Date Filed: March 31, 2026

Witness: Soderman, Angela M
Request from: Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Question:

Att. 17. Provide the following for Project CS00503:

a. Explain why the Company is replacing the existing transformers at the substation;
b. Describe whether the transformers the Company is replacing have fully depreciated;
c. Provide the age of the transformers and the results of any internal assessment the Company has undertaken to evaluate the health and remainder-of-life of the transformers;
d. Identify the date on which the Company first identified the grid need;
e. Provide a copy of the initial funding request form;
f. Provide a copy of the solution selection form; and
g. Provide a copy of the project authorization form.

Response:

a. This project is not replacing a transformer, but it is replacing the 13.8kV switchgear with associated circuit breakers (CBs), protection relays, conduits, cabling, and foundations.

The 13.8kV switchgear was installed in the mid-1970s. In the past years, the foundation has begun to sink unevenly, causing the switchgear to come out of alignment cand causes difficulty when racking circuit breakers in and of the cubicles. Correcting the alignment issues requires outages and partial disassembly of the switchgear to realign it. The foundation continues to settle, and realignment is becoming regularly required. Substation Engineering, System Planning, and Asset Management have determined the need to replace the 13.8kV switchgear and associated equipment at East Meriden 21P SS to improve customer and system reliability due to asset conditions and obsolescence of the existing switchgear.

The Transformers 21P-1X and 21P-2X are not being replaced but have been identified for LTC receiver upgrades. The existing radio-controlled Transformer LTC Voltage Reduction System with new DSCADA controlled LTC Voltage Reduction Systems that have the capability to remotely reduce the system voltage by 5% during contingencies to help stabilize the system and provide LTC control to System Operations Control (SOC). Existing tap changer controllers/radio receivers will be replaced with new Beckwith 2001D tap changer controllers. This project will incorporate those upgrades and connect the LTC controls to the DSCADA system in the new switchgear.
Performing this work when the switchgear is replaced will allow for cost savings by performing engineering and outages for both scopes of work concurrently.

b. Yes, the switchgear is over 40 yrs old and is fully depreciated.

c. The switchgear is from the mid – 1970s and is at least 46 years.

d. This East Meriden 21P Switchgear Replacement was approved with an intital funding request on 07/22/2021.

e. Reference RSR-013, Attachment 1 Confidential CEII
f. Reference RSR-013 Attachment 2a Confidential CEII and RSR-013, Attachment 2b Confidential CEII
g. Reference RSR-013, Attachment 3 Confidential CEII