



Outline of the Northern Tier Transmission Group's ("NTTG") Sub-Regional Economic Study Request Process

1. Transmission providers will receive requests for economic studies, as described in the transmission providers' Attachment K of their Open Access Transmission Tariff.
2. Transmission providers, as members of NTTG, will participate in the NTTG process to categorize, prioritize, and complete up to two (2) sub-regional economic studies per NTTG planning cycle, as described in the transmission providers' Attachment K of their Open Access Transmission Tariff.
3. For a sub-regional economic study request to be considered by NTTG, eligible customers or stakeholders must submit the request to a transmission provider that is a party to the NTTG Funding Agreement.
4. The eligible customer or stakeholder making the economic study request shall be a member of the NTTG planning committee on or before the Planning Committee considers and votes on the prioritization and selection of the economic study requests to be completed by NTTG.¹
5. Transmission providers will categorize each Economic Study Request into (1) local, (2) sub-regional or (3) regional, as defined in each transmission provider's Attachment K. For the economic study requests categorized as sub-regional or regional, the transmission provider will notify the requesting party and forward the requests to NTTG for consideration and processing under NTTG's procedures.
6. Economic study requests will be reviewed to determine if the request should be categorized as sub-regional and if not, if the request should be categorized as regional. Subregional and regional categories are determined as follows:
 - a. A request will be classified as **sub-regional** if the request (1) identifies Point(s) of Receipt and Point(s) of Delivery that are all within the NTTG scheduling footprint, as determined by the Transmission Use Committee, and the Point(s) of Receipt and Point(s) of Delivery utilize only NTTG Funding Agreement Member scheduling paths, or (2) is otherwise reasonably determined by transmission provider to be a sub-regional request from a geographical and electrical perspective, including but not limited to, an evaluation determining that the study request utilizes the interconnected transmission systems of the NTTG Funding Members.
 - b. A request will be classified as **regional** if the request (1) identifies Point(s) of Receipt and Point(s) of Delivery that are all within the WECC scheduling system footprint, as determined by the NTTG Transmission Use Committee, and the Point(s) of Receipt or Point(s) of Delivery utilize only WECC Member scheduling paths, or (2) the receiving

¹ More information on membership criteria and how to join the NTTG Planning Committee is available on the NTTG website or by clicking [here](#).



transmission provider reasonably determines it to be a regional request from a geographic and electrical perspective, including but not limited to, an evaluation determining that the study request utilizes only WECC member interconnected transmission systems. Requests that are categorized as regional may be submitted through NTTG directly to the WECC and considered pursuant to the WECC processes.

7. In a NTTG public meeting, no later than April 15 of each year, the Transmission Use Committee will present the categorized list of sub-regional study requests for the NTTG Planning Committee's consideration.
8. NTTG will consider clustering, for purposes of the study, any Economic Study Requests in which all of the Point(s) of Receipt and Point(s) of Delivery match one another or in the alternative, it is reasonably determined by the NTTG Planning Committee that any of the economic study requests are geographically and electrically similar, and can be feasibly and meaningfully studied as a group.
9. Planning Committee members present at the public meeting in Step 7 will vote to select up to two sub-regional Economic Study Requests for study by NTTG during its planning cycle. Each Planning Committee member, voting only within his/her membership class, will cast an initial single vote for a listed sub-regional Economic Study Request of his/her choice, and then a second single vote for another listed sub-regional Economic Study Request of his/her choice. The classes are as follows:
 - a. Transmission providers and transmission developers engaged in, or intending to engage in, the sale of electric transmission service within the NTTG footprint, or
 - b. Transmission users engaged in the purchase of electric transmission service within the NTTG footprint, or other entities that which have, or have the intention of entering into, an interconnection agreement with a transmission provider within the NTTG footprint, and
 - c. Regulators and other state agencies within the NTTG footprint that are interested in transmission development.
10. Within each membership class, no quorum is required; however, a two-thirds majority of voting members present is required for approval. Approval by the transmission provider/developer class and at least one remaining class is required for approval.