



<b>Description of Meeting:</b>	<b>NTTG Planning Committee Meeting</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>August 26, 2009</b>
<b>Meeting Minutes Prepared By:</b>	<b>Lynn Jesus-Olhausen</b>
<b>Approved to Post:</b>	<b>September 9, 2009</b>

**Attendee List:** Jamie Austin, Rich Bayless, Marshall Empey, Darrell Gerrard, Derrick Harris, Lynn Jesus-Olhausen, John Leland, Jeff Newby, Ron Schellberg, Kip Sikes, Steven Wallace

**Guests:** Jeff Miller, Linda Palagi

**Not in Attendance:** Orlando Ciniglio, Arlo Corwin, Brian DeKiep, Eric Egge, Sharon Helms, Bill Hosie, Paul Kjellander, Ryan Munson, Matthew Stoltz, Jim Tucker, Darrel Zlomke

## 1. Agenda:

- Approve August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Meeting Notes for Posting to NTTG Website
- Regional Update:
  - FERC Sept 3 Conference – Planning, Coordination and Comparability (Kip Sikes)
  - WECC Proposal to DOE – Sub-Regional Coordination (Rich Bayless)
- NTTG Biennial Planning:
  - Technical Work Group update (Steven Wallace, Ryan Munson)
  - Need for Revised Analysis Process (Technical Work Group)
  - Requirements, Time Frame and Scope for New Process (All)
- Roundtable

## 2. Discussions & Decisions:

### **Discussion: Approve August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Meeting Notes for Posting to NTTG Website**

- Approved to post as-is.

### **Discussion: Regional Update**

- FERC Sept 3 Conference – Planning, Coordination and Comparability
  - Kip Sikes will be on the Feedback on Current Planning Processes, and not the Coordination and Comparability panel.
  - Each panelist will have 5 minutes for a presentation. The focus will mainly be an interactive discussion between the panelists, FERC staff and the stakeholder audience.
  - FERC has decided to not use experts in each area, but is looking to get diverse industry-wide perspectives on the topics.
  - Kip Sikes will emphasize that the planning process should not to be used for rationalizing a project's need based on a specific transaction. That is done through a queue request, although the planning process will provide a good idea of needs prior to a queue request.
  - It is also important not to interrupt the on-going process. Any major changes will delay new transmission being built.

- WECC Proposal to DOE – Sub-Regional Coordination
  - The local providers' plans will aggregate to form the respective sub-regional plan. Then each sub-regional plan will be aggregated into one combined plan. This plan forms the foundation of the 10 year plan and will be submitted to WECC.
  - The sub-regional group caucus will meet on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. They will be discussing how to formalize the criteria needed to meet the sub-regional requirements per the DOE FOA Application.
    - The sub-regional groups will look at what the minimum common elements are that will align between the groups as a starting point for developing criteria.
  - WECC data preparation will need more coordination with the sub-regional groups to verify the integrity of the data. The sub-regional groups will need to coordinate between themselves for studies that span multiple footprints.

#### **Discussion: NTTG Biennial Planning**

- Technical Work Group update
  - The export scenarios are being finalized. To date, the resulting violations are largely the same as the base case. There have been no unexpected results.
  - The list of contingencies and violations that occurred has been distributed for review by the Technical Work Group engineers. Acceptance and/or resolution, if required, of violations are on-going.
- Need for Revised Analysis Process
  - The study process needs improvement for the next biennial cycle. There have been conversion issues with the different formats between companies. There were also data issues from the base case.
  - Pain points have emerged dealing with tools, data integrity and coordinating work load.
- Requirements, Time Frame and Scope for New Process
  - Options discussed were:
    - Hiring a consultant that can run the studies in various formats making results available that are compatible with the different providers' platforms.
      - Each provider will conduct a review of their system, as they are the experts.
      - If there are issues with the study results, it will be the provider's responsibility to resolve.
      - Hiring a consultant will ease the impact on the bandwidth of member resources.
    - Have one member company conduct the study work within their platform and alternate between members for each planning cycle.
      - There will be compatibility issues, as each provider needs to be able to view their results to review, interpret and resolve.
    - Hiring a consultant to build and maintain a clean database of NTTG data.
  - The sub-regional group caucus will address the topic of hiring a consultant as a long term solution for the region. There may also be funding available from DOE/ARRA for this solution. This will assist in the coordination between sub-regions and WECC and help fulfill FERC requirements for the region.



- The caucus will also look at requesting WECC's support in contacting the platform vendors and have them address the compatibility issues between formats and create a solution.

**Decision: The Technical Work Group will develop details for the options discussed at today's call and provide the Planning Committee with an estimate of the work effort associated with the different options. The details and estimate will be presented to the Planning Committee on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

**Discussion: Roundtable**

- September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 FERC Technical Conference Panel
  - Rich Bayless will be representing NTTG on the Cost Allocation panel.

**3. Assignments:**

Item #	Assignment	Owner	Target Date	Status
1.	Discuss the details and estimate the work load of alternative options for performing study work for the 2010-2011 planning cycle.	Technical Work Group	09/02/09	
2.	Present the details and estimate to Planning Committee	Technical Work Group	09/09/09	

**Next Meeting: Next Meeting:** The next Northern Tier Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 1:00PM Pacific.

- Voice Conference Mtg. **503-813-5600** (toll free #800-503-3360)
- Meeting ID **688484** and password **123456**