



January 8, 2016

Subject: NTTG 2016-2017 Biennial Planning Process Data Submission Window Notice

Northern Tier Transmission Group Members and Stakeholders,

The Northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG) develops a Regional Transmission Plan (RTP) that evaluates whether transmission needs within the NTTG Footprint may be satisfied on a regional and interregional basis more efficiently or cost effectively than through local planning processes. The window for gathering data for the NTTG 2016-2017 Regional Transmission Planning process is now open and includes three data submittal deadlines: 1) January 31st for transmission needs and associated facilities (loads and resources), including transmission needs driven by Public Policy Requirements, Public Policy Considerations and/or alternate solutions, 2) March 31st for regional and Interregional Transmission Project data and 3) March 31st for cost allocation data. Additional details are provided below.

Data supporting the NTTG footprint transmission needs and associated facilities (e.g. loads and resources) for the ten-year planning horizon is due by January 31, 2016. This also includes data supporting transmission needs driven by Public Policy Requirement, Public Policy Considerations, and/or alternate solutions to the identified needs set out in the Transmission Providers 2014-2015 Local Transmission System Plan and the 2014-2015 Regional Transmission Plan. Please submit this data to info@nttg.biz using the Data Submittal Form, which is an Excel workbook available on the NTTG website at <http://www.nttg.biz>>Regional Order 1000>NTTG Order 1000 Data Submittal Forms or by [clicking here](#).

Note that the requested data is labeled consistently with the WECC Load and Resource workbook. If the Transmission Provider, Project Sponsor or stakeholder has prepared a WECC Load and Resource submission, please also provide a copy to NTTG by January 31, 2016. If the load and resource information contained in your submission might be reported by another entity or Balancing Authority, please indicate as such in the email with your data submittal.

Additionally, project specific data for sponsored or unsponsored projects may also be submitted for consideration in the RTP and Merchant Transmission Developers may submit project data to inform the RTP. All project proposals and submissions are due by March 31, 2016 using the Data Submittal Form, which is an Excel workbook available on the Northern Tier website at <http://www.nttg.biz>>Regional Order 1000>NTTG Order 1000 Data Submittal Forms or by [clicking here](#). Table 2 of the NTTG transmission providers' Attachment K defines the minimum information requirements for submitting a project.¹

¹ All information supplied to the Planning Committee or subcommittees must be marked by the provider in accordance with the appropriate CEII document class (<http://www.ferc.gov/legal/ceii-foia/ceii/classes.asp>) and will be treated appropriately by all committee and subcommittee members. The markings should be as follows:

- a) None or "Public"
- b) Contains Critical Energy Infrastructure Information - Do Not Release, or
- c) Contains Privileged Information - Do Not Release.

Please also note that the March 31, 2016 deadline for proposing a project for consideration in the RTP applies to both regional and Interregional Transmission Projects. A proponent of an Interregional Transmission Project that wishes to have its project considered for joint evaluation coordination must submit its project to each Relevant Planning Region no later than March 31, 2016 and in accordance with the project submittal requirements of each Planning Region². While the deadline is March 31, the regions would benefit from the projects being submitted in January or early February in order to share the information at the Annual Interregional Coordination Meeting that will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on February 25, 2016.

Finally, a Project Sponsor that intends to submit its project for cost allocation consideration must submit qualification data by October 31st of Quarter 8 of the prior Regional Planning Cycle. For the 2016-2017 planning cycle, the window for submitting the requisite project sponsor pre-qualification data closed on October 31, 2015. As NTTG did not receive any project sponsor pre-qualification data submissions, the March 31st deadline for submittal of cost allocation data does not apply. For the 2016-2017 planning cycle, the Cost Allocation Committee will perform cost allocation analysis, as required by Attachment K, on a project, if any, that is identified through the planning process.

Please submit any questions on this process to info@nttg.biz. NTTG appreciates your participation in our planning process.

Craig Quist

Craig Quist
NTTG Planning Committee Chair

Chelsea Loomis

Chelsea Loomis
NTTG Planning Committee Vice-Chair

Copy: Shay LaBray, NTTG Cost Allocation Committee Chair
Sharon Helms, NTTG Program Manager
John Leland, NTTG Planning Technical Advisor
Ron Schellberg, NTTG Technical Workgroup Project Manager

² [Click here](#) for a link to the Western Planning Regions ITP Project Submittal Information (2016-2017 Planning cycles)