural environment under 30 V.S.A. §§ 248(b)(5) and (b)(8).

VI. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, GMP respectfully requests that the Commission:

- (1) Hold a scheduling conference, establish a schedule for this case, and issue an Order approving the Project under 30 V.S.A. § 248.
- (2) Find that the proposed Project will promote the general good of the State of Vermont, and authorize GMP to undertake the actions as described here and in its testimony and exhibits, and issue a Certificate of Public Good to that effect.
- (3) Issue any further relief as the Commission deems just and proper.

DATED at Burlington, Vermont this 18th day of August, 2026.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER

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