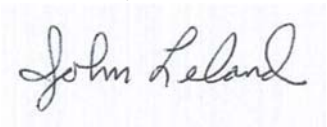
NORTHERN TIER TRANSMISSION GROUP

To: Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee
Subject: NTTG Comments on TEPPC proposed 2015 priorities
Date: May 22, 2015

NTTG recognizes the importance of TEPPC focusing on completing the highest priority work for the remainder of 2015. With this in mind, NTTG offers the following comments on TEPPC's Proposed 2015 priorities:

1. TEPPC must focus on completing the TEPPC 2026 Common Case in a timely manner. This is required in order for NTTG and other Regions to utilize this case in their 2016-2017 biennial planning cycle.
2. The most up to date L&R and transmission topology data should be used in the 2026 Common Case. NTTG's use of the 2024 Common Case in its 2014-2015 biennial planning cycle resulted in significant re-work because the load and resource data was outdated. Hopefully, this experience can be avoided when we use the 2026 Common Case.
3. TEPPC should suspend version updates on the TEPPC 2024 Common Case because the TEPPC 2026 database will supersede the TEPPC 2024 Common Case.
4. TEPPC should take advantage of work done by NTTG when implementing the round trip process using GridView and the NTTG methodology. Incorporating NTTG's prior efforts and lessons learned will help minimize labor costs by avoiding duplication of work and help avoid unnecessary errors.
5. WECC's 2015 Study Program should accomplish the following:
    a. Avoid duplicating the Planning Regions' work and focus instead on high priority scenario analysis;
    b. Focus on studies that have interregional appeal;
    c. Suspend running load sensitivity studies until a better method is developed to replace the flat percentage load increase or decrease (e.g., plus or minus 10%); and
    d. Suspend running reliability assessment (e.g., n-1) as it is duplicative of the reliability analysis that the regions complete.
6. Defer or minimize running any 20 or 30 year studies. NTTG does not use these studies in the development of its Regional Transmission Plan.

Thank You,



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