

# Western and Central Massachusetts (WCMA) – 2029 Study Update

---



*Planning Advisory Committee*

Sarah Lamotte

ASSISTANT ENGINEER | TRANSMISSION PLANNING



# Purpose

- Provide an update on the WCMA 2029 study effort



# Overview

- Background
- Study update
- Conclusion
- Next steps



# Background

- The [WCMA 2029 Needs Assessment Results](#) presentation was discussed with the PAC on February 20, 2020
- The [Final Western and Central Massachusetts \(WCMA\) Area 2029 Needs Assessment](#) report was posted on May 5, 2020
- The WCMA 2029 Needs Assessment identified:
  - Time-sensitive, N-1 and N-1-1 PTF voltage violations under peak load conditions along the A-1 & B-2 69 KV line corridor between Vernon station in Vermont and Pratts Junction station in Massachusetts (A-1 & B-2 corridor)
  - No other thermal or voltage violations in the WCMA study area



# Background, Cont.

- The [Notice of Initiation of the WCMA 2029 Solutions Study](#) was posted to the ISO website on February 24, 2021
- The [WCMA 2029 Solutions Study Scope of Work Update](#) presentation was presented to PAC on March 17, 2021
  - [National Grid's asset condition projects](#) would be included in the cases before solution alternatives would be developed
    - A-1 & B-2 69 kV Line Asset Condition Project
    - Deerfield #4 Substation Asset Replacements
    - Chestnut Hill #702 Substation Asset Replacements
    - Vernon Hill #13 Substation Asset Replacements



# Study Update

- Since the March 2021 PAC meeting, the ISO re-ran an analysis with the inclusion of the A-1 & B-2 Line Asset Condition Project to determine the status of the criteria violations observed in the WCMA 2029 Needs Assessment
  - The new analysis is referred to as the WCMA 2029 Needs Assessment Addendum (Addendum)
  - Out of the four asset condition projects, the A-1 & B-2 Line Asset Condition Project was selected to be added to the Addendum cases because
    - The project has the greatest potential impact on the criteria violations observed in the WCMA 2029 Needs Assessment
    - The Deerfield #4, Vernon and Chestnut Hill station rebuild layouts were unknown at the time the analysis was performed
    - National Grid communicated their plans to the ISO to update the PAC regarding the A-1 & B-2 Line Asset Condition Project so that it would be moved from Concept to Proposed. The PAC presentation was presented at today's meeting
- The updated testing showed that all of the criteria violations identified along the A-1 and B-2 Line corridor in the WCMA 2029 Needs Assessment were no longer observed
- A short circuit analysis was also performed with the A-1 & B-2 Line Asset Condition Project included in the short circuit case and no over-dutied breakers were identified



# Conclusion

- Since there are no criteria violations observed in the Addendum analysis, there is no need to conduct a WCMA 2029 Solutions Study
- The WCMA 2029 study effort is concluded as there are no remaining criteria violations in the study area

# Next Steps

- Post the draft Addendum and study files – October 2021
  - A 15 day period will be provided for stakeholders to review and provide written comments to [pacmatters@iso-ne.com](mailto:pacmatters@iso-ne.com) on the posted materials
- Post the final Addendum – October 2021





# Questions

