

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6792

Joint Petition of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.)
("VELCO"), and Citizens Communications Company,)
d/b/a Citizens Energy Services ("Citizens"), for a)
Certificate of Public Good authorizing VELCO to install)
a 115 kV circuit on Citizen's existing 48 kV, 6.47 mile)
Irasburg - Mosher's Tap line located in the City of)
Newport and the Towns of Irasburg and Coventry,)
Vermont, and to make certain substation and line)
improvements in the Towns of St. Johnsbury, Irasburg,)
Highgate and St. Albans, Vermont, to be known as the)
Northern Loop Project)

Entered: 7/17/2003

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD ISSUED
PURSUANT TO 30 V.S.A. SECTION 248

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont this day found and adjudged that the construction of the Northern Loop Project by VELCO will promote the general good of the state, subject to the following conditions:

1. Construction, operation, and maintenance of the project shall be in accordance with the plans and evidence submitted in this proceeding.
2. VELCO shall obtain and comply with all conditions and requirements of all necessary permits and approvals.
3. No later than December 31, 2003, VELCO shall make an informational filing with the Board stating its final decision on whether and how to install synchronous condensers at the proposed combined Highgate Substation and detailing the reasons for its decision. Should VELCO decide to install the synchronous condensers:

- i. VELCO shall stage, in a manner consistent with the main function of the synchronous condensers, the operation of the condensers in order to minimize resulting losses; and
- ii. VELCO shall develop a protocol for such staging concerning which it will make an informational filing with the Board no later than June 1, 2004. Prior to making this filing, VELCO will share its proposed protocol with the Vermont Department of Public Service ("DPS"), and give due consideration to any DPS comments.

4. Prior to seeking bids for the proposed project, VELCO shall furnish the DPS with the specifications that VELCO intends to put out to bid. The DPS shall have a reasonable opportunity, taking into account the bid, procurement and construction schedule, to review and comment upon the specifications. VELCO shall give due consideration to any DPS comments.

5. The specifications used by VELCO referred to in condition 4, above, and the compliance filing by VELCO referred to in condition 7, below, shall be in conformance with the substantive criteria set forth in 30 V.S.A. § 248.

6. Prior to the commencement of construction, VELCO shall file with the Board a written document from the appropriate Canadian entity ensuring that it will deliver the maximum capability on the 120 kV Bedford to Highgate line that is provided by the improvements associated with the proposed project.

7. Prior to the commencement of construction, VELCO shall submit to the Board, for its review and approval, detailed construction plans showing all facilities to be constructed, pole locations, and clearing.

8. Prior to the commencement of construction, VELCO shall prepare an Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Plan ("EPSCP") for the Highgate Substation and Irasburg-Mosher's Tap portions of the proposed project in conformance with the Agency of Natural Resources' ("ANR's") "Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Checklist" and submit such EPSCP to the ANR for approval. VELCO shall not commence construction of the proposed project prior to obtaining such approval from the Water Quality Division of the ANR's Department of Environmental Conservation.

9. Prior to the commencement of construction, VELCO shall apply for and obtain coverage from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for wetland impacts in the Irasburg-Mosher's Tap portion of the proposed project.

10. VELCO shall comply with the stipulations of the Division of Historic Preservation ("Division") contained in a letter dated March 31, 2003, from Emily Wadhams of the Division.

11. Within 60 days of the completion of construction, VELCO shall submit to the Board, for its approval, proposed plans showing proposed vegetative screening. Within 30 days of such submission, VELCO shall review the proposed project with the Board's staff, ANR, and the DPS to determine the plantings and landscaping necessary to minimize the visual impacts of the proposed project. All plantings and landscaping shall be completed within one (1) year of Board approval.

12. The Board has continuing jurisdiction to resolve any disputes arising under the above-mentioned Stipulation, as amended by Joint Exhibit 2.

13. This Certificate shall not be transferred without prior approval of the Board.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 17th day of July, 2003.

<u>s/Michael H. Dworkin</u>)	
)	PUBLIC SERVICE
<u>s/David C. Coen</u>)	BOARD
)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/John D. Burke</u>)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: July 17, 2003

Attest: s/Susan M. Hudson

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: Clerk@psb.state.vt.us)

Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further Order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and order.