

Description of Meeting:	NTTG Planning Committee
Meeting Date:	April 24, 2019
Meeting Notes Prepared By:	Amy Wachsnicht
Approved for Posting:	May 29, 2019

1. Agenda:

- a. Approval of February 13, 2019 NTTG Planning Committee Meeting Notes
- b. Public Policy Consideration Study Update
- c. Quarter 5 Data Submittals
- d. Approval:
 - i. *Resolved:* That the Planning Committee accepts the 2019 Reginal Economic Study Request
- e. Round Table/Other Business

2. Discussions & Decisions:

Decision: Approval of February 13, 2019 NTTG Planning Committee Meeting Notes

- With a motion by Craig Quist and Bob Decker seconding, the February 13, 2019 NTTG Planning Committee Meeting Notes were **unanimously approved**.

Discussion: Public Policy Consideration Study Update

- A walk through of the [Public Policy Consideration \(PPC\) Study](#) was given during the February Planning Committee meeting. The draft report has been posted and subsequently will be finalized and included in the Draft Final Regional Transmission Plan which will be posted for stakeholder review and comment in Quarter 7.
- As a reminder, the [study assumptions](#) included three additional retirements of Bridger 1, Naughton 1 and Naughton 2 in four Draft Regional Transmission Plan (DRTP) cases (Case C, F G & I). The Technical Workgroup (TWG) went through the change cases looking at the needs and concluded they are consistent with the DRTP.

Discussion: Quarter 5 Data Submittals

- The purpose of the Quarter 5 data submittals is to provide an opportunity to submit material changes from Quarter 1 that may impact the DRTP as well as opens the window for submitting Economic Study Requests (ESR).
- NTTG received [updated data submittals](#) from Idaho Power, MATL, NorthWestern and Portland General. PacifiCorp did not submit updated data in the 2019-Q5 window.
- In Quarter 5, NTTG also received an [ESR submitted by Deseret Power on behalf of the "Joint Parties"](#). The request was for NTTG to study an alternative transmission configuration to replace the 500 kV Gateway West and South projects with one or two 345 kV lines. [Additional clarification](#) was requested from the TWG to the Joint Parties regarding their request.
 - In the TWG review of the ESR, [several concerns](#) were raise including, but not limited to, whether the study request should be considered an economic study or whether the alternative should be evaluated as an Unsponsored Project. Additionally, there were concerns raised with the value of studying a 345 kV alternative to a 500 kV line that is already under construction. The TWG concluded that many factors beyond simple economics influence the eventual construction decisions of a transmission line, e.g. permitting processes, constructability, etc. and that these constraints should be noted in the final study report.

- After TWG review and discussion, the [TWG recommendation](#) is that the Planning Committee should accept the ESR.
- Recognizing that construction is underway for one of the sections of the Gateway 500 kV line, it was asked how the TWG would consider the “sunk costs” when evaluating the ESR and if the project sponsors would provide the data for the “sunk costs”.
 - At this time the TWG does not have all the costs and would most likely use the WECC Cost Calculator to make the comparisons. Most likely the TWG will evaluate the alternative and DRTP costs as if no construction has been started so to have an equal comparison and then look at the costs.

Decision: Approval

- *Resolved:* That the Planning Committee accepts the 2019 Regional Economic Study Request
- With a motion by Nathan Powell and seconded by Marshall Empey, the above resolution was **approved** by the majority of members present.
- A list of votes by company's present is provided below:

Class 1			
<u>Company</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Citizens Energy	Yes	NorthWestern	Yes
Deseret	Yes	PacifiCorp	No
Idaho Power	Yes	Portland General	Yes
MATL	Yes	TransCanada	Abstained

*TransCanyon was absent during the meeting

Class 2			
<u>Company</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Absaroka Energy	Yes	UAMPS	Yes

Class 3			
<u>Company</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Idaho OEMR	Yes	Wyoming PSC	Yes
Montana PSC	Yes		

* Idaho PUC was present for roll call, but absent during the vote

Discussion: Quarter 6 Study Scope

- The Quarter 5 submitted changes do not appear to alter the DRTP. The TWG will review the production cost model changes since July 2018, perform additional robust test on the DRTP and address the approved ESR.

Discussion: Round Table/Other Business

- The NTTG Steering Committee will meet on April 30th in Salt Lake City, UT.

3. Assignments:

Item #	Assignment	Owner	Target Date	Status
1.				



2.				
3.				
4.				

Next Meeting: The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 29th at 1PM Pacific.

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

Attendees:

NTTG Planning Committee Member Representatives

Membership Class 1		
Ian Beil, Portland General	Kevin Johnson, TransCanyon (Proxy)	Nathan Powell, Deseret
Jared Ellsworth, Vice Chair, Idaho Power	Younglae Kim, MATL	Craig Quist, PacifiCorp
Bill Hosie, TransCanada	Chelsea Loomis, Chair, NorthWestern	Curt Winterfeld, Citizens Energy

Membership Class 2

Marshall Empey, UAMPS	Rhett Hurless, Absaroka	
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Membership Class 3

James Branscomb, WY PSC	Steven Goodson, ID PUC	Georgy Lynch, ID OEMR (Proxy)
Bob Decker, MT PSC		

Other NTTG Members & Guests

Jamie Austin, PacifiCorp	Jeff Hurt, BPA	Ron Schellberg, NTTG
Justin Bieber, UAE	John Leland, NTTG	Amy Wachsnicht, NTTG
Daney Brauchie, WY PSC	George Lynch, ID OEMR	Mangus Washington, Unknown
Kathleen Fraser, Energy Strategies	Richard Maguire, Electrical Consultant	Curtis Westhoff, Idaho Power
Sharon Helms, NTTG	Kishore Patel, PacifiCorp	