

Description of Meeting:	NTTG Planning Committee
Meeting Date:	April 09, 2014
Meeting Notes Prepared By:	Pam Greensky
Approved for Posting:	May 14, 2014

1. Agenda:

- Welcome, Establish Quorum and Agenda Review
- Consent Items:
 - December 11, 2013 meeting notes
 - February 24, 2013 meeting notes
 - NTTG determination on Absaroka Energy 2014 Economic Study Request
- 2014-2015 Public Policy Consideration Requests
 - NTTG Technical Work Group recommendation
 - Next Steps
- NTTG Planning Committee Update
- 2014 vs. 2012 Q1 Data Comparison
- Round Table/ Other business
 - June 11, 2014 Stakeholder Meeting (Boise, Idaho)
- Adjourn

2. Decision: Consent items

- December 11, 2013 meeting notes – Approved Unanimous
- February 24, 2014 meeting notes – Approved Unanimous
- NTTG determination on Absaroka Energy 2014 Economic Study Request – Bill Pascoe
 - Bill Pascoe - Absaroka Energy is proposing to build Gordon Butte Hydro in Central Montana – 400 MW pump storage project that would interconnect to the transmission lines between Broadview and Townsend. (Previously Grasslands, now evolved into Absaroka but same people.)
 - Bill Pascoe – The Economic Study Request from Absaroka is similar to NTTG requests for coal plant retirement from Renewable Northwest. (These may be characterized as policy driven studies), but still similar. What about transmission currently used, can it then be put to some other use? Narrowed down, to look at what if the 2 older coal strips were retired (freeing up 600 MW of transmission capacity) and put in wind and some pumped hydro, to reshape wind and optimize utilization of the system.
 - Bill Pascoe - Power would come from MT, into WA, and OR, and into mid-Columbia;
 - Request is power that would originate inside the NTTG footprint in MT, but real desire is to deliver in WA and OR and large parts of that region is in the CG footprint; if power was coming from the NTTG footprint and delivered to another point within NTTG footprint it would be considered a regional economic study request.
 - Bill Pascoe - Happy to answer questions, might have to ask for consideration and willingness to do economic study.
 - Sharon Helms – There is some flexibility regarding public policy considerations, but given the defined terms of the attachment K, isn't NTTG more closely bound to have the Economic Study Requests be within the NTTG footprint.
 - Dave Angell – New process for NTTG; will have discussions with the TWG, as the study requests come in with the intention of getting the information from those that are involved in many of the technical studies. There have been similar studies in the

past; talking with the TWG some of those studies were discussed and we can relay some of that information as well today.

- Several studies of the MT system with wind, even wind with pumped storage was evaluated. May have even been this particular project.
 - There is not a scheduled path between MT and Mid-C – have to come around thru ID; members that use Colstrip today take service from BPA for delivery of energy to their load in WA and OR.
 - With that information and additional studies, the TWG did recommend to not undertake the study.
- Bill Pascoe – In the first definition of Regional Economic Study Requests, in the attachment K, we clearly do not qualify. On the second definition, there may be room for consideration.
 - John Leland - what is the real request – PCM economic differences – or is it a reliability question – is there sufficient transmission or extend out to wherever sync. A lot of things here that make this more difficult to understand as a region than we would as an interconnection wide request.
 - Bill Pascoe – Intention was to ask for a PCM study to see if pumped hydro could be used to fit the wind into the existing capacity. Agree there are reliability questions as well, but that is not the question we were asking.
 - Bob Decker - Does the request fit or not fit in terms of subsection 2?
 - Dave Angell – it means that we could undertake a study that uses more than the NTTG footprint, but determined to be reasonably within the geographical and electrical footprint of NTTG. Appears to be broader than just the NTTG footprint.
 - Bill Pascoe – spoke with CG regarding their process, but they are not following O1k requirements yet. CG will accept study requests any time, but those can only come from funding members of CG. Absaroka can't make that request.
 - Craig Quist – did you consider making a request to TEPPC, as it crossed over regional organizations?
 - Bill Pascoe – Yes, we didn't make this specific one, but we do have one study for pumped hydro that was accepted in the TEPPC study program.
 - In TEPPC, they built the expansion of the Colstrip into the BCCT, and then don't need to replace coal to remove wind – the request was to add wind, with Colstrip improvements and Colstrip generations staying in service. (assumes no retirements)
 - Dan Wheeler - Would it be possible to modify your request to look at using NTTG study as max export from MT backing off Colstrip unit and putting on your pumped hydro and wind – won't give you a PC model but might give info of upgrades for NTTG area – e.g. deliver to Garrison and not into middle of BPA system.
 - Dave Angell – Propose that we can make modifications to clarify the request, but it is too late to change the request.
 - Dave Angell – Proposing motion based on TWG recommendations.
 - Sharon Helms – the motion, Economic Study Requests to retire coal strip units I & II, not be pursued by NTTG, as the scheduling paths for the proposal and the POR & POD are broader than the NTTG footprint.
 - John moves, Craig second
 - Carried
 - Dave Angell – Received two requests for public policy consideration. The first from Renewable NW was to retire coal strips I & II, and III & IV. The recommendation on the consideration was that III & IV are out of the 10 year time frame, and it was recommended to reject that portion of the study. However I & II, discussion surrounded of the potential reliability benefit, knowledge gained from that looking at most likely the impact with transmission and the loss of coal strip units for stabilizing, may involve going into dynamics to flush that out. TWG sees some benefits to that.

- Dave Angell – With regards to the study submitted by Fred; which was a study that was performed last cycle from TEPPC, the coal retirement scenario is just too broad for the NTTG footprint. TWG recommendation was not to undertake this.
- Dave Angell – the term “recommendation” is used; these will be coded into the study plan that will be out and available mid-May.
- Dave Angell – Another discussion keyed up was the possibility of working with CG on and Economic Study, to take on the study that was requested. For NTTG to pursue that, the Planning Committee would need to offer recommendations.
- Dave Angell - Any discussion on engaging CG on this economic study and to see if we can gain an interest by any CG parties to initiate such a study that has to be initiated by a CG member and jointly performed with NTTG?
- Dan Wheeler – I recommend we pursue that. It leads into the FERC O1K cooperation between planning groups to refine the planning process.
- John Leland - Question on the proposal; what context would it come into? – if it is not an economic study request and it's not a scenario for the planning study, is this an ad hoc study that we would agree to do?
- Dave Angell – That is a fair statement. It was voted not to be taken as an economic study request; It would be bound to attachment K from that. It would be an ad hoc study in coordination with CG members in support of that effort.
- Dave Angell – Motion for this item: Joining Absaroka with approaching CG with a joining economic study effort.
 - Dan Wheeler – Moves
 - Bob Decker – Seconds motion
- John Leland – should we put ourselves in this position? I would like to table the vote until the next meeting.
- Johanna Bell – Agree with Johns approach
- Jamie Austin - Agrees with concern. Its beyond Attachment K. This calls on resources that is paid for by NTTG and we need to consider that. Need a valid reason to table.
- Dave Angell – Motion to table the motion?
 - Bob Decker – welcomes the motion to table for time to reflect.
- Craig Quist – be careful of timelines. This will add more time.
- Dave Angell - Vote on the original motion at the next meeting. NTTG will be evaluating internally the study plan and a better understanding of what's going to be in the study plan and if we can take this on in addition to the O1K requirements
 - Postpone a vote on engaging with CG on a joint study effort with Absaroka until the May meeting.
 - Class One: Pass
 - Class Two: one yes, one abstain
 - Class Three: Pass

Discussion: 2014-2015 Public Policy Consideration Requests

- NTTG Technical Work Group recommendation
 - Study submitted by Fred (performed last cycle from TEPPC) Coal retirement scenario is interconnection wide – modeling techniques
 - For NTTG to pursue will need Planning Committee
 - Dan Wheeler would like to see us pursue jointly working with ColumbiaGrid to develop an Economic Study Request –
 - NTTG with Absaroka would work with CG – other regions are not O1K
 - Would PSE be a good member? Puget and BPA would be the other that would have interest in the program.



Discussion: Round Table/Other Business

- Bill Pascoe – What was decided on public policy request?
- Dave Angell – Nothing decided at this time. Will be discussed at TWG and selected into the study plan. When that comes to the planning committee for a vote, that is when those will be discussed with the plan during the May 14th Call.

1. Assignments:

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

Next Meeting: The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 14th at 1PM Pacific.

- Voice Conference Mtg. **503-813-5252** (toll free #855-499-5252)
- Conference ID **1254249**

Attendees:

NTTG Planning Committee Member Representatives

Membership Class 1		
Dave Angell, Chair, Idaho Power	John Leland, NorthWestern	Scott Waples, Avista Corp
Phillip Augustin, Portland General	Craig Quist, Vice Chair, PacifiCorp	Wes Wingen, Black Hills Power

Membership Class 2

Marshall Empey, UAMPS	Rhett Hurless, Absaroka Energy	Dan Wheeler, Gaelectric
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Membership Class 3

Johanna Bell, ID PUC	Jerry Maio, UT PSC	David Walker, WY PSC
Bob Decker, MT PSC	John Chatburn, ID OFC of Energy Resources	

Other NTTG Members & Guests

Jamie Austin, PacifiCorp	Fred Heutte, NWECC	Ron Schellberg, Idaho Power
Gil Coulam, NTTG	Chelsea Loomis, NorthWestern	John Tompkins, Sea Breeze Pacific
Pam Greensky, NTTG	Kim McClafferty, NorthWestern	Lawrence Willick, LS Power
Sharon Helms, NTTG	Kishore Patel, PacifiCorp	Cameron Yourkowski - RNP