

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Petition of the Vermont Department of Public Service to)
Amend Board Rule 5.500 Regarding Interconnection)
Procedures for Proposed Electric Generation Resources)

Order entered: 4/25/2016

ORDER OPENING RULEMAKING

In today's Order, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 2(c), 210, and 214, the Vermont Public Service Board ("Board") initiates a rulemaking proceeding to consider amending Board Rule 5.500 regarding interconnection procedures for proposed electric generation resources.

I. BACKGROUND

On March 18, 2016, pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 806, the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department") filed with the Board a petition for a rulemaking proceeding to amend Board Rule 5.500 regarding interconnection procedures for proposed electric generation resources. The Department included with its petition a summary of proposed revisions to Rule 5.500, a proposed order of notice, a clean version of a proposed revised version of Rule 5.500 ("Proposed Rule"), and a redline copy of the Proposed Rule.

The Department states that it has been working with an interconnection working group of stakeholders that has met at least nine times since March 2015, and that this stakeholder process has informed the development of the Proposed Rule. However, while the Proposed Rule reflects input from the interconnection working group, the Department cautions that the Proposed Rule is not a consensus proposal.

II. DISCUSSION

The Board hereby initiates this rulemaking proceeding to amend Board Rule 5.500 based on the Department's Proposed Rule. Because the Department has advised that the Proposed Rule

is not a consensus proposal, we will begin this rulemaking process by soliciting initial comments on the Proposed Rule.

A copy of the Department's Proposed Rule will be posted on the Board's website at <http://psb.vermont.gov/statutesrulesandguidelines/proposedrules/rule5500>. Any comments on the Department's Proposed Rule should be filed with the Board by May 13, 2016. The Board is particularly interested in receiving comments on what the process for this rulemaking should entail. (For example, how many rounds of comments would be appropriate, and whether the Board should conduct one or more workshops to discuss the Proposed Rule with participants in this proceeding.)

III. ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED by the Public Service Board ("Board") of the State of Vermont that:

1. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 2(c), 210, and 214, a rulemaking proceeding is initiated to consider a proposal from the Vermont Department of Public Service to revise Board Rule 5.500 (interconnection procedures for proposed electric generation resources) (the "Proposed Rule").
2. Comments on the Proposed Rule should be filed with the Board no later than May 13, 2016.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 25th day of April, 2016.

<u>s/James Volz</u>)	
)	PUBLIC SERVICE
)	
<u>s/Margaret Cheney</u>)	BOARD
)	
)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/Sarah Hofmann</u>)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: April 25, 2016

ATTEST: s/Judith C. Whitney
Clerk of the Board

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