



366 Pinnacle Ridge Road
Rutland, Vermont 05701
802.773.9161 ■ velco.com

May 5, 2022

Re: Work begins in May on Highgate-to-Georgia electric transmission line

Dear Neighbor:

In April, I sent you a letter introducing VELCO's proposed Franklin County Line Upgrade, an electric transmission project being proposed in your community to improve grid reliability. I have an update. Beginning the week of May 9, VELCO representatives will be walking the transmission corridor, that in some instances crosses your property, to perform environmental and right-of-way assessments to help us better conserve natural resources and determine our project's design alternatives. To help complete this work, VELCO contracted with the following consultants:

- **VHB**, the natural resource consultant, will conduct an assessment of regulated resource areas such as wetlands, streams, and protected species within the right-of-way. Representatives will wear high-visibility vests, and will be marking sensitive areas with flags. The flags will be removed after the assessment is concluded, likely within two weeks. While VHB will complete most of their work in June, certain species can only be surveyed in the fall and so their work will carry through September 2022. (Website: www.vhb.com)
- **WSP**, the archaeological consultant, will be performing activities such as digging excavation pits (2'x2') to look for artifacts of historical significance and documenting potential historic architecture within the right-of-way. Any earth disturbance will be returned to its original state after WSP completes their assessment. The timeline for WSP's work is less defined as it will depend on test-pit results. (Website: www.wsp.com)

In addition to our consultants, VELCO personnel will be surveying our line to identify: suitable access points for temporary roads to enable us to get to the structures; laydown areas for storage of materials needed during construction; and danger trees for removal due to the risk they pose to the line. This work will begin in July and August. Any landowner whose property will be affected by work driven by the results of these surveys will be contacted directly in advance.

We recognize our reliability work may have an impact on you as a neighboring landowner. Our responsibility is to keep you informed throughout the entire project process, listen and respond to your questions and concerns in a timely manner, and engage directly with the communities hosting this important electric grid infrastructure. To that end, we will continue to provide project updates as new information becomes available. We will also hold community meetings starting this summer once preliminary assessment work is complete, and a defined project scope is available.

A project website is available at www.velco.com/fclu, and while there is limited information right now as we develop the project, we will continue to share the details on this website as we move forward. In the meantime, should you like to discuss any project details, please just call me at 802-770-6357 or email me at abrown@velco.com.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allyson Brown".

Allyson Brown