

Description of Meeting:	NTTG Planning Committee
Meeting Date:	May 9, 2018
Meeting Notes Prepared By:	Amy Wachsnicht
Approved for Posting:	June 27, 2018

1. Agenda:

- a. Establish Quorum and Agenda Review
- b. 2018-2019 NTTG Draft Study Plan Review
- c. Decision:
 - i. NTTG Planning Committee recommends posting the 2018-2019 Draft Study Plan (as presented or as revised) for stakeholder review and Comment
- d. Revised Public Policy Consideration Study Request Review
- e. **Approval Item:**
 - i. *Resolution:* That the Planning Committee [agrees to or rejects] the Public Policy Consideration Study Request submitted to NTTG for consideration during the 2018-2019 planning cycle.
- f. Next Steps
 - i. Stakeholder Comment Period on Draft Study Plan
 - ii. Development of PPC Study Plan (if approved)
- g. Round Table/Other Business

2. Discussions & Decisions:

Discussion: 2018-2019 NTTG Draft Study Plan Review

- Prior to walking through the draft study plan, Jared Ellsworth gave a brief overview of the development of the document.
 - The study plan incorporates all the Quarter 1 data submittals and is similar to the last study cycle.
 - A few updates remain to be completed:
 - Available Transfer Capability (ATC) Values (Table 6) – A request will be sent to the NTTG Transmission Use Committee for the updated values. This will be completed before the next Planning Committee meeting.
 - Once the production cost modeling (PCM) data is completed, Change Case Table (Table 10) and the simultaneous wind production attachment will be updated.
 - Figure 2 for the ADS Case Transmission Assumptions will be updated.
 - If the Public Policy Consideration (PPC) Study Request is approved, a summary of the request will be included in the study plan along with the detailed PPC study plan added as an attachment.
 - The Interregional Transmission Project (ITP) Evaluation Plans, once adopted by the Relevant Planning Regions, will be attached to the study plan.
- Jared Ellsworth then walked through the Study Plan sections. These included the study objectives, general schedule and deliverables, study assumptions and representation, including data assumptions, analysis tools, regional plan evaluation, transmission needs driven by Public Policy Requirements, transmission planning study methodology, the methodology for comparing the results of the Change Cases with the Initial Regional Plan projects and robustness analysis of the Draft Regional Transmission Plan.
- With regards to the forecasted resources, [Figure 1](#) shows a comparison of 2026, 2028 and 2029. The reasoning for including 2029 is that several coal retirements will occur immediately following the 10 year study cycle.
 - A [table](#) was developed showing the coal retirements submitted in Quarter 1 and includes Bridger 1, which is scheduled to retire at the end of 2028 but does not fall

within the study cycle. Given this, the Technical Workgroup (TWG) will be running a 2029 sensitivity case with the retirement of Bridger 1 to see if the transmission needs would change.

- The analysis tools the TWG will use to develop the power flow base cases include power flow (PowerWorld software), dynamic analysis and PCM (GridView software).
- The TWG will continue to use the three metrics to determine if a Change Case is a more efficient or cost effective solution for the NTTG footprint than the Initial Regional Plan. These include capital related costs, energy losses and reserves.
- While walking through the study plan, a few modifications were requested:
 - [Table 4](#) (New Transmission Projects), it was requested that the projects in-service date be added to help with clarity.
 - [Table 5](#) (Transmission Service Obligations), with regards to the megawatts (MW), it was asked if a note could be added to clarify which MW were summer load and which were winter load.
 - [Table 8](#) (RPS Assumptions in PCM Dataset) be updated to include all the states in the west as these are included in the Anchor Data Set 2028 case.
- Courtney Waites walked through the cost allocation section of the study plan. The NTTG Cost Allocation Committee, in consultation with the Planning Committee and stakeholders, will develop cost allocation scenarios. The allocation scenarios are intended to represent potential alternate futures by varying parameters that likely affect the amount of total benefits.
- NTTG received two requests from project sponsors seeking cost allocation and both project sponsors satisfied the pre-qualification requirements.
- The four allocation scenarios created by the Cost Allocation Committee include:
 - Scenario A - High load forecast which assumes the 2028 load forecast was too low. This allocation scenario adds 1,000 MW of load in the NTTG footprint.
 - Scenario B - Low load forecast which assumes the 2028 load forecast was too high. This allocation scenario subtracts 1,000 MW of load in the NTTG footprint.
 - Scenario C - Replacing projected wind with solar. Removes 800 MW of new wind in 2028 and replaces it with 800 MW of new solar.
 - Scenario D - Replacing coal with wind and solar. Removes 1,000 MW of coal that is not already retired in 2028 and replaces it with the equivalent amount of energy in equal shares of wind and solar.
- In addition to the allocation scenarios, the Cost Allocation Committee is also requesting a Cost Allocation Scenario Sensitivity Case be developed. The sensitivity case would look at the potential impact of the 2029 coal retirements on the distribution of benefits and beneficiaries identified in Scenario D. The request is contingent upon the approval of the Planning Committee to develop a 2029 coal retirement sensitivity case.
- The three metrics that will be used by the TWG to define benefits and beneficiaries for the allocation scenarios are capital costs, line losses and reserve margin.
- It was mentioned that [line 695](#) of the study plan needed to be revised as it points to an appendix of the study plan, that is not currently included.
- Following the review of the cost allocation section, Jared Ellsworth continued with the remaining sections of the study plan.
 - The TWG will monitor impacts on neighboring regions. If any are found, the TWG will coordinate with that region to resolve.
 - NTTG will be coordinating with the other regions on the submitted ITPs. A timeline for evaluating the ITPs is included in the study plan. Once the ITP process plans are developed, those will be attached as well.
 - NTTG received a Public Policy Consideration (PPC) study request.
 - The Draft Regional Transmission Plan will be completed by the end of Quarter 4 and posted for stakeholder comment.
- Prior to calling for a vote, Sharon Helms summarized the changes to be incorporated in the study plan, prior to posting it for stakeholder comment.

Decision:

- *NTTG Planning Committee recommends posting the 2018-2019 Draft Study Plan **with the revisions as noted** for stakeholder review and comment.*
- With a motion by Tracy Rolstad, and second by Craig Quist, the recommendation above was **unanimously approved** by all three classes.

Discussion: Revised Public Policy Consideration Study Request Review

- Chelsea Loomis indicated that this PPC study request had been revised based on the discussion during the last meeting and appears to be more in line with an EPA 111-d type of consideration.
 - NTTG received comments from PacifiCorp and the NW Energy Coalition regarding the PPC study request and were posted on the NTTG website as material for today's meeting.
- The request was submitted by the "Joint Parties" which include:
 - Wyoming Industrial Energy Users
 - Utah Association of Energy Users
 - Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems
 - Deseret Power
 - Utah Department of Commerce Office of Consumer Services
 - Utah Municipal Power Agency
- The request is to examine how regional and interregional public policies and coal resource retirements associated with wind resource additions, can impact the transmission needs within the NTTG footprint. It also seeks to examine the impact of the planned retirements of coal resources as incorporated in NTTG members Integrated Resource Plans "IRPs". The Joint Parties also mentioned they are committed to cooperating with NTTG on this request.
- In the study details the Joint Parties indicated they would like the TWG to run power flow analysis and include some planned coal retirements through the end of 2029 if they have not already been removed. In the [list of coal retirements](#) provided and identified in the NTTG members' IRPs, Chelsea Loomis indicated that everything through 2027 is already included in the plan.
- The request also noted the Joint Parties would like a better understanding of the resource mix in each of the study cases. When drafting the Regional Transmission Plan, NTTG will make sure, the changes made in the cases and the resource distribution are clearly defined.
- Following the overview of the PPC study request, and prior to seeking Planning Committee approval, Chelsea Loomis opened the floor for discussion.
- Craig Quist indicated that PacifiCorp submitted comments and are pleased by the modified request but wanted to remind members that NTTG does regional planning and not resource planning. When a coal plant is retired, there is an extensive amount of technical analysis to determine the impact on transmission and what is needed to maintain the system.
 - If the Planning Committee elects to proceed with the study, PacifiCorp recommends the following changes:
 - Do not go beyond the NTTG study period.
 - Only Jim Bridger #1 should be studied as Jim Bridger #2 is not identified in the IRP.
 - There is a concern regarding resources outside of the NTTG footprint given the obligations on major paths.
 - The Antelope Project should be removed as without Gateway West, there is no available transmission to serve UAMPS load.
 - There needs to be a consideration to account for the inbound available transmission capacity (ATC) as there will be no available transmission inbound giving the list of retirements in the PPC study request.

- A comment was made that the Antelope Project, is in UAMPS load and resources submitted to PacifiCorp as a designated network resource and therefore should be left in the studies. It was also indicated that the intent of the request was not to change the IRPs but look at the transmission to see if it is correctly sized for all the transmission needs of the NTTG footprint.
- Jared Ellsworth indicated that PacifiCorp listed Jim Bridger #1 in their IRP and Idaho Power listed Jim Bridger #2, but it should be #1 and the goal would be to only retire Jim Bridger #1 as Jim Bridger #2 would retire in 2032.
 - With regards to the redispatch, there is approx. 1,000 MW between the Jim Bridger and Naughton units, a solution could be to increase the pacific northwest for westbound flows, but the eastbound paths would still need to be addressed.
 - A suggestion was made that PacifiCorp and Idaho Power could work together and determine where the re-dispatch would come from.
- It was also indicated that one of the reasons for this request was a concern in the last cycle with resources serving loads outside of the NTTG footprint. The requesters are looking for a sensitivity case, which is felt to be important to stakeholders to see the impacts, should these resources be retired due to another 111-d request in the future.
- With regards to the Jim Bridger #2 retirement, it was asked if the PPC study request window could look at to 2032.
 - Given the uncertainty that far out in the future, the general consensus was not to expand the study period beyond 2029 and include Jim Bridger #1.
- Fred Heutte with NW Energy Coalition indicated they submitted comments as well and agree with the details of the request and also suggested to trust the TWG expertise in doing the work as they had done with their past PPC study requests. He also echoed that the study period didn't need to stretch beyond the 10-year window as this process should not consider something that is not addressed in the IRPs.
- Following the discussion and based on what was heard, Chelsea Loomis modified the recommendation study approach, then asked for a motion to approve.

Decision: Approval Item

- Following discussion, Jared Ellsworth motioned to approve the revised Public Policy Consideration Study Request, as modified during the meeting. With a second by Bob Decker, the revised resolution was **approved** by the majority of members present in all three classes.
- Modified Recommendation: The NTTG Technical Workgroup should study this scenario request with modifications described below:
 - Remove Jim Bridger #2 from consideration
 - Account for ATC
 - Utilize PAC/IPC's IRPs for replacement generation



The results of the votes by entity are as follows:

Class 1 Member Representatives		
Approved	Opposed	Abstained
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens Energy • Deseret • Idaho Power • MATL • NorthWestern • Portland General 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avista • PacifiCorp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TransCanada • TransCanyon
Class 2 Member Representative		
Approved	Opposed	Abstained
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absaroka Energy • UAMPS 		
Class 3 Member Representative*		
Approved	Opposed	Abstained
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID Gov. OEMR • MT PSC 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID PUC

* WY PSC was present for roll call, but was absent for the vote

Discussion: Next Steps

- The changes to the NTTG draft study plan discussed during the meeting will be incorporated prior to posting for stakeholder comment.
 - The window for submitting comments on the draft study plan will be May 10th through May 25th. Following that, the TWG will draft response to comments received and incorporate any changes if necessary based on the comments. The responses will be reviewed during the June 13th NTTG Joint Planning and Cost Allocation Committee meeting.
- A study plan will be developed for the approved PPC study request and posted for stakeholder comment.

Discussion: Round Table/Other Business

- Avista asked if NTTG was doing TPL-007 studies and offered for ColumbiaGrid to run the studies for NTTG members.
 - At this time that has not been discussed but could be brought up with NTTG members at another meeting.

3. Assignments:

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

Next Meeting: The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 13th at 1PM Pacific.

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



Attendees:

NTTG Planning Committee Member Representatives

Membership Class 1		
Travis Allen, MATL (Proxy)	Kevin Johnson, TransCanyon (Proxy)	Tracy Rolstad, Avista
Jared Ellsworth, Vice Chair, Idaho Power	Chelsea Loomis, Chair, NorthWestern	Curt Winterfeld, Citizens Energy
Shaun Foster, Portland General (Proxy)	Nathan Powell, Deseret	
Bill Hosie, TransCanada	Craig Quist, PacifiCorp	

Membership Class 2		
Marshall Empey, UAMPS	Rhett Hurless, Absaroka	

Membership Class 3		
Bob Decker, MT PSC	Steven Goodson, ID PUC	Katie Pegan, ID OEMR (Proxy)
Morgan Fish, WY PSC		

Other NTTG Members & Guests

Justin Bieber, UAE	Fred Heutte, NW Energy Coalition	Ron Schellberg, NTTG
Kathleen Fraser, Energy Strategies	John Leland, NTTG	Amy Wachsnicht, NTTG
Sharon Helms, NTTG	Kishore Patel, PacifiCorp	Courtney Waites, Idaho Power