

GMP files resource plan with focus on innovation, clean energy, and driving down costs

Vermont Business Magazine Green Mountain Power filed its 2018 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Monday with the Public Utilities Commission, outlining its efforts to continue to deliver clean, cost-effective and reliable power to customers, while cutting carbon through innovation. The IRP is a road map for GMP's approach to serve Vermonters over the next ten years. Utilities are required to file a new IRP every three years.

"Our focus on customers facilitates and guides our decisions—some that are unique in our industry nationally—so that every action we take distinctly benefits our customers," said GMP President and CEO Mary Powell in a press release. "We are adopting new, clean, distributed-energy technologies on both sides of the meter and, together with our customers and Vermont energy companies, changing the way energy is delivered. Vermont is at the forefront of this work nationally and every day more are following our lead."

The IRP covers a wide range of forecasting and programs – from carbon-reducing initiatives, to meeting state Renewable Energy Standards, to leveraging data to make the company's transmission and distribution system more dynamic for customers.

That includes helping customers transition away from higher cost, carbon-laden resources for heating and transportation, the largest contributors to climate carbon pollution and climate change in Vermont, by offering innovative programs for

electric vehicle charging, battery storage, and other devices that can be used to shave peak energy usage, driving down the cost of the regional grid while driving out carbon from the system.

“We saw with the most recent snowstorm another severe impact of climate change, and we are seeing more events like this from climate change. Climate change is accelerating the need for us to act quickly with conviction and purpose. This IRP shows our commitment to doing that,” said Powell.

2018 Integrated Resource Plan includes:

- Change from the old energy system of centralized, fossil fuel-based generation transmitted through traditional poles and wires to customers far away, toward lower carbon, renewable, distributed generation with new, complex local and regional grid management opportunities.
- Change from one-way electricity flowing from a central plant to a customer toward two-way energy information, storage, and delivery between customers and us to benefit all.
- Change from steady and increasing loads toward flat and declining loads, as customers choose self-generation and utilize beneficial energy efficiency programs.
- Change from separate fuels for and treatment of thermal, lighting, and transportation energy toward convergence through the strategic electrification of resources.

Customers and Costs

The IRP will be reviewed by the Public Utility Commission in a proceeding that will include public hearings and opportunity for input. You can read GMP’s 2018 IRP here: greenmountainpower.com/regulatory/2018-integrated-resource-plan/

About Green Mountain Power

Green Mountain Power (GMP) serves approximately 265,000 residential and business customers in Vermont and is partnering with them to improve lives and transform communities. GMP is focused on a new way of doing business to meet the needs of customers with integrated energy services that help people use less energy and save money, while continuing to generate clean, cost-effective and reliable power in Vermont. GMP was the only utility named to Fast Company's 2018 list of Most Innovative Companies for Energy and is the first utility in the world to get a B Corp certification, meeting rigorous social, environmental, accountability and transparency standards and committing to use business as a force for good. J.D. Power's 2018 rankings also put GMP among top utilities for customer satisfaction.

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