

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Versant Power

)

Docket No. ER20-1977-000

**INITIAL RESPONSES OF VERSANT POWER TO THE
FIRST SET OF INFORMATIONAL DATA REQUESTS
OF AROOSTOOK ENERGY ASSOCIATION**

In accordance with the Protocols for Implementing and Reviewing Charges Established by the Attachment J Rate Formulas (the “Protocols”) of the Versant Power Open Access Transmission Tariff for Maine Public District (“MPD OATT”), Versant Power hereby submits these Initial Responses to the First Informational Data Requests tendered by Aroostook Energy Association (“AEA”) on July 6, 2023 (hereinafter, the “Data Requests”).

Versant Power’s responses are based upon the best available information known to it as of the date of this response. While a good faith attempt has been made to identify all applicable objections, it may later be determined that further objections are relevant and appropriate. Accordingly, Versant Power expressly reserves the right to raise any such additional objections, concerning both general and specific matters, at any time that they may later be identified.

Versant Power objects to the Data Requests to the extent that they seek information not in the possession or control of Versant Power, seek information in a form other than that in which Versant Power’s files and records are maintained, seek information or documents protected by an applicable privilege, doctrine, law, or rule, and/or require Versant Power to undertake new studies or analyses. Versant Power further objects to the Data Requests as unduly burdensome to the extent that they request “any” or “all” materials.

Versant Power provides its attached responses to the Data Requests subject to and without waiver of the foregoing objections.

VERSANT POWER'S RESPONSES TO
DATA/INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 1
OF THE AROOSTOOK ENERGY ASSOCIATION
REGARDING 2023 MAINE PUBLIC DISTRICT OATT
FERC DOCKET NO. ER20-1977-000

RESPONSES PROVIDED JULY 27, 2023

QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-1

Please identify, describe, and quantify any errors or corrections that VP has discovered since the May 1, 2023, filing of the formula rate update. Please provide this information on a continuing basis.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-1

See Versant Power's filings in FERC Docket No. ER20-1977-000 on May 4, 2023 and May 9, 2023.

Response Prepared By: Tim Olesniewicz, Senior Rates and Regulatory Analyst

List of Attachments: None

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-2

Please provide a schedule of MPD transmission revenues received in 2022 by class (i.e., transmission revenues for each retail and wholesale class).

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-2

See AEA-MPD-1-2 Attachment A.

Response Prepared By: Tim Olesniewicz, Senior Rates and Regulatory Analyst

List of Attachments: AEA-MPD-1-2 Attachment A

VERSANT POWER'S RESPONSES TO
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RESPONSES PROVIDED JULY 27, 2023

QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-3

Please provide a schedule of 2022 monthly transmission loads by transmission line.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-3

Versant Power does not tabulate transmission data by line by month. However, the system load data is available at the following URL: <https://www.versantpower.com/suppliers-and-partners/load-profiling-settlement/>

Response Prepared By: Dave Norman, PE, Mgr., Reg. Support

List of Attachments: None

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RESPONSES PROVIDED JULY 27, 2023

QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-4

Please provide:

- a) A list of MPD transmission lines and substations as of December 31, 2022, and
- b) A tabulation of transmission plant investment by line/substation as of December 31, 2022.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-4

Please see pages 422-423 and pages 426-427 of Versant Power's 2022 FERC Form 1, as filed on July 18, 2023.

Response Prepared By: Dave Norman, PE, Mgr., Reg. Support

List of Attachments: None

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-5

In reference to Exhibit 1b, lines 19.01 through 19.13, column c, please provide the detailed Company records, as referenced, supporting the 12-CP quantifications for each class including monthly 12CP for each class.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-5

See AEA-MPD-1-5 Attachment A.

Response Prepared By: Tim Olesniewicz, Senior Rates and Regulatory Analyst

List of Attachments: AEA-MPD-1-5 Attachment A

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-6

In reference to Exhibit 5, line 19, please provide:

- a) The total PBOP expense included in column a,
- b) The total PBOP expense allocated to MPD in column c, and
- c) The total allocated MPD PBOP expense allocated to transmission in column e.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-6

In reference to Exhibit 5, line 19,

- a) Total Versant Power PBOP expense in column a is \$2,896,390.
- b) Using the Customer/Sales allocator of 24.24%, \$702,142 of the PBOP expense from column a is allocated to MPD in column c.
- c) Using the Salaries and Wages allocator of 12.05%, \$84,578 of the total PBOP expense is allocated to MPD transmission in column e.

Response Prepared By: Jennifer Ireland, Controller

List of Attachments: None

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RESPONSES PROVIDED JULY 27, 2023

QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-7

During the review of VP's 2022 Annual Update, VP acknowledged in response to AEA-MPD-2-3 that project 334E was associated with the construction of assets in BHD that were inadvertently included in the 2022 Annual Update. Please confirm that investments associated with project 334E have been removed from the 2023 Annual Update.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-7

Versant Power confirms that the investments associated with project 334E have been reclassified as BHD assets and have been removed from the 2023-2024 annual update.

Response Prepared By: Sarah Hesseltine, Manager, Financial Reporting

List of Attachments: None

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-8

In reference to Exhibit 5, line 29, please provide the total PBOP expense included in MPD transmission rates in column e.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-8

Total PBOP expense included in MPD transmission rates on Exhibit 5, line 29, column e is \$39,479. *See* AEA-MPD-1-8 Attachment A.

Response Prepared By: Jennifer Ireland, Controller

List of Attachments: AEA-MPD-1-8 Attachment A

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-9

During the Planning Advisory Group meeting on June 21, 2023, VP representatives discussed a transmission line located in or near the vicinity of Bridgewater south to Houlton. That discussion included reference to a an MPUC opinion that the line may not be necessary in the future. That discussion also included the fact that the line might be characterized as running parallel with another existing transmission line in the area. In reference to that discussion, please provide the following information:

- a) A description of the line and how it is used as a component of VP's network transmission system,
- b) Reference to the MPUC order or opinion discussing whether service on the line should be continued in the future,
- c) An explanation of whether the line was previously used to serve the Houlton Water Company, and
- d) Provide the net book value of the line on December 31, 2022.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-9

- a) Line 6920 is a 69kV transmission line beginning at the Mars Hill Switching station and extends to Mullen Substation feeding multiple Substations along the way. A total of 8 separate substations may be fed with Line 6920. The line runs parallel to Line 6910.
- b) See MPUC Docket No. 2016-00086.
- c) Line 6910 and Line 6920 work in concert to supply substations south of Mars Hill and are used to supply energy to the Houlton Water Company.
- d) Versant Power does not track transmission line investment or depreciation by line number.

Response Prepared By: Dave Norman, PE, Mgr., Reg. Support

List of Attachments: None

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-10

Please provide a tabulation of all generator step-up equipment cost recorded to VP's MPD transmission plant accounts as of December 31, 2022, by FERC account.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-10

No generator step-up equipment is owned by Versant Power in the Maine Public District.

Response Prepared By: Dave Norman, PE, Mgr., Reg. Support

List of Attachments: None

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-11

Please provide a copy of accounting entries used to record refunds to MPD transmission customers pursuant to the FERC audit conducted under Docket No. FA20-9-000.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-11

Account	Dr	Cr	Description
449	28,452		Refund of BHD AFUDC
254		28,452	Refund of BHD AFUDC
449	1,718		Refund of MPD AFUDC
254		1,718	Refund of MPD AFUDC
449	49,356		Refund of BHD OH
254		49,356	Refund of BHD OH
449	1,497,578		Refund of MPD OH
254		1,497,578	Refund of MPD OH
254	1,544,703		Payment of refunds
131		1,544,703	Payment of refunds
254	32,401		Final adjustment
449		32,401	Final adjustment

Response Prepared By: Sarah Hesselstine, Manager, Financial Reporting

List of Attachments: None

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-12

In reference to VP's response to MPUC-MPD-1-3, please provide the following:

- a) Workpapers and calculations supporting VP's overhead capitalization in 2023, and
- b) An explanation of whether the change in overhead capitalization accounting was applied to distribution as well as transmission.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-12

- a) *See* AEA-MPD-1-12 Attachment A.
- b) The change in overhead capitalization accounting was applied to distribution balances as reported in Versant Power's 2022 FERC Form 1.

Response Prepared By: Sarah Hesseltine, Manager, Financial Reporting

List of Attachments: AEA-MPD-1-12 Attachment A

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RESPONSES PROVIDED JULY 27, 2023

QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-13

In reference to VP's response to MPUC-MPD-1-7, please provide the following:

- a) A detailed description of the new assets associated with project 693E (Mobile site upgrade for Van Buren),
- b) An explanation of how the new assets will be used, and
- c) An explanation of whether Van Buren Light and Power made a contribution in aid of construction to cover the cost of the new equipment.

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-13

- a) The assets associated with project 693E include a mobile pad, poles and high & low side switches for mobile substation, as well as land acquisition and environmental surveys.
- b) The new assets will be used to provide backup capability to the source customer.
- c) Versant Power has an obligation to serve. Thus, no contribution was made or required.

Response Prepared By: Dave Norman, PE, Mgr., Reg. Support

List of Attachments: None

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QUESTION NO. AEA-MPD-1-14

In reference to MPUC-MPD-1-51, please provide:

- a) A schedule of interconnection cost recorded in 2022 by project, by account, including a description of each interconnection project and identification of whether the interconnection was made to the transmission system or the distribution system, and
- b) A schedule of all contributions in aid of construction provided by customers associated with 2022 interconnections to the MPD transmission and distribution system (including those contributions made prior to 2022).

RESPONSE NO. AEA-MPD-1-14

- a) Please see page 231 of Versant Power's 2022 FERC Form 1, as filed on July 18, 2023.
- b) All of the interconnection costs described were paid for by the individual projects as per Chapter 324, Small Generator Interconnection Procedures, of the Maine Public Utilities Commission's Rules.

Response Prepared By: Dave Norman, PE, Mgr., Reg. Support

List of Attachments: None