

<b>Description of Meeting:</b>	<b>NTTG Planning Committee</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>November 14, 2012</b>
<b>Meeting Notes Prepared By:</b>	<b>Amy Wachsnicht</b>
<b>Approved for Posting:</b>	<b>December 12, 2012</b>

**Attendee List:**

Dave Angell – Chair, Idaho Power (Class 1)	Bill Pascoe – TransWest Express
Johanna Bell – ID PUC	Jim Tucker – Deseret (Class 1)
Gil Coulam – NTTG	Amy Wachsnicht - NTTG
Brian DeKiep – MT PSC (Class 3)	Scott Waples – Avista Corp. (Class 1)
Sharon Helms – NTTG	Dan Wheeler – Gaelectric, LLC (Class 2)
John Leland – NorthWestern (Class 1)	

**1. Agenda:**

- a. Establish Quorum and Agenda Review
- b. Approval of October 3, 2012 Meeting Notes
- c. NTTG 2012 Economic Study Request Results and Report
- d. NTTG Biennial Study Status Update
- e. Order 1000 Interregional Planning Coordination Update
- f. Next Steps
  - i. NTTG Planning Committee Chair Elections
  - ii. Upcoming O1K Interregional Stakeholder Meetings
  - iii. Biennial Study Plan stakeholder review and approval process
- g. Round Table/Other Business
- h. Next Meeting

**2. Discussions & Decisions:**

**Decision: Approval of October 3, 2012 Meeting Notes**

- Notes were approved with minor edits in language made during the meeting.

**Discussion: NTTG Biennial Study Status Update**

- Status:
  - The Technical Workgroup is executing the approved study plan.
  - Data was extracted from the TEPPC model and the five core base cases and the null case have been completed.
  - Contingency study is underway and the workgroup is working on resolving the violations.
  - Study work will continue through 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.
- Question: Dave Angell – When do you plan to have a draft report?
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – Probably just prior to the January Planning Committee meeting.
- Dave Angell suggested the draft report be put together as a high level summary that shows the outcomes which would allow the Planning Committee members and stakeholders to review and comment on.
- Another suggestion from Dave Angell was to have the summary done early in the first quarter of next year by the end of January as NTTG will be receiving feedback on the draft report as well as any adjustments.
  - Along with receiving comments on the draft report in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, NTTG will also be receiving updates to loads and resources and projects.

- In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of next year NTTG will review the comments to the report and make necessary updates then a draft final report will be developed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.
- Gil Coulam indicated that before the January Planning Committee meeting he was planning on having a few results at a high level and then have the initial draft report completed by the end of January.

#### **Discussion: NTTG 2012 Economic Study Request Results**

- The study cycle was revised delaying the report and review to the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter and finishing the report by then end of the year.
- Gil Coulam reviewed what the Economic Study Request was; from Great Falls to Malin to determine if there were any transmission additions needed through power flow analysis.
- The Technical Workgroup looked at two power flow conditions, Summer Peak Load and Maximum Net Export.
- The base cases included 30 new Common Cast Transmission Assumptions (CCTA) projects and the workgroup added 1500 MW of generation at Great Falls with 1500 MW of load at Malin with a new 500 kV line from Great Falls to Townsend.
  - Other Transmission that was added:
    - 500 kV line from Townsend to Midpoint
    - 500 kV line from Townsend - Midpoint and Hemmingway Captain Jack
    - 500 kV line from Townsend-Midpoint Hemingway-Captain Jack and Midpoint to Hemingway
- Status of Economic Study:
  - The Technical Workgroup has analyzed the results to the studies of the NTTG heavy summer and heavy export casts with a 1500 MW transfer from Great Falls to Malin with and without additional transmission.
  - The draft report was posted on November 12<sup>th</sup> and the final report will be completed by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.
- Economic Study Results of the NTTG Summer Load & 1500 MW Transfer:
  - By adding the transfer it did not result in any of the base case violations. However the additional transfer did result in several voltage violations and five branch overloads in the N-1 contingency studies.
  - When the MSTI 500 kV line was added the voltage problems were reduced and it eliminated the branch overloads.
  - Adding additional 500 kV lines from Hemmingway to Captain Jack and Midpoint to Hemmingway did not give substantial improvement.
- Economic Study Results of the NTTG Max Export & 1500 MW Transfer:
  - The Burns series capacitors and Malin series capacitors were overloaded in the base case when the transfer was added.
  - The contingency study showed several high voltage violations in the Northwest as well as overloading of the Burns series capacitors and Garrison series capacitors.
  - When the MSTI 500 kV line was added it overloaded the Midpoint series capacitors and aggravated the overloading of the Burns series capacitors. However it did eliminate the Garrison series capacitors problem.
- Question: John Leland – Was there no phase shifter in MSTI?
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – We did have one in MSTI at Townsend as they were sending the 1500 MW down to MSTI line.
- Question: John Leland – Was curious why you got overloading on the series capacitor at Garrison.
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – That was prior to MSTI going in.
- Economic Study Results Max Transfer without Upgrades:
  - The export case is the limiting system condition.

- 400 MW can be transferred from Great Falls to Malin with a single 500 kV line from Great Falls to Midpoint and no other additional transmission upgrades. This transfer limit is contingent on the base case conditions studied.
- Question: Dan Wheeler – When you say without additional transmission upgrades did you take out the CCTA to run that case?
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – No.
- Question: Dan Wheeler - So the additional upgrades you talking about is increasing capacity on the series capacitors at Burns and such things?
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – Correct. The MSTI line is in there but none of the others are in the studies and no series capacitor upgrades. This also doesn't involve over loads. That is why the last bullet point on the presentation says that it is contingent on the base case conditions studied.
- Economic Study Results Other Conclusions:
  - Several WECC path ratings are exceeded with the added 1500 MW transfer. Additional path rating studies would be required to verify going to these levels.
  - Study results are contingent on the loads, resources, and transmission facilities modeled in these base cases.
  - Different assumptions in generation dispatch or additional transmission would likely result in different transmission requirements.
- Economic Study Results Next Steps:
  - The draft report has been posted for review and comment. Comments or revisions received will be reviewed and incorporated into the draft report. A final report will be done by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.
  - There is an opportunity in the 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter for additional study requests.

#### **Discussion: NTTG 2012 Economic Study Request Report**

- The committee reviewed an updated document that included additional edits and comments made by Gil Coulam before the Committee meeting.
- The introduction is straight from the study plan and gives the background of the study request.
- Dave Angell indicated that his comments on the report are pertaining to being more specific and will send his comments to Gil Coulam via email.
- Question: Dave Angell – The local transmission issues, are they in the NTTG footprint and if they are why are they not in the report?
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – These are less than 230 kV and sometimes less than 100 kV.
- Dave Angell indicated that if these are in the NTTG footprint then NTTG should be collecting enough data where there shouldn't be having these issues.
  - Gil Coulam thought that possible the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter data request didn't include low voltage requests.
  - Dave thought these should be in the WECC base cases and they wouldn't have been highlighted in the data process.
- Question: Dave Angell – On B2 it says “needed”, can we have a general idea of where they are needed? Are they in the Northwest, NTTG footprint or another footprint?
- Question: Dan Wheeler – In the table under N-0 what is the difference between Branch Amps and Branch MVA?
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – One will show up as Amps overload. MVA has to do with transformers whereas Amps is usually the line overload.
- Maximum Export Case:
  - Question: Dan Wheeler – When does that usually take place?
    - Answer: The results of this production cost simulation for that particular year ended up being in the winter.
    - Dave Angell indicated that this information would be a good thing to add to the report.

- Question: Dave Angell – Did you specify the hours in this report?
  - Answer: Gil Coulam – No we did not.
- Dave Angell indicated that it would be helpful to have the information stating the hours the cases were simulating.
  - Gil Coulam will add that comment to the report.
- The underline revisions to show that of the 14 branch over loads without MSTI, 12 were an over load on the Burns series capacitor and one was Garrison series capacitor overload. One of the branch overloads is a local issue in eastern Utah and not related to the transfer in question.

#### **Discussion: Order 1000 Interregional Planning Coordination Update**

- FERC Order 1000 gives the direction on how the interregional planning process should work:
  - A project needs to be submitted into the regions it will be affecting.
  - A joint evaluation should be conducted in the same general timeframe.
  - The regions don't need to have a formal agreement, or face to face meetings and no interregional entity.
  - There needs to be an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input on the process and the regions need to keep them involved with the regional process and regional issues.
  - Regular data exchange. Regions should be aligned on assumptions and the Order points to the term "harmonize."
  - Opportunity for projects to be submitted into an interregional planning process.
- The interregional Planning Workgroups continues to meet on a regular basis. Their next meeting is tomorrow with a stakeholder meeting on Friday.
- Question: Scott Waples – Is there anyone who has come up with a good definition of what benefits are or look like?
  - Answer: Dave Angell – Yes. There is a Curt Winterfeld discussion of NTTG cost allocation.
  - Answer: Brian DeKiep – The NTTG Cost Allocation Workgroup have agreed on 3 different benefits filed with FERC; deferral or replacement, reducing line losses, operating contingency reserve.
    - They also looked at production cost modeling (PCM) but it is not quite ready to use yet to allocate, and we have talked to E3 to improve the data base and hoping to put something together and will report back to FERC with our conclusions. We are working towards using PCM but have not made a commitment to use it.
    - On the interregional side there are a few different methods we have looked at.
- Question: Scott Waples: If your losses goes up is there a mechanism for that?
  - Answer: Brian DeKiep - We are not going to compensate losers, and will set that benefit to 0.

#### **Discussion: Next Steps**

- NTTG Planning Committee Chair Elections
  - Dave Angell requested that members be thinking about who they would like to nominate for next year's Committee Chair elections and that requests are due December 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Upcoming O1K Interregional Stakeholder Meetings
  - The next meeting will be on Friday, November 16th of this week and the best place to find information is on the ColumbiaGrid website.
- Biennial Study Plan stakeholder review and approval process
  - In January the Committee will receive the report with high level results and NTTG will make any appropriate modification on the studies based on comments.



**Discussion: Round Table/Other Business**

- Dave Angell asked Bill Pascoe if he had been able to make contact with Gil Coulam on the Wyoming Generation Company.
  - Bill Pascoe indicated that he believed he had provided all the necessary information.
  - This updated will be incorporated into the study plan in the 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter when updated information is received in the biennial process.

**Discussion: Next Meeting**

- The next Planning Committee meeting will be on December 12, 2012.

**3. Assignments:**

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

**Next Meeting:** The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 1PM Pacific.

- Voice Conference Mtg. **503-813-5252** (Toll Free# 855-499-5252)
- Conference ID **6642683**