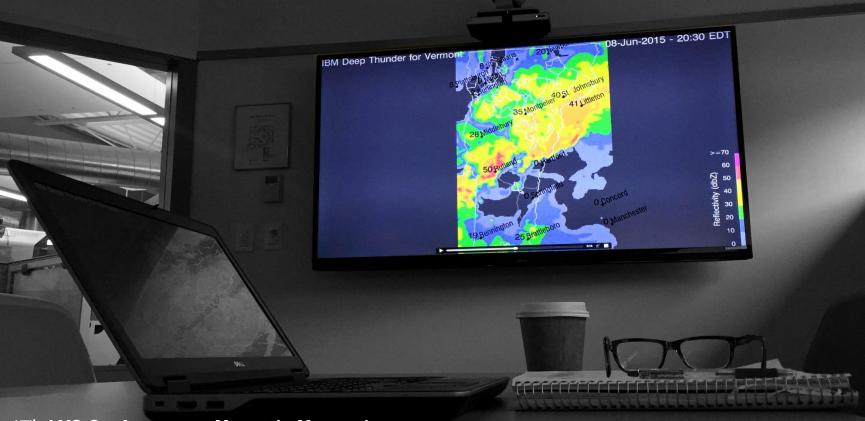
Utilization of High-Resolution Weather Modeling to Improve Downsloping Wind Event Prediction for Vermont Utility Applications



17th AMS Conference on Mountain Meteorology Numerical Weather Prediction, Data Assimilation, and Forecasting in Complex Terrain: Part I

Session 1.3 – 9:45 AM

27 June 2016 – Burlington, VT



Rob D'Arienzo Meteorologist

VELCO (Rutland, VT)



Outline

- Background
 - VELCO
 - Electrical Grid 101
- Vermont Weather Analytics Center (VWAC)
 - Motivation
 - Overview
 - Partners
 - Models
- IBM Deep Thunder
 - Overview
 - Physics & Data Assimilation
 - VWAC Mesonet
 - Web Portal Interface
- VTWAC Mesonet
- Verifications
 - 1/10/16 High Wind Event
 - 2/29/16 High Wind Event
- Forecast Analysis & Communication
- Future Work & Applications
- Q&A







Background VELCO

- Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO) was founded in 1956 when local utilities joined together to create the nation's first "transmission only" electric company
- VELCO operates an interconnected electric transmission grid consisting of:
 - 738 miles of transmission lines
 - 13,000 acres of rights-of-way
 - 55 substations, switching stations, and terminal facilities
 - 1,400 miles of fiber optic communication network
 - Equipment that enables interconnected operations with Hydro-Québec
- VELCO: Vermont's transmission reliability resource



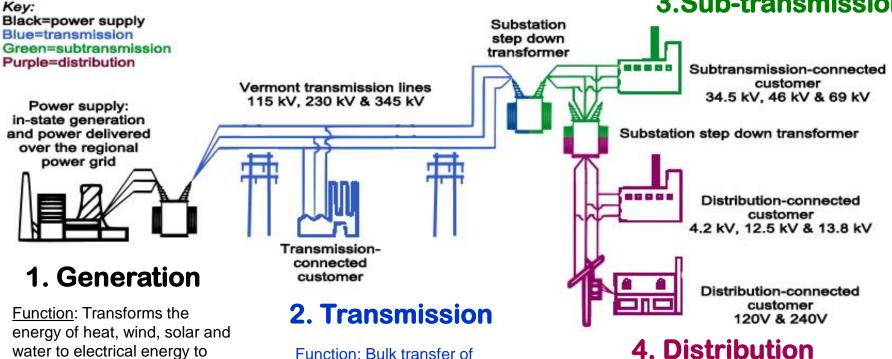




Background **Electrical Grid 101**

Function: Moves medium amounts of electrical energy at medium voltages from transmission to distribution systems

3. Sub-transmission



electrical energy. Moves

generators to local sub-

Example: VELCO

systems.

electricity at high voltage from

transmission and distribution

4. Distribution

Function: Moves electrical energy from transmission and sub-transmission to local customers

Examples: One of VT's 17 local distribution utilities (Green Mountain Power, Vermont Electric Cooperative, Burlington Electric Dept., etc.)



power homes and businesses

Examples: Hydro-Quebec, In-

state renewables (wind, solar,

and hydro)

Vermont Weather Analytics Center





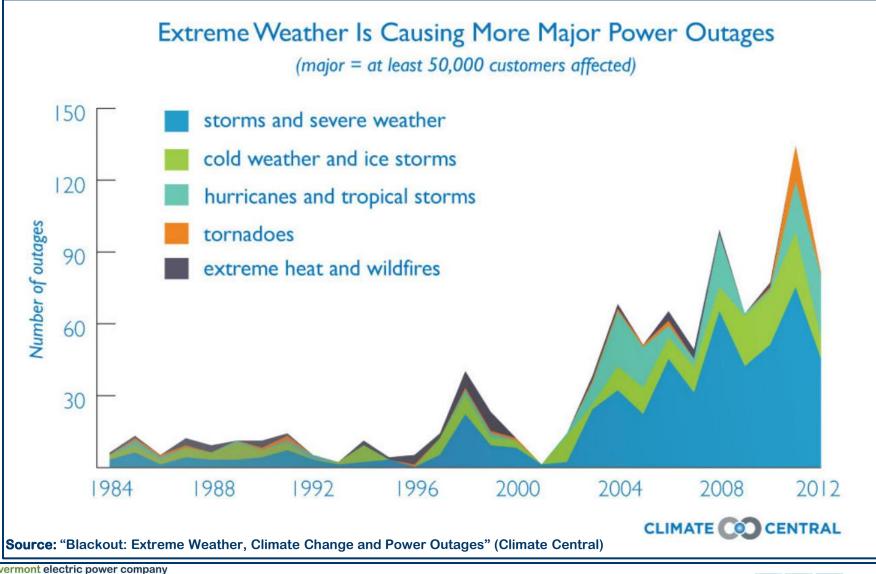
Sharp increase in environmental risks starting in 2011

Top 5	Global Risks in Terr	ms of Likelihood								
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
1st	Breakdown of critical information infrastructure	Asset price collapse	Asset price collapse	Asset price collapse	Storms and cyclones	Severe income disparity	Severe income disparity	Income disparity	Interstate conflict with regional consequences	Large-scale involuntary migration
2nd	Chronic disease in developed countries	Middle East instability	Slowing Chinese economy (<6%)	Slowing Chinese economy (<6%)	Flooding	Chronic fiscal imbalances	Chronic fiscal imbalances	Extreme weather events	Extreme weather events	Extreme weather events
3rd	Oil price shock	Failed and failing states	Chronic disease	Chronic disease	Corruption	Rising greenhouse gas emissions	Rising greenhouse gas emissions	Unemployment and underemployment	Failure of national governance	Failure of climate- change mitigation and adaptation
4th	China economic hard landing	Oil and gas price spike	Global governance gaps	Fiscal crises	Biodiversity loss	Cyber attacks	Water supply crises	Climate change	State collapse or crisis	Interstate conflict with regional consequences
5th	Asset price collapse	Chronic disease, developed world	Retrenchment from globalization (emerging)	Global governance gaps	Climate change	Water supply crises	Mismanagement of population ageing	Cyber attacks	High structural unemployment or underemployment	Major natural catastrophes
Sou	rce: World Eco	onomic Forum			Eco	onomic 📃 Env	ironmental	Geopolitical	Societal	Technological





Vermont Weather Analytics Center Motivation



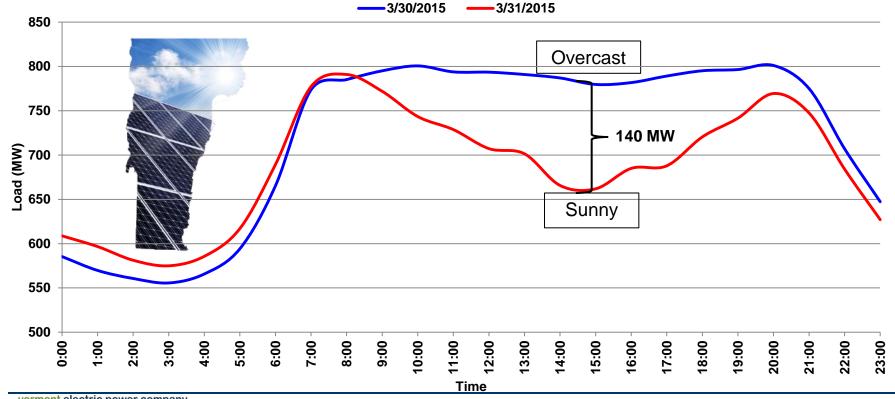




Vermont Weather Analytics Center Motivation



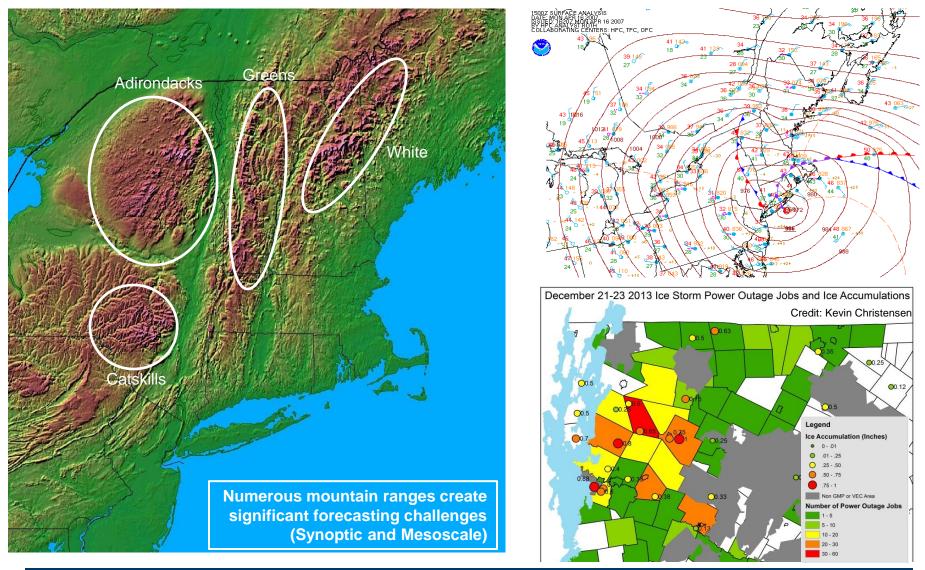
VELCO Load Curves (Overcast vs. Sunny Days)







Vermont Weather Analytics Center Motivation







8

Vermont Weather Analytics Center Overview

Initiative with IBM Research to build an energy data and analytics platform that utilizes linked data, coupled models and leading-edge analytics to:

Increase grid reliability, community resiliency



Lower weather event-related operational costs

Garner renewable generation's full value









Vermont Weather Analytics Center Partners





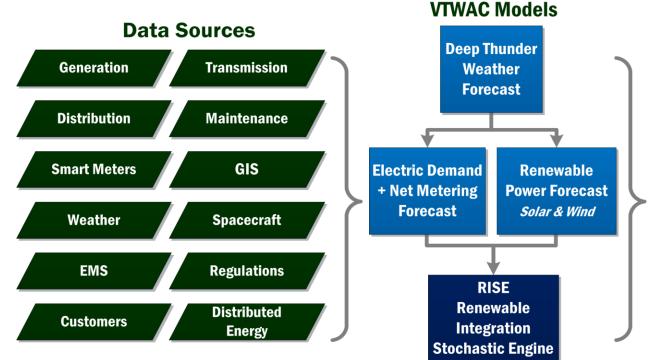
VT

Other

Vermont Weather Analytics Center



Vermont Weather Analytics Center Models



SMARTER DECISIONS Maximize Supply Manage Demand Better Balance Grid Maximize Asset Value Enhance Grid Reliability

Outcomes

Daily Data Volumes							
Model	Input	Output					
Weather	5 GB	670 GB*					
Solar	2 MB	15 MB					
Wind	5 MB	3 MB					
Demand	5 MB**	30 MB					
RISE	20 MB	1.1 GB					
*50 GB driv	e downstream	models					

**plus 5 GB smart meter data

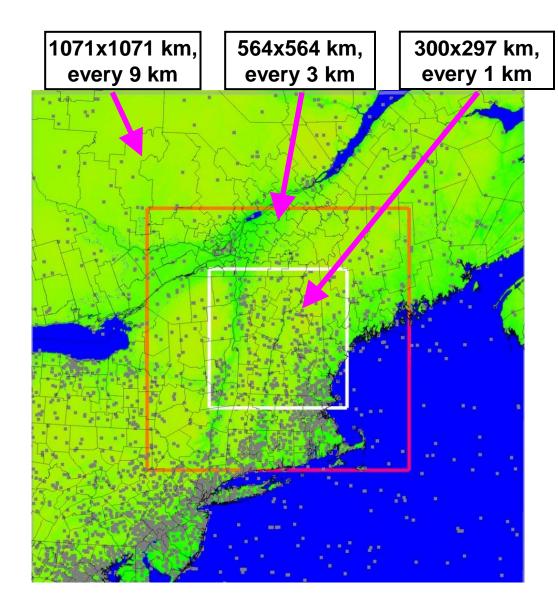






IBM Deep Thunder Overview

- Utilizes WRF-ARW (v. 3.5.1 since July 2014)
- 9/3/1 km horizontal nest (previously: 18/6/2 km)
- 51 vertical levels to target turbine hub heights
- Run 2x daily (00/12Z) out to 72 hours in 10 minute intervals (previously: 48 hours)
- RAP used for background fields
- NAM used for lateral boundary conditions
- Complex physics configurations for highly rural and urban environments



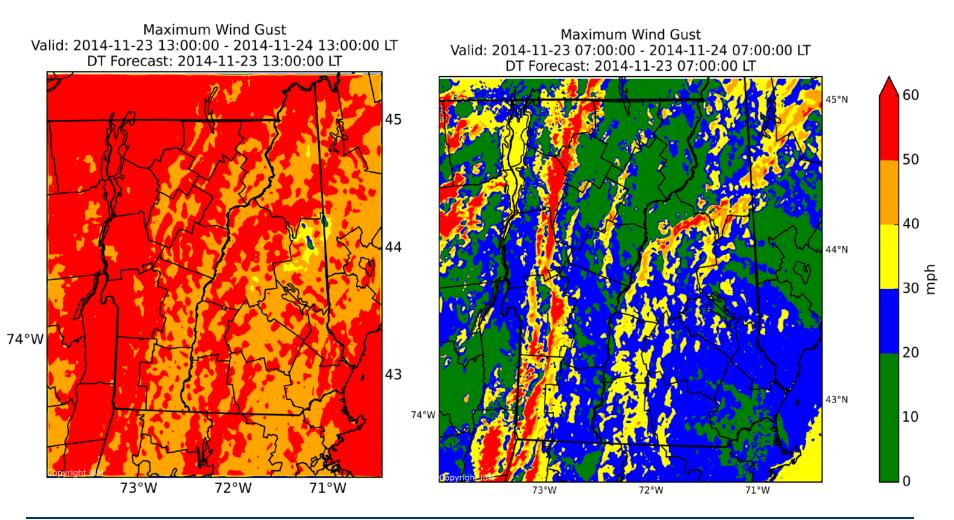




IBM Deep Thunder Overview

2 km (Previous)

1 km (Operational)







IBM Deep Thunder Physics & Data Assimilation

Physics:

- Thompson double-moment microphysics (includes explicit ice, snow and graupel)
- Mellor-Yamada-Nakanishi-Niino (MYNN) PBL scheme with turbulent kinetic energy (TKE)-based local mixing and 2.5-order closure
- NOAH land-surface modeling with soil temperature and moisture in four layers, fractional snow cover and frozen soil physics
- Explicit cumulus physics for innermost nests, Grell Freitas for outer nest
- 3-category urban canopy model with surface effects for roofs, walls, and streets
- RRTMG long- and short-wave radiation

Data Assimilation:

- Data assimilation (3dVAR) of near-realtime surface and upper-air observations from Earth Networks WeatherBug, MADIS and private mesonets
- NASA high-resolution (2km) sea surface temperatures (SST), which include Lake Surface Temperature (LST) analysis over the Great Lakes
- NASA high-resolution (90m) Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) terrain elevation
- MODIS 1km 20-category land use data
- NASA 4km dynamic (daily) VIIRS Green Vegetation Fraction (GVF) data
- NASA 3km land surface fields for initialization



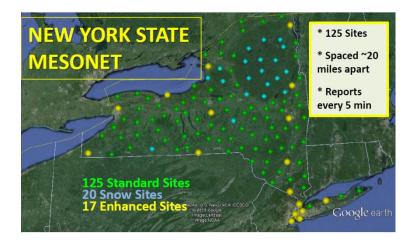


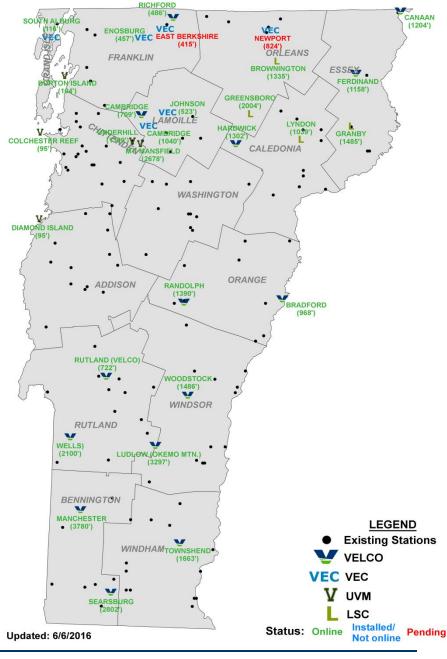
IBM Deep Thunder VWAC Mesonet

VWAC Mesonet:

VELCO = 14 (additional sites 2016-2017) VEC = 4 (additional sites 2016) UVM = 5 LSC = 4 **27 Active Stations**

→ All data is publically available through MesoWest & MADIS

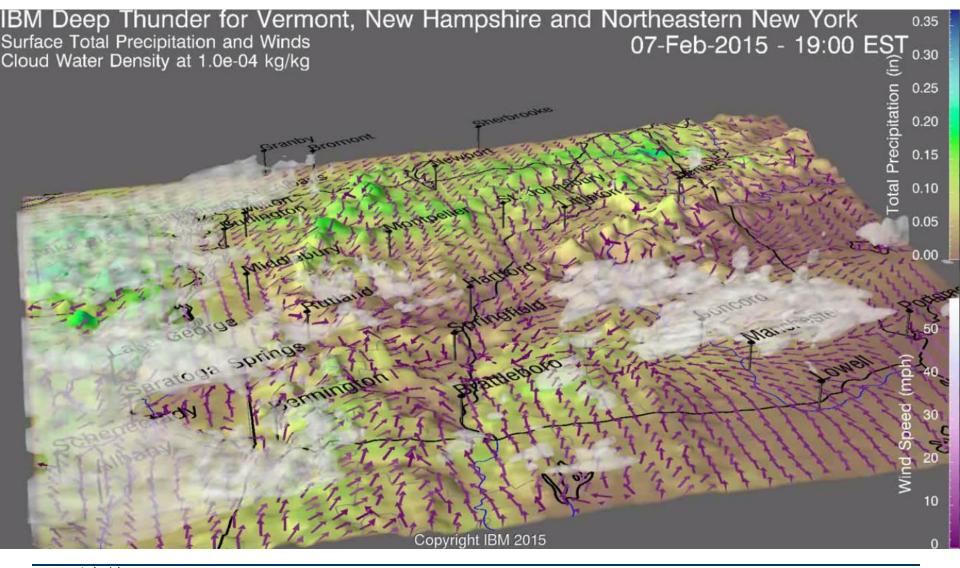








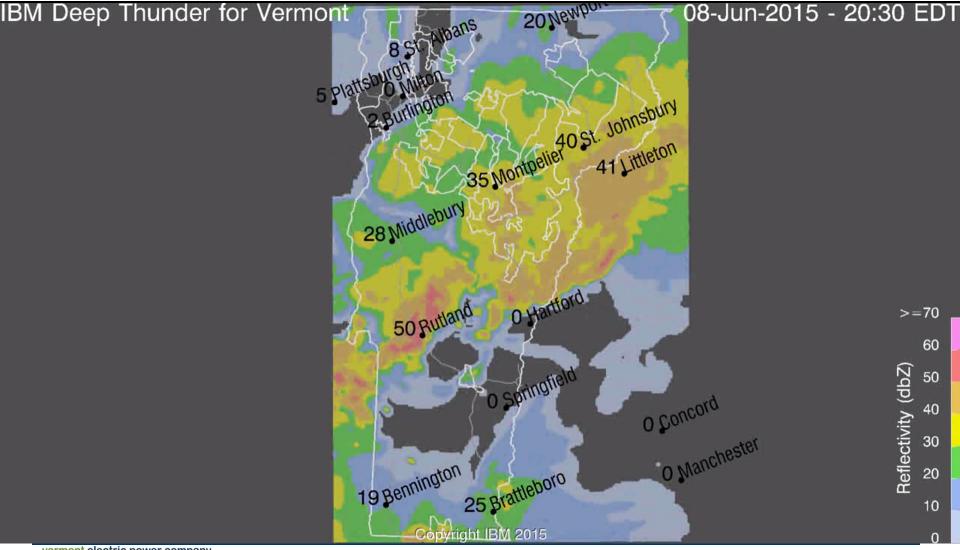
IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Interactive Maps







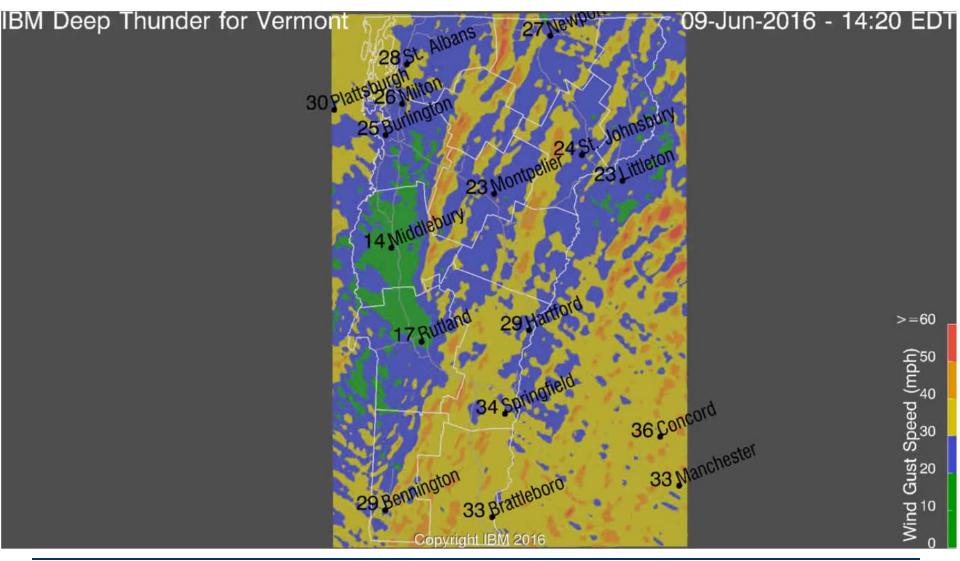
IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Interactive Maps







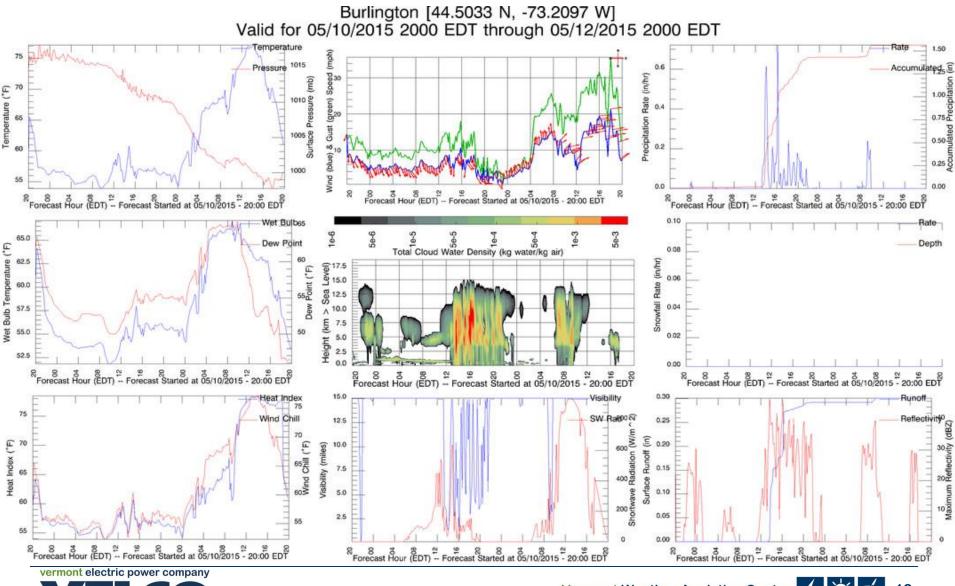
IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Interactive Maps







IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Plots

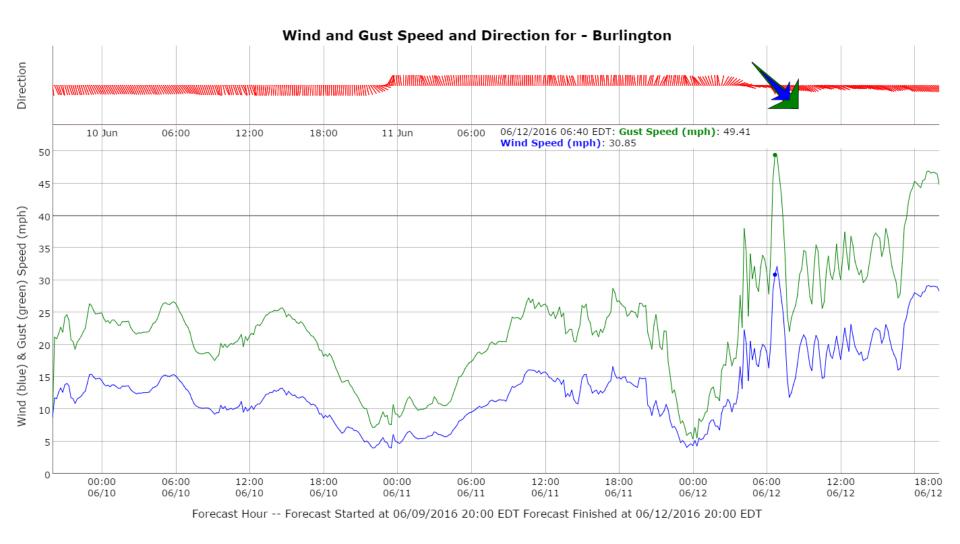




Vermont Weather Analytics Center



IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Weather Charts







IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Data Tables

Site	Date ▲	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Time Zone	Dry Bulb Temperature (F)	Wet Bulb Temperature (F)	Precipitation (in)	Precipitation Rate (in/hr)	Pressure (mb)	Wind Speed (mph)	Wind Direction (Degrees)	
Burlington	05/10/2015	20:20	EDT	65	63.9	0.01	0	1015.89	8.5	359	
Burlington	05/10/2015	20:30	EDT	64	63.1	0.01	0	1016.47	9	355	
Burlington	05/10/2015	20:40	EDT	64	62.6	0.01	0	1015.69	8.4	349	
Burlington	05/10/2015	20:50	EDT	63	62	0.01	0	1015.71	7.5	354	
Burlington	05/10/2015	21:00	EDT	63	61.6	0.01	0	1017.1	6.9	357	
Burlington	05/10/2015	21:10	EDT	62	60.8	0.01	0	1016.3	6.3	346	
Burlington	05/10/2015	21:20	EDT	60	59.8	0.01	0	1015.56	7	343	
Burlington	05/10/2015	21:30	EDT	59	59.2	0.01	0	1015.77	7.4	340	
Burlington	05/10/2015	21:40	EDT	58	57.8	0.01	0	1016.13	8.4	338	
Burlington	05/10/2015	21:50	EDT	57	57	0.01	0	1016.47	8.4	341	
Burlington	05/10/2015	22:00	EDT	57	56.9	0.01	0	1018.12	7.1	341	
Burlington	05/10/2015	22:10	EDT	57	56.6	0.01	0	1018.03	7.5	341	
Burlington	05/10/2015	22:20	EDT	57	56.4	0.01	0	1016.53	6.9	357	
Burlington	05/10/2015	22:30	EDT	57	56.3	0.01	0	1016.72	6.3	359	
Burlington	05/10/2015	22:40	EDT	57	56.1	0.01	0	1016.22	7.1	349	
Burlington	05/10/2015	22:50	EDT	57	56	0.01	0	1017.02	6.3	350	
Burlington	05/10/2015	23:00	EDT	57	55.8	0.01	0	1017.32	6.2	357	
Burlington	05/10/2015	23:10	EDT	57	55.5	0.01	0	1016.64	6	355	
Burlington	05/10/2015	23:20	EDT	56	55.2	0.01	0	1016.61	5.4	357	
Burlington	05/10/2015	23:30	EDT	56	55	0.01	0	1017.58	5.6	348	
Burlington	05/10/2015	23:40	EDT	56	54.9	0.01	0	1016.94	4.1	344	
Burlington	05/10/2015	23:50	EDT	56	54.8	0.01	0.03	1016.48	5.2	348	
Burlington	05/10/2015	20:10	EDT	66	64.2	0.01	0.01	1016.64	8	10	
Burlington	05/11/2015	22:10	EDT	56	55.4	1.43	0	1010.06	3.5	307	
Burlington	05/11/2015	00:10	EDT	56	54.7	0.01	0.01	1016.25	5.8	337	
Burlington	05/11/2015	00:30	EDT	57	54.8	0.01	0	1016.86	4.9	344	
Burlington	05/11/2015	00:40	EDT	57	54.8	0.02	0	1017.39	4.8	349	
Burlington	05/11/2015	00:50	EDT	57	54.7	0.02	0	1017.44	4.8	353	
Burlington	05/11/2015	01:00	EDT	57	54.5	0.02	0	1016.82	5.2	358	
Burlington	05/11/2015	01:10	EDT	57	54.3	0.02	0	1016.22	5.1	353	
Burlington	05/11/2015	01:20	EDT	57	54.3	0.02	0	1016.35	5.2	354	
Burlington	05/11/2015	01:30	EDT	57	54.2	0.02	0	1016.37	6	351	
Burlington	05/11/2015	01:40	EDT	57	54.2	0.02	0	1016.04	5.6	355	
Burlington	05/11/2015	01:50	EDT	57	54.1	0.02	0	1016.12	6	352	
Burlington	05/11/2015	02:00	EDT	57	54.1	0.02	0	1016.47	4.8	344	
Burlington	05/11/2015	02:10	EDT	57	54.1	0.02	0	1016.39	3.7	344	
Burlington	05/11/2015	02:20	EDT	57	54.1	0.02	0	1016.61	5.1	343	
Burlington	05/11/2015	02:30	EDT	57	54.1	0.02	0	1016.87	4.6	328	
Burlington	05/11/2015	02:40	EDT	57	54	0.02	0	1016.47	4.7	333	
Burlington	05/11/2015	02:50	EDT	56	53.8	0.02	0	1016.15	5.1	349	
Burlington	05/11/2015	03:00	EDT	56	53.7	0.02	0	1015.78	4.6	352	*
4											•







CSV

IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Forecast Summary/Alerts

Vermont Weather Analytics Center Forecast summary for Burlington (Vermont): Valid for 06/09/2016 2000 EDT through 06/12/2016 2000 EDT 06/10/2016, 00Z Forecast

Summary table:

Saturday - Su	ınday	6/11/2	2016 - 6/12/20	Forecasted weather variables						
	full day	20:00 - 04:00	04:00 - 12:00	12:00 - 20:00	that meet impact thresholds					
Precipitation accum (alert when > 1 in)	0.58	0.1	0.12	0.36	will display in red					
Peak Precipitation Rate (in/hr)	0.37 at 6:20	0.25	0.37	0.17	Current Thresholds:					
Accumulated Snowfall Averege liq.ratio, (alert when > 4/10)	-	-	-	-	Precip Accum: >1.00"+ Peak Precip rate: >1.00"/hr					
Start Time	20:00	20:00	6:00	12:10	Max Sustained: >30 mph					
End Time	20:00	21:20	6:50	20:00	Max Gust: >40 mph					
Max Sustained Wind (alert when > 40 mph)	32.2 NW at 6:50	16.6 W at 3:50	32.2 NW at 6:50	29.2 NW at 19:10	Low Temp: >90°F					
Max Wind Gust (alert when > 40 mph)	49.4 at 6:40	27.6 at 3:50	49.4 at 6:40	46.9 at 19:10	High Temp: <0°F Wind Chill: <-20°F					
Low Temp (alert when < 0 F)	51°	64°	51°	51°	Heat Index: >100°F					
Wind Chill (alert when <-20 F)	44°	63°	45°	44°	Snowfall: >4" Snow ratio: 10:1 or less					
High Temp (alert when > 90 F)	69°	69°	68°	57°						
Heat Index (alert when > 100 F)	75°	73°	75°	57°						
From: Deep Thunder <noreply@vtwac.velco.com></noreply@vtwac.velco.com>										

You are subscribed to alerts from this location.

Forecast Email Alerts —

: Deep Thunder <noreply@vtwac.velco.com>

Robert D'Arienzo

To:

Cc:

Subject:

There are 16 active Deepthunder Weather Alerts

Deepthunder weather forecast raised the following 16 alert(s) for your area of interest: <u>72 hours forecast for Vermont, Burlington</u> -> Max Wind Gust (alert when > 40 mph) (49.4mph)

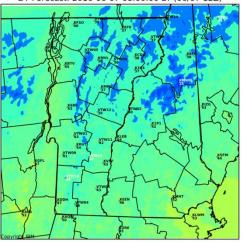


Vermont Weather Analytics Center

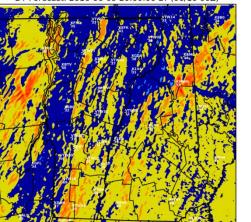


IBM Deep Thunder Web Portal Interface – Static Maps

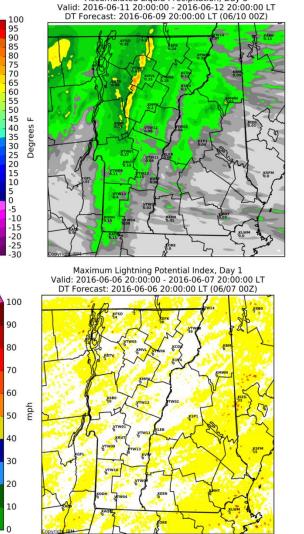
Minimum 2-m Temperature, Day 2 Valid: 2016-06-08 08:00:00 - 2016-06-09 08:00:00 LT DT Forecast: 2016-06-07 08:00:00 LT (06/07 12Z)



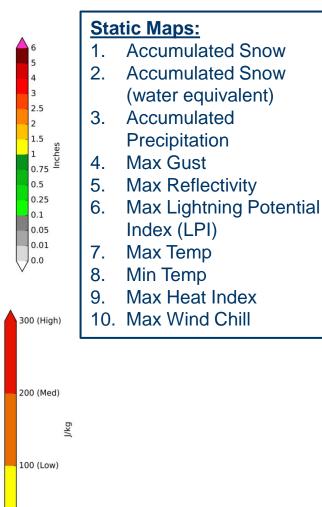
Maximum Wind Gust, Day 3 Valid: 2016-06-11 20:00:00 - 2016-06-12 20:00:00 LT DT Forecast: 2016-06-09 20:00:00 LT (06/10 00Z)



vermont electric power company



Accumulated Liquid Precipitation, Day 3



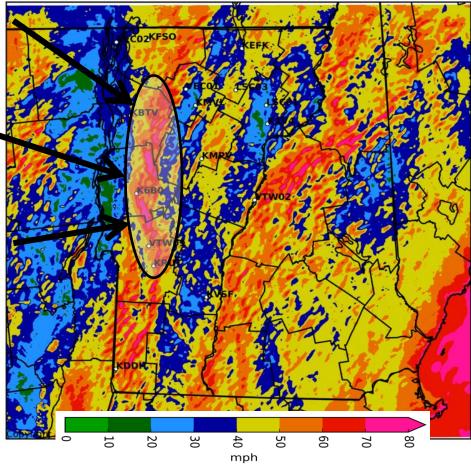




Verifications 1/10/2016 High Wind Event

DT – Max Wind Gust Forecast

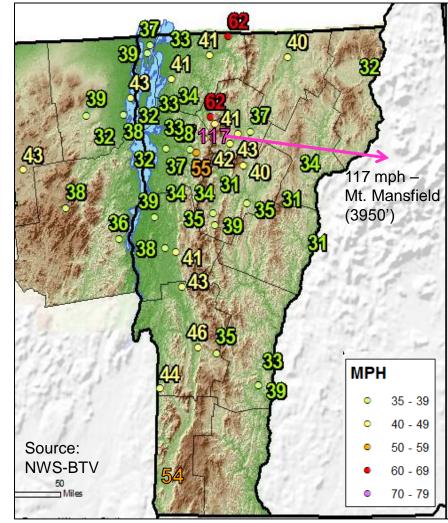
Maximum Wind Gust Valid: 2016-01-09 19:00:00 - 2016-01-10 19:00:00 LT DT Forecast: 2016-01-09 19:00:00 LT



vermont electric power company

Strong correlation between the highest forecasted and highest observed wind gust values

Observed Wind Gusts

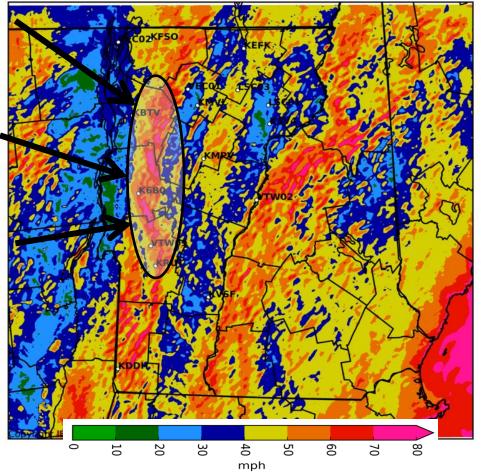




Verifications 1/10/2016 High Wind Event

DT – Max Wind Gust Forecast

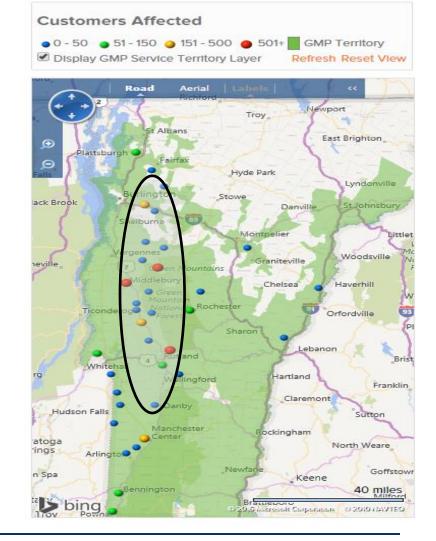
Maximum Wind Gust Valid: 2016-01-09 19:00:00 - 2016-01-10 19:00:00 LT DT Forecast: 2016-01-09 19:00:00 LT



vermont electric power company

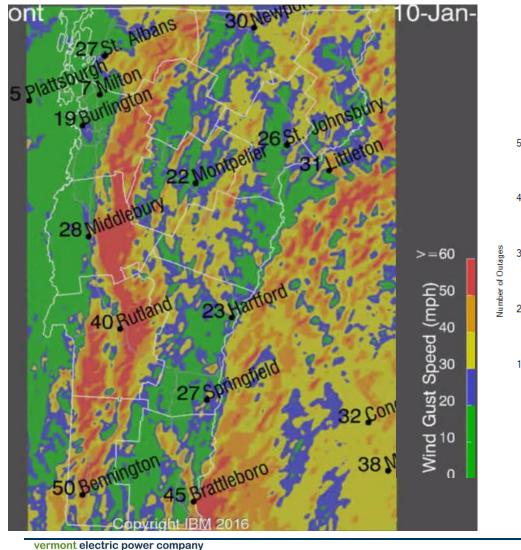
Areas of the strongest forecasted wind gusts matched well with the highest density of outages

GMP Outages @ 1300 hrs



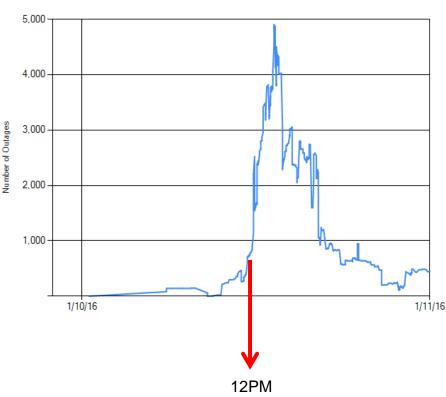


Verifications 1/10/2016 High Wind Event DT – Wind Gust Forecast @ 1200 hrs



Time of strongest forecasted wind gusts correlated very well to time of peak outages (~1200-1300 hrs)

Statewide Outage Graph – 1/10



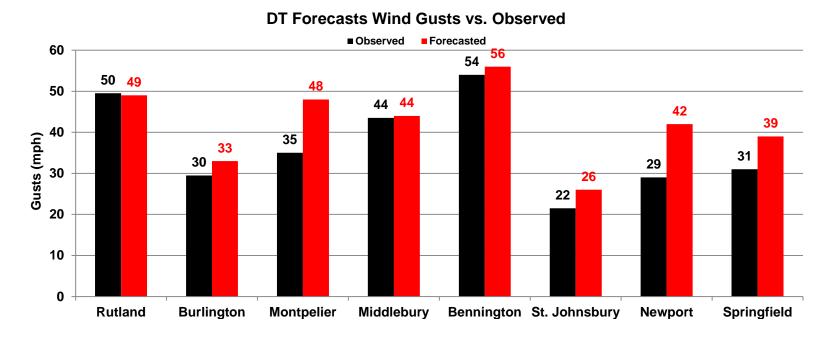
State-wide Outages from 1/10/2016 to 1/10/2016

Vermont Weather Analytics Center





Verifications 1/10/2016 High Wind Event



	Day 3	Day 2	Day 1
Bias	8.3	11.4	5.5
MAE	8.9	11.4	5.6

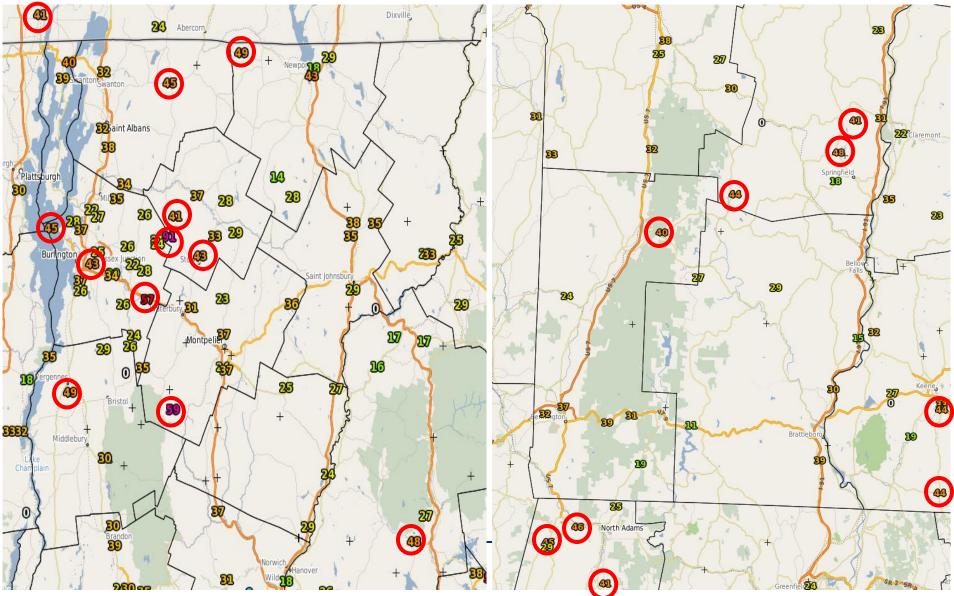


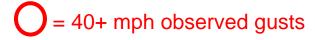


Verifications 2/29/2016 High Wind Event

Northern Vermont

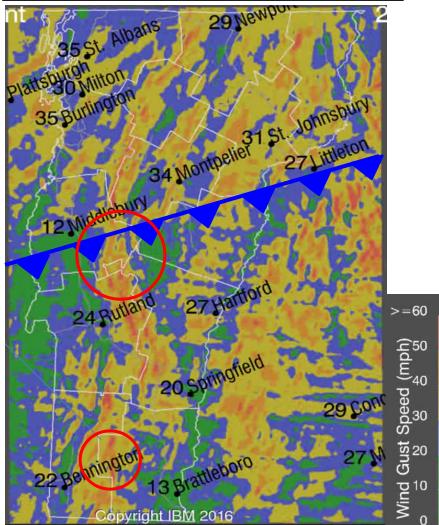
Southern Vermont



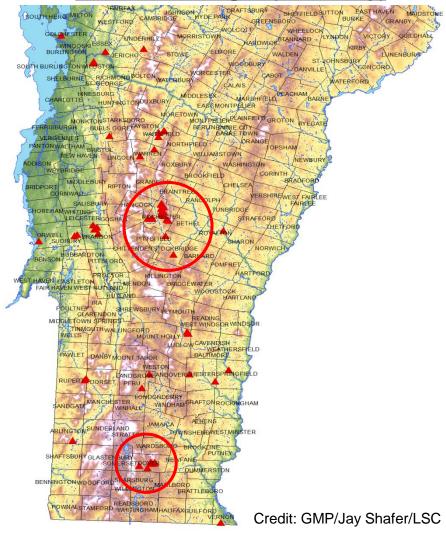


Verifications 2/29/2016 High Wind Event

DT Max Wind Gust Forecast @ 11:30PM



Observed Outages (GMP Only)







Verifications 2/29/2016 High Wind Event

					D	Т			MAE					
Location	Station	Observed	Da	у З	Da	y 2	Da	iy 1 C		Day 3		Day 2		y 1
Location	Otation	Obscived	2/27	2/27	2/28	2/28	2/29	2/29	2/27	2/27	2/28	2/28	2/29	2/29
			0Z	12Z	0Z	12Z	0Z	12Z	0Z	12Z	0Z	12Z	0Z	12Z
Burlington	KBTV	43	37	43	36	44	52	49	6	0	7	1	9	6
Montpelier	KMPV	37	38	34	31	41	44	39	1	3	6	4	7	2
Morrisville	KMVL	33	39	44	38	40	32	42	6	11	5	7	1	9
St. Johnsbury	VTSTJ	29	35	30	23	36	35	34	6	1	6	7	6	5
Rutland	KRUT	38	46	28	29	27	34	34	8	10	9	11	4	4
Springfield	KVSF	48	43	33	30	25	36	36	5	15	18	23	12	12
Bennington	KDDH	32	33	32	31	30	32	32	1	0	1	2	0	0
Brattleboro	VTGUI	39	39	29	27	29	28	37	0	10	12	10	11	2
								AVG	4	6	8	8	6	5

Key:

<5 mph (Exceptional) 5-15 mph (Acceptable)

>15 mph (Poor)



30



Forecast Analysis & Communication

DT Forecast Summary for 2/16 (valid 00:00 to 23:59) [STORM TOTAL/MAX]

			WINDS		TEMERATURES			
Location	Elevation (ft)	Max Sustained Wind (mph)	Max Gust (mph)	Total Liquid Precipitation (in)	Total Snow (in)	Average Snow-to-Liquid Ratio	Max Temperature (F)	Min Temperature (F)
Barre	612	24	36	1.47	4.1	6.4	52	
Barton	880	28	43	0.86	1.1	3.1	51	19
BED HQ	107	27	44	1.19	1.6	3.6	55	
Bennington	708	26	45	0.75	0.3	0.0	57	25
Brattleboro	237	27	44	1.96	3.9	5.7	55	
Cambridge	743	28	42	0.97	0.8	1.1	54	22
Canaan	1305	21	35	1.50	1.8	3.3	49	17
Colchester	273	25	37	1.24	1.5	3.4	54	20
Essex Juntion	346	26	39	1.14	1.1	2.7	56	20 20 25 19
Enosburg Falls	408	22	37	1.64	6.1	4.1	52	25
Ferdinand	1161	23	35	2.51	2.3	3.0	50	19
GMP South HQ	620	20	35	0.81	0.9	0.0	57	27
Hardwick	855	23	38	1.28	2.7	5.2	52	16
Hartford	401	17	31	1.64	4.2	5.9	53	17
Hyde Park	635	23	34	0.97	0.7	0.0	52	19
Jacksonville	1315	24	40	4.47	3.4	5.4	52	16
Jay Peak	3814	39	65	1.46	2.5	3.6	44	14 21 16
Johnson	497	18	29	1.06	1.0	0.6	52	21
Killington	4236	37	59	1.01	2.2	5.7	45	16
Ludlow	1039	23	40	1.93	5.3	6.6	52	18
Lyndonville	713	19	33	1.22	2.3	4.8	53	16
Manchester	237	24	42	1.57	3.0	5.4	55	20
Mt. Mansfield	3719	43	65	1.11	1.8	5.0	43	20
Middlebury	386	26	40	1.38	2.9	4.7	54	22 17
Montpelier	676	21	36	1.67	3.3	5.6	53	17
Morrisville	774	22	36	1.55	1.1	2.0		18
Newport	683	26	39	0.82	1.0	1.2	52	19
Northfield	749	25	42	1.60	5.9	7.0	52	17
Orleans	781	25	38	1.06	1.0	1.8	52	19
Randolph	1396	22	31	1.30	3.9	6.8	50	15 24
Richford	489	22	33	0.89	0.7	0.0	52	24
Rutland	561	23	33	0.79	0.9	0.0	56	25
S. Alburgh	128	25	31	1.16	1.2	1.6	45	
S. Burlington	314	25	42	1.25	1.6	3.6	55	19
Searsburg	2298	34	50	1.25	1.5	5.3	47	13
Sheffield	2360	31	46	1.27	1.5	5.4	47	13
Smuggler's	3637	33	52	1.27	2.2	5.8	44	
Springfield	374	24	41	2.09	3.8		54	17
St. Albans	400	24	34	1.65	3.4	3.2	51	21
St. Johnsbury	604	20	36	1.14	2.3	5.4	55	
Stowe HQ	697	19	35	0.59	0.9	0.0	52	
Swanton	156	23	34	1.42	1.9	2.7	52	20
Townshend	1668	32	50	2.79	3.8	5.9	52	18
VEC HQ	523	18	33	1.03	1.1	2.0	53	
VELCO HQ	722	24	34	0.92	0.8	0.0		
Virgennes	178	27	36	1.38	2.6	4.9	53	18
WEC HQ	722	21	35	1.30	2.6	5.6	53	
Wells	2099	32	55	0.96	2.2	4.9	53	23
Woodstock	1488	16	32	1.36	3.7	6.5		17

Values in red indicate forecast threshold exceedance (Sustained: >30 mph, Gust: >40 mph, Rainfall: >1", Snow: >4", Snow:





Future Work

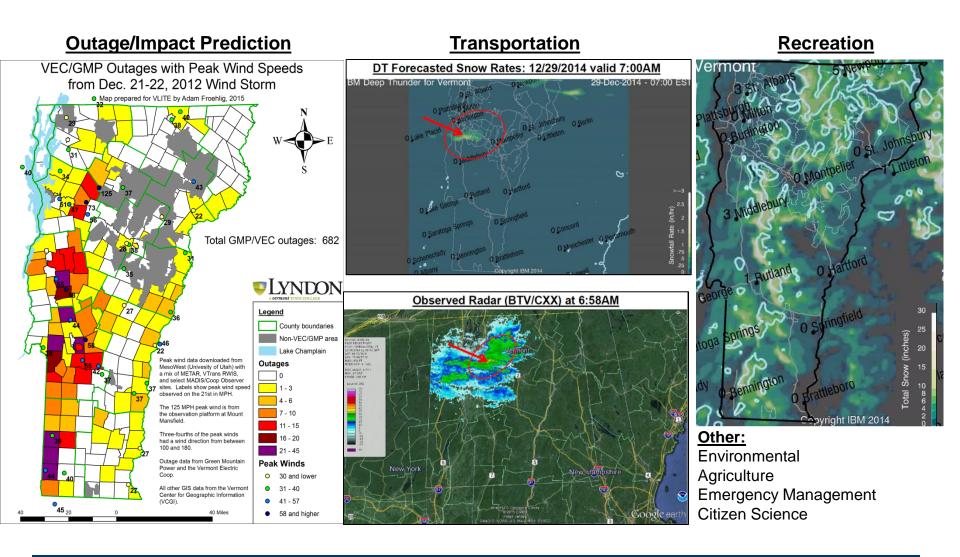
- Develop a quantitative verification strategy for maximum wind gusts (automated)
- Research additional forecasting and modeling techniques (probabilistic, ensembles, etc.)
- Research and build historical weather/outage database in an effort to increase storm preparedness/response (LSC → wet snow/ice loading and gradient wind events)
- Build in-house HPCC data center to support operational forecast models and various research







Future Applications







Questions?

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Photo: Andrew Gimino