

To: Planning Advisory Committee
From: Jinlin Zhang
Date: June 29, 2017
Subject: Notice of Initiation of New Hampshire (NH) Needs Assessment

This memo serves as the notice of initiation for the 2027 New Hampshire (NH) Needs Assessment. This Needs Assessment will be performed in accordance with the reliability planning process as established in Attachment K of the Open Access Transmission Tariff¹. The study area will include the entire state of New Hampshire.

The triggers for this Needs Assessment are:

From Section 4.1(a) of Attachment K of the Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT), the ISO shall perform a Needs Assessment if:

- (i): *“a need for additional transfer capability is identified by the ISO in its ongoing evaluation of the PTF’s adequacy and performance.”*
- (v): *“as otherwise deemed appropriate by the ISO as warranting such an assessment.”*

A NH/VT 2023 Needs Assessment report was finalized in August 2014, and an addendum report to the NH/VT 2023 Needs Assessment report was finalized in October 2015. Efforts to develop solutions to address the NH time sensitive needs identified in the NH/VT 2023 Needs Assessment addendum report were suspended in February of 2017 in order to accommodate a review of ISO-NE criteria, assumptions and methodologies that would likely impact the studies conducted for Needs Assessments and Solutions Studies. This review of ISO-NE criteria, assumptions and methodologies has sufficiently progressed to allow the initiation of a new Needs Assessment for the NH study area. The Needs Assessment will examine if needs still exist for the study area, and will identify the time-sensitivity of any identified needs. Note that solutions to address all VT needs identified in the NH/VT 2023 Needs Assessment were finalized and recorded in the VT System 2023 Solutions Study report (report finalized in November 2014).

The 2027 NH Needs Assessment will include steady-state and short circuit analysis. The objective of this study is to assess the adequacy of Pool Transmission Facilities (PTF) within the study area. This is accomplished by ensuring that the portions of the PTF within the study area meet the applicable NERC, NPCC and ISO-NE planning criteria.

¹ https://www.iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/regulatory/tariff/sect_2/oatt/sect_ii.pdf

All study files, notices and other material related to the 2027 NH Needs Assessment will be posted under the Planning Advisory Committee materials on the ISO-NE external website and be posted under the New Hampshire and Vermont Key Study Area on the ISO-NE external website. See link to the key study area on the ISO external website below:

<https://www.iso-ne.com/system-planning/key-study-areas/vt-nh>

A separate announcement will be made when these additional items are posted.