

Description of Meeting:	NTTG Planning Committee
Meeting Date:	August 12, 2015
Meeting Notes Prepared By:	Amy Wachsnicht
Approved for Posting:	September 9, 2015

1. Agenda:

- a. Agenda Review
- b. Approve June 10, 2015 Planning Committee Meeting Notes
- c. Approve Letter to TEPPC Requesting Prioritization of the 2026 Common Case
- d. Approve NTTG's Response to Stakeholder comments on the Draft Final Regional Transmission Plan
- e. NTTG Technical Workgroup Update
- f. Round Table/Other Business

2. Discussions & Decisions:

Discussion: Agenda Review

- Sharon Helms reviewed the meeting agenda and informed the Committee that after posting the TEPPC letter to the NTTG Planning Committee agenda it had subsequently been shared with the other regions and suggested modifications have been submitted. John Leland is working on a letter that could ultimately be approved by all four regions. Sharon proposed that instead of requesting approval on the current version of the letter, that the Committee approve a letter that could be coordinated and approved by all four region.
- NTTG has received comments on the DFRTP that were submitted by the July 24th deadline and NTTG is seeking approval of the responses. Subsequent to that NTTG did receive out of time comments from UAMPS which are posted on the NTTG website but there has not been opportunity to draft responses and work is still on going.

Decision: Approve June 10, 2015 Planning Committee Meeting Notes

- With a motion by Don Johnson and seconded by Craig Quist, the June 10th Planning Committee Meeting Notes were **unanimously approved by all three classes**.

Discussion: Approve Letter to TEPPC Requesting Prioritization of the 2026 Common Case

- John Leland gave some background on the development and the purpose of the letter to TEPPC. This is the second letter from the regions, the first was back in May 2015 for a light load case proposed by WestConnect and ended up being of interest for all four regions.
 - NTTG had responded to comments from TEPPC on how to prioritize the 2015 workload for the remaining year and NTTG comments requested that development of the 2026 common case be completed as high priority.
 - The current letter is requesting that TEPPC complete the 2026 common case, with round trip capability, by no later than the end of the first quarter of 2016 so NTTG and other regions have access to the case for their 2016 analysis.
 - In the past NTTG spent a lot of time converting the Production Cost Model (PCM) to Power Flow. Earlier this year NTTG received approval from the NTTG funders to fund an upgrade to the GridView model that simplified the round trip process between Powerflow and GridView.
 - NTTG has been working with the other regions to get the beta testing done on the conversion that is in place as well as working with WECC to utilize the efforts accomplished by NTTG.
- The letter, as drafted and posted for the Planning Committee meeting, will be revised as appropriate to achieve support for the other three regions (CAISO, ColumbiaGrid and



WestConnect). At this time NTTG has verbal approval to support a letter but the verbiage needs to be updated so all regions can sign.

- John Leland indicated that he is at the TEPPC meetings and planned to bring up that the four regions are working on this letter.

Decision: Approve Letter to TEPPC Requesting Prioritization of the 2026 Common Case

- Sharon Helms proposed a motion that the NTTG Planning Committee consider a vote to approve proceeding with coordinating a letter that can ultimately be signed on by the other Western Planning Regions requesting TEPPC produce a TEPPC 2026 common case with round trip capability by Quarter 1 or 2016 but not later than March 31, 2016.
- Dave Angell asked for a motion requesting approval of the NTTG Planning Committee for submission of a letter to TEPPC and requesting WECC produce a 2026 common case by the first quarter of 2016.
 - With a motion by Craig Quist and seconded by Marshall Empey the proposed motion of sending a letter to TEPPC requesting the 2026 common case be produced by Quarter 1 of 2016 was **unanimously approved by all three classes.**

Discussion: Approve NTTG's Response to Stakeholder Comments on the Draft Final Regional Transmission Plan

- Joint comments were received from Western Grid Group, Renewable Northwest and the NW Energy Coalition. The comments support NTTG's work, the results of the biennial planning process and the Public Policy Consideration study. Much of the comments are focused on suggestions for the future and how NTTG might look at that moving forward.
- John Leland reviewed the NTTG responses to this set of comments.
- NTTG received additional out of time comments from UAMPS.
 - Marshall Empey indicated that he has requested a meeting with PacifiCorp's transmission planning to go over his questions and concerns. The Attachment K for planning only depends on the submission of load and resources.
 - Craig Quist indicated that PacifiCorp Attachment K has specific sections that outlines those requirements for adding resources and that PacifiCorp developing a presentation to address UAMPS comments and concerns that will be shared with NTTG after the meeting between UAMPS and PacifiCorp.
- Gil Coulam pointed out that in the stakeholder comments the acronym for the Draft Final Regional Transmission Plan (DFRTP) was incorrect and showing as "DRFTP." After discussion the general consensus was not to correct the acronym as this was how it was submitted from the stakeholders.

Decision: Approve NTTG's Response to Stakeholder Comments on the Draft Final Regional Transmission Plan

- Dave Angell asked for a motion to approve NTTG's response to the stakeholder comments on the DFRTP. Chelsea Loomis motioned with a second by Don Johnson. Class 1 unanimously approved; Class 2 Marshall opposed the responses as written; Class 3 unanimously approved.
 - With the unanimous approvals in Class 1 and Class 3 the **NTTG response to the stakeholder comments on the DFRTP was approved.**

Discussion: NTTG Technical Workgroup Update

- Gil Coulam reported on the Technical Workgroup recent activities, and reviewed a summary of their efforts and recommendations for the 2016-2017 planning cycle based on input from stakeholders and NTTG members.
- The recommendations include areas for interregional projects as the interregional process will be in place October 1, 2015 and include:

- Pre-qualify any regional and interregional project sponsors for cost allocation in Q8 of 2014-2015 cycle.
- Q1 data submittals
 - Verify regional and interregional project data & coordinate with other Relevant Planning Regions.
 - Identify regional and interregional transmission needs and Public Policy requirements and considerations
- Study plan
 - Prompt approval as per Attachment K
 - Include process for evaluating the regional and interregional transmission needs
- Improve the process for developing base cases
 - Use improved “round trip” process with the TEPPC 2026 case.
 - TWG approval on loads and resources in each case before proceeding with study work
- Maintain Attachment K schedule for:
 - Reliability studies
 - Public Policy studies
 - Cost Allocation scenario development
 - Determining economic metrics (monetized in a useable format for Draft Plan and Cost Allocation scenarios)
 - Finalizing the regional and interregional benefits and beneficiaries
- Cost Allocation
 - Determine if Production Cost Modeling is a better approach for Cost Allocation scenarios
 - Evaluate appropriate economic metrics
 - Provide the initial cost allocation benefits and beneficiaries to the Cost Allocation committee
- Reliability Studies
 - Perform transient stability studies on a case by case basis as appropriate dynamics data is available.
 - Allow more time for evaluating & documenting both transmission and non-transmission alternatives.

Discussion: Round Table/Other Business

- Dave Angell is currently working with a technical writer to form the Final Regional Transmission Plan report with the goal to have the first version completed by September 4, 2015. The objective is to have the report finalized at the end of the quarter in order to submit to the Steering Committee for approval and posted by the end of Quarter 8.
- NTTG Transmission Providers have reviewing the Regional Attachment K and found small errors and other items that need to be adjusted. The Transmission Providers are working through the Planning and Cost Allocation sections to get the errors corrected for the next cycle.
- NTTG will continue the effort of working with TEPPC to get the 2026 common case and round trip process completed.
- Dave Angell mentioned the revised Study Plan of this cycle should be a template of the next cycle's Study Plan that will be produced in Quarter 2.

3. Assignments:

Item #	Assignment	Owner	Target Date	Status
1.				



2.				
3.				
4.				

Next Meeting: The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 9th at 1PM Pacific.

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

Attendees:

NTTG Planning Committee Member Representatives

Membership Class 1		
Dave Angell, Chair, Idaho Power	Chelsea Loomis, NorthWestern	Scott Waples, Avista Corp
Don Johnson, Portland General	Craig Quist, PacifiCorp	

Membership Class 2

Marshall Empey, UAMPS	Stacy Gasvoda, Gaelectric	Rhett Hurless, Absaroka Energy
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Membership Class 3

Bob Decker, MT PSC	David Walker, WY PSC	Matt Wiggs, ID OER
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Other NTTG Members & Guests

Jamie Austin, PacifiCorp	Sharon Helms, NTTG	Kishore Patel, PacifiCorp
Gil Coulam, NTTG	John Leland, NTTG	Amy Wachsnicht, NTTG
Jennifer Galaway, Portland General		