Utilization of the PI System Data in Transmission System Planning

vermont electric power company



Hantz A. Présumé Principal Engineer System Planning



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VELCO Background



- Nation's first statewide, "transmission-only" company formed in 1956 by local utilities
- Owned by Vermont's 17 local utilities and VLITE (public benefits corporation)
- 738 miles of transmission,115 kV, 230 kV, 345 kV, and 450 kV
- 55 substations, switching stations and terminal facilities
- 225 MW HVDC Converter connecting VELCO to Hydro-Québec
- 1 STATCOM, 4 Phase Shift Transformers & 4 Synchronous Condensers
- 1400 miles of looped fiber optic networks



Vermont distribution utility owners of VELCO



VELCO substations connect to the sub-transmission systems of...

- BED (20,000 customers)
- GMP (254,000 customers)
- Lyndonville (5,200 customers)
- Swanton (3,500 customers)
- Stowe (3,942 customers)
- VT Electric Co-op (34,000)



Transmission planning



- Why prepare a transmission plan
 - Federal requirement to assess the system annually
 - State requirement to file a 20-yr plan every 3 years
 - Society expects a high level of reliability
 - It takes several years to implement a solution
- Assess system performance under a wideranging set of operating scenarios varying:
 - Load level
 - Generation output and status
 - Transmission system topology and status
- General steps
 - Agree on system assumptions
 - Model and test scenarios
 - Interpret results and identify system deficiencies
 - Resolve system deficiencies



Simplified examples of transmission planning



- Load serving (Import) problem
 - Transmission solutions
 - Add a third line
 - Upgrade both lines
 - Non-transmission solutions
 - Energy efficiency, voluntary pre-arranged load disconnection (demand response)
 - Add generation
 - Generation congestion (Export) problem
 - Transmission solutions
 - Add a third line
 - Upgrade both lines
 - Non-transmission solutions
 - Do nothing increased competition
 - Storage
 - Control scheme to reduce generation



Serving load reliably



The transmission grid is designed to serve maximum demand/load

PI System data analysis helps us understand the characteristics of electric demand



Load characteristic is as essential as the amount of load

- The PI System allows us to monitor and understand evolving load behavior
 - -Relatively constant versus spiky load curve on the peak day
 - Gives a sense of duration of a potential emergency exposure
 - Affects the type of solution: demand response, peaking generation, energy efficiency, or transmission upgrade
 - -Timing of the peak load is in the winter or summer, in the morning, afternoon, or in the evening
 - Affects the type of solution: solar power, efficient lighting
 - Evolution: timing of daily peak demand is occurring later due to solar PV
 - -Geographic distribution of the load allocate total load into zones
 - Understanding which part of the system is growing faster, or behaves differently, e.g. one region peaks in the summer vs. the winter



Utilizing the PI System to calculate zonal loads

- VELCO has limited access to distribution loads
- Zonal loads are calculated by adding generation located in the zone to the tie line flows into the zone
- Load = Gen1 + Gen2 + Tie1 + Tie2 + Tie3 - Tie4



Example of load zone calculation

K80819 \checkmark (-B80819-C80819-D80819+E80819+F80819+G80819+H80819+H80819+J80819)											
	А	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I	J	К
1		-A	-A	-A	+A	+A	+A	+A	+A	+A	
2	Time Stamp	Line 1	Line 2	Line 3	Generator 1	Generator 2	Generator 3	Generator 4	Generator 5	Generator 6	Total
80819	22-Mar-14 09:00:00	-17.051	-11.499	-15.063	2.083	3.720	0	0.429	9.17	0	59.02
80820	22-Mar-14 10:00:00	-18.897	-12.721	-16.321	2.086	3.654	0	0.183	6.92	0	60.78
80821	22-Mar-14 11:00:00	-17.315	-11.719	-14.797	2.089	3.648	0	0.27	6.654	0	56.49
80822	22-Mar-14 12:00:00	-17.139	-11.546	-15.813	2.084	3.646	0	0.311	9.347	0	59.89
80823	22-Mar-14 13:00:00	-16.997	-11.485	-15.979	2.078	3.665	0	0.19	9.3	0	59.69
80824	22-Mar-14 14:00:00	-16.550	-11.196	-15.723	2.079	3.727	0	0.126	9.581	0	58.98
80825	22-Mar-14 15:00:00	-16.664	-11.224	-14.663	2.083	3.771	0	0.172	9.526	0	58.10
80826	22-Mar-14 16:00:00	-16.260	-10.957	-13.330	2.085	4.086	0	0.174	9.529	0	56.42
80827	22-Mar-14 17:00:00	-16.172	-10.996	-12.766	2.086	4.076	0	0.138	9.259	0	55.49
80828	22-Mar-14 18:00:00	-19.336	-13.096	-17.666	2.084	3.914	0	0.024	4.17	0	60.29
80829	22-Mar-14 19:00:00	-18.633	-12.583	-15.877	2.081	3.873	0	0	2.251	0	55.30
80830	22-Mar-14 20:00:00	-19.336	-13.067	-17.893	2.079	3.878	0	0	2.687	0	58.94
80831	22-Mar-14 21:00:00	-19.776	-13.184	-16.714	2.077	3.886	0	0	1.09	0	56.73
80832	22-Mar-14 22:00:00	-18.106	-12.232	-15.996	2.078	3.868	0	0	0.844	0	53.12
80833	22-Mar-14 23:00:00	-16.477	-11.192	-15.545	2.080	3.658	0	0	1.999	0	50.95
80834	23-Mar-14 00:00:00	-13.219	-8.936	-10.490	2.019	3.642	0	0	4.63	0	42.94
80835	23-Mar-14 01:00:00	-12.246	-8.307	-9.741	1.944	3.651	0	0	9.552	0	45.44
80836	23-Mar-14 02:00:00	-12.627	-8.526	-9.588	1.903	3.652	0	0	8.134	0	44.43
80837	23-Mar-14 03:00:00	-13.757	-9.317	-9.600	1.867	3.649	0	0	6.662	0	44.85
80838	23-Mar-14 04:00:00	-14.090	-9.484	-10.056	1.854	3.714	0	0	3.991	0	43.19
80839	23-Mar-14 05:00:00	-14.151	-9.545	-9.895	1.844	3.798	0	0	5.99	0	45.22



Geographic distribution varies over time, by season and load level

Date and time	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7	Z8	Z9	Z10	Z11	Z12	Z13	Z14	Z15	Z16	Total
8/2/2006	133.47	81.99	77.60	104.75	21.64	41.31	181.33	69.81	67.70	104.65	26.41	16.50	64.20	45.72	36.58	32.24	1105.91
7/18/2013	122.48	78.44	71.45	98.71	23.72	37.67	168.75	64.32	60.52	90.07	32.14	12.51	63.70	38.08	35.28	27.60	1025.43
9/11/2013	105.81	67.61	60.79	86.72	19.52	33.39	149.31	59.57	56.70	78.00	30.00	11.95	58.30	37.62	32.18	25.51	912.99
10/29/2013	97.78	63.18	60.67	87.03	24.62	28.13	116.40	44.65	44.09	73.67	26.34	12.31	50.09	30.89	30.95	26.18	816.97
1/2/2014	139.60	100.99	81.37	94.64	24.68	34.87	146.21	52.25	44.69	99.51	39.68	18.67	56.19	40.08	41.70	30.73	1045.86
3/3/2014	115.57	92.96	66.09	84.22	24.96	30.28	129.06	45.44	43.95	84.06	31.05	14.65	51.87	36.19	36.07	27.58	914.00
5/15/2014	83.56	69.54	48.89	62.21	26.93	25.87	106.42	42.98	51.98	71.64	23.60	10.20	47.96	30.75	26.44	20.42	749.38
8/2/2006	12.07%	7.41%	7.02%	9.47%	1.96%	3.74%	16.40%	6.31%	6.12%	9.46%	2.39%	1.49%	5.80%	4.13%	3.31%	2.92%	1.00
7/18/2013	11.94%	7.65%	6.97%	9.63%	2.31%	3.67%	16.46%	6.27%	5.90%	8.78%	3.13%	1.22%	6.21%	3.71%	3.44%	2.69%	1.00
9/11/2013	11.59%	7.41%	6.66%	9.50%	2.14%	3.66%	16.35%	6.53%	6.21%	8.54%	3.29%	1.31%	6.39%	4.12%	3.53%	2.79%	1.00
10/29/2013	11.97%	7.73%	7.43%	10.65%	3.01%	3.44%	14.25%	5.47%	5.40%	9.02%	3.22%	1.51%	6.13%	3.78%	3.79%	3.20%	1.00
1/2/2014	13.35%	9.66%	7.78%	9.05%	2.36%	3.33%	13.98%	5.00%	4.27%	9.51%	3.79%	1.78%	5.37%	3.83%	3.99%	2.94%	1.00
3/3/2014	12.64%	10.17%	7.23%	9.21%	2.73%	3.31%	14.12%	4.97%	4.81%	9.20%	3.40%	1.60%	5.67%	3.96%	3.95%	3.02%	1.00
5/15/2014	11.15%	9.28%	6.52%	8.30%	3.59%	3.45%	14.20%	5.74%	6.94%	9.56%	3.15%	1.36%	6.40%	4.10%	3.53%	2.72%	1.00



Reviewing PI System data to monitor the rapidly evolving system



The transmission grid is undergoing a profound transformation Renewable energy Smart grid

PI System data analysis helps us adjust our study assumptions as the system evolves



VELCO Load Curve Study Case #1

Increase of solar generation "behind the meter" is offsetting VELCO demand curve

	3/30/2015	3/31/2015
Cloud Cover	Overcast	Sunny
High/Low (°F)	41/26	42/24
Max Radiation (w/m^2)	241	965

VELCO Load Curves (Overcast vs. Sunny Days







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Solar generation is reducing the summer peak



Model accuracy is critical



The model includes tens of thousands of generators, loads, lines and other equipment

Many opportunities for errors

PI System data analysis to compare the computer results to system measurements



PI System snapshot can be displayed in an Excel diagram







The right solution is not always obvious

Selecting the preferred option involves weighing tradeoffs

PI System data analysis can help us select the most appropriate solution



Simplified example of an export constraint



- Assumptions
 - Load is constant
 - Generation is constant
 - The constraint is due to line capacity only

• Export problem

- Generation is always restricted
- Transmission solutions
 - Add a third line
 - Upgrade both lines

PI System data show that the export margin is not



- Reality
 - Load is not constant
 - Generation is not constant
 - The constraint itself can vary based on several factors



Spreadsheet what-if analysis: Added 60MW Solar



- Scaled existing solar generation by 60 MW
- Negative margin is the estimated amount of additional curtailment of generation
 - Nearly daily occurrence
 - Exposure estimated to be about 10% of the time
- The solution may be other than transmission,
 ~ \$80M for a 20-mi line
- A less costly option may exist
 - Restriction, ~ \$XM / year
 - Storage
 - Hybrid solution



Next Steps

- Upgrade to PI Server 2015
 - -Look into Future Data storage for peak load forecast data
 - Look into Asset Analytics to automate the load calculations and move away from using a spreadsheet
 - Look into PI Notifications to receive real-time alerts in case of failure events (or near-failure events)



PI System improves transmission planning

COMPANY and GOAL

VELCO is Vermont's transmission-only utility. Its functions include:

Plan, design, operate, maintain, and construct the transmission system in a cost-effective manner

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CHALLENGE

Design a reliable system in the midst of an evolving regulatory, public policy and market environment.

- Forecast load while accounting for future effects of efficiency spending, renewable energy goals
- Check model for unknown changes
- Account for intermittent generation

SOLUTION

Review PI System data more frequently to detect trends in system behavior, and adjust study approaches.

- Compare real time system events against computer simulations
- Review the same type of data regularly over time
- Look for new ways of analyzing data

RESULTS

Realistic system model.

- Methods evolving with system. Cost-effective solutions.
 - The PI System is a window into the real system
- Transmission upgrades can be very costly
- Better models and methods result in more cost-effective solutions

Contact Information

Hantz A. Présumé

hpresume@velco.com

Principal Planning Engineer VELCO



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