

<b>Description of Meeting:</b>	<b>NTTG Planning Committee</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>February 10, 2016</b>
<b>Meeting Notes Prepared By:</b>	<b>Amy Wachsnicht</b>
<b>Approved for Posting:</b>	<b>June 8, 2016</b>

## 1. Agenda:

- a. Welcome and Agenda Review
- b. Approval of December 14, 2015 Planning Committee Meeting Notes
- c. Planning Committee Update
  - i. NTTG Data Gathering Update
  - ii. March 31<sup>st</sup> Project Submittal Deadline Reminder
  - iii. Committee & Stakeholder Input on NTTG Planning Committee Meetings Frequency/Duration
- d. TEPPC Task Force Review Update
- e. Other Business
  - i. Upcoming Meetings
    1. Feb. 25: Annual Interregional Coordination Meeting
    2. March 10: NTTG Planning Committee Meeting
    3. April 12: NTTG Q1 Stakeholder Meeting
  - ii. Round Table

## 2. Discussions & Decisions:

### Discussion: Welcome and Agenda Review

- Craig Quist introduced Ron Schellberg who replaced Gil Coulam as the NTTG Technical Workgroup (TWG) Project Manager. Ron, who was previously with Idaho Power, has an extensive background and knowledge of the technical aspect of planning.

### Decision: Approval of December 14, 2015 Planning Committee Meeting Notes

- Following roll call, Amy Wachsnicht informed the committee quorum requirements had not been met in Class 1.
- It was suggested to move the approval of the December 14, 2015 NTTG Planning Committee meeting notes to the end of the agenda to allow time for quorum requirements to be met.

### Discussion: Planning Committee Update

- NTTG Data Gathering Update
  - NTTG Transmission Providers and interested stakeholders submitted data on January 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - NorthWestern Energy indicated there was a 15% RPS requirement which has been met in their local plan.
    - Ron Schellberg indicated there could be other state requirements that had not been listed and he would be meeting with the TWG to review any Public Policy Requirement (PPR) still needing to be listed.
  - NTTG received a Public Policy Consideration (PPC) study request from Renewable Northwest and NW Energy Coalition based on the 111(d) proposed rule.
    - The request was to consider retirement of Colstrip 1, 2 & 3 with three replacement scenarios.
      1. Adding 1,494 MW of wind located at Broadview
      2. Similar to scenario 1 with the addition of a synchronous condenser at Colstrip
      3. 1,244 MW of wind and 250 MW gas turbine at Billings

- The timing of the retirement in the request was confusing as the cover letter indicated “by 2027” and the data form listed “12/31/2027”. The 12/31/2027 date is beyond the NTTG 10-year study horizon cycle. However, Ron Schellberg indicated that since NTTG is in the beginning of the 2016-2017 planning cycle, there can be room for interpretation of 10 years means 2027 or 12/31/2027.
- Ron Schellberg recommended the TWG review the request and prior PPC studies to come up with a recommendation on what studies would satisfy the request and provide meaningful information to NTTG and ColumbiaGrid as many of the Colstrip participants are outside of the NTTG footprint.
- Craig Quist indicated that the stakeholders who submitted the request were contacted to get clarification on the retirement date as well as an understanding on the difference between the current PPC request and the prior work completed last year by NTTG and the studies completed by NorthWestern Energy with dynamic stability analysis.
  - It was proposed that the TWG look at a variation of wind conditions under some of the scenarios.
- Fred Heutte indicated the issue of the year could have been due to a slight misunderstanding and his intention was to put the PPC request into the 2026 WECC planning cycle. The intended direction of the study was to make sure there was a good handle on the dynamic stability aspects in the Order 1000 context.
- Fred Heutte also indicated the study request is different than the last study as it includes a third unit and would be enough to satisfy the Montana requirements for the Clean Power Plant and that the proposal was to set up the studies to look at different conditions of replacement and see if there are stability problems and to make recommendations.
- The same PPC request was submitted to ColumbiaGrid as an advisory to them with a suggestion to have a coordinated look with NTTG.
- Economic Study Requests submittals are due by March 31<sup>st</sup>. At this time NTTG has not received any submissions.
- Load submissions from the NTTG transmission providers include 2015 actual peak data, 2024 load data and current 2026 load data.
  - Ron Schellberg indicated some entities are still in the process of updating their load forecasts and it would change due to the updated data. It was recognized there is a conflict with the January 31<sup>st</sup> data submittal and the process which companies use for the WECC data due at the end of March.
  - MATL submitted data as they are intending to join the NTTG footprint, however it was not listed in load submittals due to the fact MATL does not directly serve any load.
- For resource submissions, the biggest change was a 3,000 MW decrease due to the TransWest Express Project of Wyoming not being submitted. TransWest Express submitted data in the previous planning cycle with a request not to be included in the studies. There was also a big step up in natural gas which could be due to the replacement of Boardman and some in Utah.
- Ron Schellberg presented a summary of the local transmission projects.
  - Craig Quist indicated the Pinto 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase Shifter is currently being installed and will be in-service by the end of March.
  - The local reinforcement projects in PacifiCorp East include the additions in the Goshen area, transformer replacements and the lower 138 kV transmission line.
  - The Antelope – Goshen and Antelope-Midpoint are transmission lines being proposed to satisfy an addition of 600 MW growth at Antelope of nuclear production.

- Jim Tucker indicated the Bonanza-Upalco #2 was a new line with an in-service date around 2022.
  - Idaho Power submitted new transmission service not covered in the current planning cycle:
    - Idaho Power is looking to purchase 500 MW in the summer and 200 MW in the winter from the northwest. Another request for 250MW in the summer and 550MW in the winter to support the southeast Idaho BPA loads which is tied to the Boardman to Hemmingway project.
  - Ron Schellberg indicated the northern end of Boardman to Hemming may be relocated to a station in Longhorn.
    - Jared Ellsworth added that Idaho Power has abandoned the Boardman location and is actively looking at Longhorn.
  - With Longhorn being a BPA substation in the ColumbiaGrid footprint, the committee discussed the fact that Boardman to Hemmingway would be considered an interregional project according to the definition of an interregional project in the Attachment K and would need to be submitted into both NTTG and ColumbiaGrid as such.
    - This would be the first interregional project submitted and NTTG would need to go through the process outlined in the Attachment K for interregional coordination with ColumbiaGrid.
    - Jared Ellsworth indicated he would be contacting Ravi at BPA to get information on how to submit the project to ColumbiaGrid as an interregional project.
- March 31<sup>st</sup> Project Submittal Deadline Reminder
  - The deadline for submitting an interregional project is March 31, 2016. Note: While not specifically called out during the meeting, March 31<sup>st</sup> of Q1 is the deadline for submitting project data for both regional and interregional projects.
  - During the February 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Interregional Coordination Meeting, the four planning regions will be giving additional information regarding the submittal process for interregional transmission projects.
  - An interregional project must be submitted into each relevant planning regions in accordance with their respective regional planning process. The data required is unique to each planning region.
  - If an interregional project is submitted, there will be a window where the planning regions will coordinate with one another to verify if the data submitted meets each regions submittal requirements. If any data is missing, the regions will contact the submitter to collect the missing information.
- Committee & Stakeholder Input on NTTG Planning Committee Meetings Frequency/Duration
  - NTTG received feedback from a stakeholder that there was not enough involvement from the Planning Committee throughout the planning cycle. To address concern, NTTG's Planning Committee will have more engagement, detailed discussions and input by either extending the length of the meeting or frequency in which the Planning Committee meets.
    - At this time it is unclear how frequent the Planning Committee meetings should be. The assumption is frequency would be on an as needed basis.

#### **Discussion: TEPPC Task Force Review Update**

- Prior to giving and updated on the TEPPC Review Task Force (TRTF), John Leland gave some background information.
  - TEPPC is a committee of WECC that does a lot of production cost modeling (PCM) efforts in the interconnection wide as well as activities associated with PCM scenarios.
  - The four Western Planning Regions have been working on the round trip process through TEPPC. The round trip process takes the PCM which is 8760 hours and

- then selecting an hour throughout the year that would be translated into a power flow base case which one could run stability analysis on.
- Every 5 years WECC call for a review (section 4.9) of all the committees within WECC and depending on that review, the WECC board could call for an adjustment of the roles and responsibilities for each committee. The review was completed at the end of last year.
    - The TRTF was approved by the WECC board in December 2015 to do a critical review of what TEPPC was doing.
    - With Order 1000 playing a role, the 4 regions are to do analysis and studies as regions there is a need for coordination.
    - TEPPC was founded under the American Recovery and Investment Act Grant and that has ended and needed to reformulate their funding.
    - There are ongoing concerns of duplicate efforts between TEPPC and PCC.
  - The TRTF was formed as a recommendation of the board to take a look at and answer 11 questions that will help TEPPC come up with a new charter and protocol. The TRTF has had several meetings, with the first face to face meeting in January 2016.
  - John Leland was designated to be the representative of the 4 regions on the task force.
  - During the January face to face TRTF meeting Jim Robb discussed his thoughts and set boundary conditions:
    - WECC is not to take on any NERC registered entity related activities.
    - WECC is not take on any activities with compliance responsibilities
    - The work TEPPC will be doing has a very strong reliability focus.
  - Jim Rob also indicated a need to have a single case for the planning cycle and came up with the term of “anchor case.” This suggestion could have been prompted from a meeting in August 2015 where the 4 planning regions met with WECC management and the regions had proposed a common case that is based on the planning regions regional plans.
  - The four Western Planning Regions developed a collaborative presentation on what the anchor case is and John Leland presented it to the TRTF on February 4<sup>th</sup>.
    - This is a short-term solution which would be replaced when a long-term solution becomes available. The presentation reflected the current thinking of the four western planning regions (WPR) and can change. The anchor case development will not reformation of the resources of WECC.
    - The anchor case is based on the WPR regional transmission plans and will have consistent PCM and power flow base cases. The WPR need to provide additional data to WECC relevant to their regional transmission plans such as PCM. There should also be on going coordination between the WPR and WECC.
    - It is suggested the anchor case PCM and power flow, could be the starting point for future anchor case development, assuming no long-term data management system is available.
    - WECC and the WPR may modify the anchor case data as appropriate for their studies through their processes.
    - The round trip process is integral to the short-term solution as the results will be in consistent PCM and power flow cases. This also provides a bottoms up approach for the WPR to WECC. It is a chance to automate some of the processes in building a new PCM base case, which hopefully will help WECC staff better manage resources associated with the development of PCM and power flow data. The round trip process is also a method to test and address future issues.
    - Ideally the WPR would like to have the anchor case ready by the end of Quarter 1 2016, however that is not a possibility given the time frame. By March 31<sup>st</sup>, WECC will have a PCM common case with exportable power flow cases which will developed using the historical methods.

- John Leland walked through a diagram that illustrated the development of the anchor case. The WPR would have coordinated data and would provide data and assumptions to WECC as appropriate and to the extent able. WECC should work with the WPR to develop any data and/or assumptions if not provided. WECC would go through their historical stakeholder process to develop data associated with non-regional information. Once WECC has the data they would then go through the round trip process to get a solved power flow and reliability analysis. Once there is a solved power flow and an acceptable PCM result then WECC can export power flow and PCM base cases. That anchor case would be the starting point for the next planning cycle and would include updates for incremental changes from the last planning cycle to the next.
- John Leland indicated the diagram received a large amount of discussion from the TRTF and there appeared to be support and understanding of the value this would provide. There were also a lot of questions which the TRTF will be working through.
- Chelsea Loomis indicated at the WPR meetings, there are discussions about the sharing and submitting of data and how that would happen. The suggestion of the anchor case would be a solution to get the regions data together into one data base and she asked if that was one of the drivers.
  - John Leland indicated it was one of the drivers for the end product however there is still work that needs to be done among the WPR to iron out how to get coordinated data. The Annual Interregional Coordination Meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup> is the first step in this process of coordinating data.
- The WPR should work with WECC to make sure the information is being inserted correctly and if there are any unexpected results WECC will go back through the round trip process to modify the data until there is a solved power flow case.
  - It was asked if the verification results would be done at the WECC level. If so this could start making WECC look like a planning entity.
    - John Leland indicated that the regions would be looking at the results as well as WECC. It is clear from the funding requirements from FERC and Jim Robb's comments, TEPPC will not be planning and not Order 1000 activities. The regions would have the most knowledge if the results were expected or not.
- The process for developing the anchor case would be a linear process. During Quarter 1 when the WPR are gathering their data for the anchor case, WECC and TEPPC are also collecting data. The WPR not only supply their data through this process but also through the data request from WECC. The anchor case is the product with input from the WPR and will be used by the WPR and WECC with any modifications necessary for their studies.
- It was asked if the anchor case and the common case were the same.
  - John Leland indicated historically the common case had been developed through a stakeholder process and the regions had not really been involved deeply in developing the common case. Both the common case and anchor case are full cases where a person can run PCM or power flow from, but the inputs are different. The hope is that in a future next cycle, there is no distinction between the common case and anchor case and they will be there same.
- There is a recognition that while improvements are made there will likely be miss-matches. Within WECC there is the PCC and TEPPC. TEPPC's product is PCM driven and PCC model is power flow. Both have their own methods of collecting data and format in which they collect the data. A way to help and lessen the miss-match of data is to have a standardize process for collecting data and have a long-term data management solution to house the common data.
- It is proposed to use the 2016-2017 planning cycle to develop the process and work through all the issues of implementing the anchor case development. While the WPR

would like the development as soon as practical, there is a recognition WECC is focusing on getting the 2026 common case with dynamics developed and it will take time to get all of the details worked out.

- The type of information and data the WPR would need to provide WECC include PCM data or assumptions such as load, energy, DSM as well as other modeling assumptions such as a year's worth of hydro shapes. The WPR should also provide power flow data such as transmission topology and generator mapping as well as data for developing or updating dynamic models.
  - It is recommended that WECC works with the WPR to develop appropriate data and/or assumptions for certain data not provided.
- The type of information and data WECC would need to provide the WPR include the anchor case PCM and power flow base case data. Any relevant change files that WECC develops should also be provided to the WPR as well as available to other stakeholders. WECC should work with the WPR on any missing data information. WECC should also coordinate all relevant study results and change files using the WPRs data submittal windows as outlined in the Attachment Ks.
- The proposal of the anchor case does not change WECC's historical data collection or development process or methods. WECC can still follow its historical methods to collect PCM and power flow data with the condition of completing the anchor case going into the 2018-2019 planning cycle assuming there is no long-term data management solution in place, WECC will start with the anchor case that was developed in the current planning cycle.
- It is also proposed that WECC should consider coordinating the timing of its data collection with the timing of the WPR's data collection. There also needs to be better power flow development and coordination with the PCC.
- To help ensure transparency as well as ease of use, WECC should use change files to modify the anchor case.
- There is a process underway to come up with a long-term data base management system. Until that is ready, it is proposed to use the anchor case.
- Next steps include the WPR meeting with WECC to work to the technical details and process for developing the anchor case for the 2018-2019 planning cycle.

#### **Decision: Approval of December 14, 2015 Planning Committee Meeting Notes**

- Amy Wachsnicht informed the committee with Chelsea Loomis joining the meeting following roll call, quorum requirements for Class 1 had been satisfied.
- With a motion by Chelsea Loomis and seconded by Jim tucker, the December 14, 2015 NTTG Planning Committee were unanimously approved for posting by all three Classes.

#### **Discussion: Other Business**

- Upcoming Meetings
  - Feb. 25: Annual Interregional Coordination Meeting hosted by WestConnect and will be at the SRP PERA Club in Tempe, AZ.
    - Registration is needed for both in person and web conference.
    - In person registration is due by February 17<sup>th</sup> sent to Angie Garber ([angie.garber@comperhensivepower.org](mailto:angie.garber@comperhensivepower.org)).
    - Additional information and the web conference registration link is posted on the NTTG calendar.
  - March 9: NTTG Planning Committee Meeting via conference call. Depending on the meeting topics web conference may be added.
  - April 12: NTTG Q1 Stakeholder Meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites in Portland, Oregon near the Portland Airport. The agenda and meeting details are still being worked out.
- Round Table



- Chelsea Loomis informed the committee the Technical Task Force looking at the possible reorganization of NTTG and ColumbiaGrid met in person on February 8<sup>th</sup> in Portland, Oregon.
  - The Technical Task Force started preparing a spreadsheet which outlines the tasks the group would like to see the new organization perform. They are asking each of the representatives to take the form to their upper management at their company and fill out the form from their company's perspective.
    - Forms are due back Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - Responses from the form will be compiled and will help guide the Governance Committee to determine how the organization should be governed.
- Amy Wachsnicht informed the committee that Jim Tucker with Deseret will be retiring in March and Nathan Powell has been hired to take his place. Nathan will be the Deseret member representative for the NTTG Planning Committee as well as the member representative for the various NTTG committees Jim Tucker is on.

### 3. Assignments:

Item #	Assignment	Owner	Target Date	Status
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

**Next Meeting:** The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup> at 1PM Pacific.

- Dial: **(626) 425-3121**
- Access Code: **432-608-245**



**Attendees:**

**NTTG Planning Committee Member Representatives**

Membership Class 1		
Jared Ellsworth, Idaho Power	Jim Tucker, Deseret	Craig Quist, Chair, PacifiCorp
Bill Hosie, TransCanada	Chelsea Loomis, Vice Chair, NorthWestern	

Membership Class 2		
Rhett Hurless, Absaroka Energy		

Membership Class 3		
Johanna Bell, ID PUC	Bob Decker, MT PSC	David Walker, WY PSC
John Chatburn, ID OER	Jerry Maio, UT PSC	

**Other NTTG Members & Guests**

Travis Allen, MATL	Kishore Patel, PacifiCorp	Amy Wachsnicht, NTTG
Fred Heutte, NVEC	Nathan Powell, Deseret	Matt Wiggs, ID OER
John Leland, NTTG	Ron Schellberg, NTTG	