



Joint Initiative

Notice of Initial Sessions of “Think Tank” and Strike Teams

August 26, 2008
Reno, Nevada

The next session of the Joint Initiative is on Tuesday, August 26th, from 8 – 3 (Mountain Time) at the offices of Sierra Pacific Power Company¹ in Reno. The purpose of this session is to continue the progress made on June 30th and July 8th.

Based upon the input received on July 8th, Northern Tier, WestConnect, and ColumbiaGrid have structured a process to advance the development and implementation of high-value, cost-effective regional products and services. This process will be implemented at the August 26th meeting, which will be broken into three sessions. In the morning, a broad stakeholder “think tank” group will meet for the following purposes: to be briefed on the Joint Initiative Approach, to test for continued consensus on the development of load following and other intra-hour products and associated communications and scheduling protocols, and to be educated on the legal and technical ramifications of pursuing intra-hour generation and transmission products. In the afternoon, two “strike teams” will meet, one focused on infrastructure and one focused on products and services. At these meetings, individuals will commit to work on a specific team and, after discussion, the strike teams will scope their work and develop a work plan including products, milestones, and timelines.

In order to help us plan for this meeting, please RSVP to Judy Welch at 503-943-4953 or Welch@columbiagrid.org. Conference call arrangements are being made and specifics will be provided at a later date. Meeting materials will be available no later than August 21st.

¹ Sierra Pacific’s offices are located at 6100 Neil Road, about 3 miles from the airport. From Reno-Tahoe Airport take Highway 395 South, exit at Neil Road and head East (left turn), cross Virginia Street and turn right at Campus Way (first street after Virginia), and turn left into the Sierra Pacific visitor parking. The cab fare from the airport is approximately \$15, although it can be difficult to get a cab back to the airport. Hotels near the offices include the Peppermill, the Atlantis, Marriott Courtyard and Springhill Suites.