Green Mountain Power

Resiliency Work to Keep Vermont Connected

GREEN MOUNTAIN



GMP: Who We Are



GMP serves over 272,000 customers in 202 towns, covering 77% of Vermont

- ▶ 85% residential customers, 15% businesses
- Mostly rural and suburban territory with approximately 12,500 miles of distribution lines and 1,011 miles of subtransmission
- 15 district offices with teams across Vermont
- About 510 employees, 285 are members of the IBEW Local 300
- Our annual energy mix is 100% carbon free and 80% renewable
- GMP will be 100% renewable by 2030

Storms are Getting Worse & We are Ready

Overall Trend:

- With the warming climate, Vermont is getting more severe, damaging, moisture laden storms.
- Unprecedented series of storms this past winter
- Since Dec. 16th, 2022, 6 major storms after 4 years without a major storm, 3 of which were in the top 10 in GMP history.
- All top ten storms in the last decade





Storm Prep & Planning

- Green Mountain Power monitors 4 forecasters and multiple weather models days in advance of any storm.
 - ► Forecasters-
 - VT Utility Forecaster Roger Hill
 - Disaster Tech-Northern VT University born weather prediction
 - National Weather Service-Burlington(12 VT Counties)
 - National Weather Service-Albany(2 VT Counties)
 - Weather Models-
 - GFS-Global Forecast System
 - Euro-European Forecast Model
 - NAM-North American Model
 - High Resolution Rapid Refresh
 - Outage Prediction-
 - Internal GMP present weather vs prior weather prediction
 - Disaster Tech-Prediction based on total precipitation and how much is frozen.
 - Customer Outreach: Proactively alert customers/communities
 - Text alerts, emails, social media, web site, press releases, robo-calls, critical care customer outreach
- Secure and pre-position GMP team, and extra crews brought it to help, as needed

Storm Restoration

- Distribute Resources to the hardest hit areas.
- Communicate often with customers as information becomes available. High level restoration times once damaging weather stops, when the last customers in a geographic area will be back on.
- Have districts run storm response in their area for efficiency.





► GMP's 15 operating districts



GMP Power Restoration Process

1. Clear Hazards

2. Repair Transmission & Substation Facilities

3. Repair Main Distribution Lines

4. Restore Hospitals & Emergency Response Facilities

5. Restore Areas with Largest Number of Customers

6.Restore Isolated Events



Partnering with Communities on Storm Support



- Extensive Outreach before, during, and after storms
 - Including regional and local updates to local officials
 - Portable Jackery Batteries for Critical Care Customers
- Communities with their own plans/staffing for severe weather are more resilient
 - Identifying points of contact is key

Helping Vermonters Stay Informed and Safe



- Town/RPC Meetings
 Coordinating communication
- VEM Meetings/Coordination
 Cares list
- Lifted the Cap on Energy Storage, support CC customers
- Custom/Frequent messaging

Storm Resilience

- 2020, state approved GMP's Climate Plan to launch targeted grid strengthening projects
- 2023, GMP committed to Zero Outages by 2030
- Expanding energy storage/batteries to keep customers powered up
- Microgrids & Resiliency Zones to keep communities powered up
- Extensive planning and resources in place prior to storms
- Partnering with Communities



The New Hork Times

Vermont Utility Plans to End Outages by Giving Customers Batteries

Green Mountain Power is asking state regulators to let it buy batteries it will install at customers' homes, saying doing so will be cheaper than putting up more power lines.





A Tesla battery in a basement in Williston, Vt. Green Mountain Power proposed buying and installing batteries like it for customers. Caleb Kenna for The New York Time

2030 Zero Outages Initiative



By KEVIN MCCALLUM

Deep Dive Opinion Library Events Press Releases

DIVE BRIEF

Green Mountain Power proposes energy storage for all Vermonters

The utility has proposed spending \$280M to harden the grid and provide customers with storage, after spending \$45 million restoring its system following major storms last winter.



Green Mountain Power vows new plan will end outages

Updated: Oct. 10, 2023 at 1:41 PM EDT

Green Mountain Power launches 'zero outages initiative' with home batteries

The Atlanta Tournal-Constitution

Georgia Power should follow lead set by Vermont utility

While Georgia Power seems to be lost, "Georgia Power ... seeks ideas for new electricity sources" (News, Oct. 10), a Vermont utility knows how to get it done, "Vermont utility plans battery backups" (News, Oct. 10).

GMP Zero Outages: Distribution Circuit Zones

Circuit Zone Key

Zone 1 – 3 phase/Main line

• This line connects the most customers and connects between Substations

Zone 2 – 3 phase/Non-feeder Tie Line

• This line has the second highest customer count on it

Zone 3 – Single phase Line

• This line connects mainly residential areas

FUSE

Zone 4 – Single phase Line

FUSE

FUSE

• This line is typically the most rural and has the least customers on it, often single homes

Definitions:

Substation Breaker – Automatic protection device that contains the outage Feeder Tie Switch – Keeps customers connected through tying into another substation Line Recloser – Automatic protection device that turns back on quickly if there is a fault, like a branch on the line Fuse – Protection device that contains the outage and is manually turned back on by lineworkers

Substatio

4eeder

Zone 1: Out of the Substation

- Mainline Feeder
- Three Phase
- Sub to Feeder Ties
- Resiliency Technologies
 - Reconductoring with spacer cable
 - Some "conditional undergrounding" where it make sense.



Zone 2: Three Phase

- All three phase beyond Zone
- Resiliency Technologies
 - Reconductoring with spacer cable
 - More undergrounding as compared to Zone 1



Zone 3: Single Phase

- Single phase
- "Higher" customer density
- Resiliency Technology
 - Focusing as much as possible on undergrounding
 - Where not possible (significant ledge) 165 mil tree wire.



Zone 4: Last Mile of Single Phase

- Single Phase
- "Lower" customer density
- Resiliency Technology
 - Installing batteries
- Philosophy
 - Less expensive to install batteries and let the customer ride out an outage.
 - In the future, considering hardening the lines (underground or covered wire).
 - In the meantime, focus will be placed hardening that mainline / three phase





GMP's Zero Outages in Practice: Energy Storage

- GMP has deployed more than 50 MW of residential and utility scale batteries throughout Vermont
- Enough to power 25,000 homes for days
- Batteries strengthen the greater grid, add resiliency, and helps lower costs for all GMP customers
- Circuit, Town-level Storage, can isolate to microgrid if larger grid is damaged
- GMP deploying customized Resiliency Zones in partnership with communities to keep them powered up
- Home Storage can last for days if managed, and longer if paired with solar
- Batteries also reduce energy use at peak times on the grid, reducing costs for all customers





Stop the spread . Avoid close contact with others . Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others .

GMP pioneers with Panton microgrid



panels cover more than 30 acres in Panton, as seen on March 16

Solar project will be first of its kind in US

Dan D'Ambrosid Burlington Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

PANTON - Most of the pieces for a pioneering "microgrid" that will act as a giant solar-powered backup battery during electrical outages are in place on the wideopen fields of Panton outside of Ver-

The solar-rowered microgrid will be the first of its kind in the country, according to Josh Castonguay, chief innovation and enincering executive for Green Mountain Power. So are the 677 souls (plus 3,538 ows and 74,239 chipmunks, according to the town website) in this small Vermont village beside themselves with excite-

ily, no, they're not," said Howard microgrid will work, as seen on March 16 man of the Panton Selectboard. ing really exciting for most of the "It's noth

tain Power first approx he town in 2005 about building the solar id in a farmer's leased field on Pantoe ad. Hall said that in a town where the "With microgrids powered by ase of a wheelbarrow is the subject ebate, the \$40,000 yearly in tax revenoe the solar installation produces was a batteries to store and deploy

"We have one store in our town," he said. that power when it's needed



Power's chief innovation and engine executive, explains how the Panto

clean energy and paired with



@aprildbarton.

tions

brought out hundreds of cars in South Burlingto on Saturday to support the Vermont Foodban

SoBu hot air balloon event

causes traffic jam Saturday

A hot air balloon event Saturday night was so popular It caused a traffic jam in South Burlington. Hundreds of cars lined up for the Light the Night

event. Maybe it was the warm temperatures or the drivable event which allowed visitors to stay CO-VID-safe remaining in their cars that caused people

South Burlington police put out an advisory that night saying "traffic is significantly backed up on Kimball Ave, Community Dr, Gregory Dr and Kennedy Rd due to a hot air balloon parade of some While the police may have not known all the details of the event, South Burlington Recreation & Parks were there to assist as motorists drove through Technology Park. Event organizers and

partners of the nonprofit Light the Night handed out QR codes for people to electronically donate to the Vermont Foodbank and collected food dona-

The event was free, but donations were encouraged. It began at 7:30 p.m. and lasted a couple of hours. Traffic was able to get back to normal at that Traffic jams caused by an event, not something experienced for about a year while many stayed in

tsolation during the COVID-39 pandemic, could be the first signs of a return to normal. Contact April Barton at abarton@freepress

dia.com or 802-660-1854. Foliose her on Tuettier

April Barton Burington Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

to come out in droves.

USA TODAY

Promising candidate

AstraZeneca and its research partner Oxford University released the first picture Monday of the large clinical trial they have run in the U.S. for their COVID-19 vaccine, finding that It is safe and pre-

What's a Resiliency Zone?

- Community hub that stays connected, even when severe weather hits
- We partner with communities on targeted resiliency projects
- Selected using outage and CDC community vulnerability data
- Some are battery-only
- **Currently underway: Brattleboro, Grafton,** Rochester
- **3 new communities selected each year**







Panton Vermont Microgrid

Distribution circuit can disconnect from greater grid

- About 50 customers in center of town, includes Town Hall
- Stays powered up if larger grid is damaged
- 4.9 MW solar array
- Tesla Powerpack batteries
- 2 years of engineering work, first in the country
- PBS Nova feature

Resilient Neighborhood Pilot -O'Brien Farms



- Partnership with O'Brien Brothers for 155 fully electric homes.
- Electric heating/cooling, battery backup, Span panels, solar, EV charging.
 - Community includes large community battery storage and public DC fast charging.
 - Neighborhood will be a flexible load and generation resource for the grid, reducing costs for all customers.



QUESTIONS?

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