



California ISO



DATE: August 13, 2015

TO: Ian McKay, TEPPC Chair

CC: Byron Woertz, WECC Manager System Adequacy Planning

FROM: Western Planning Regions
ColumbiaGrid
CAISO
Northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG)
WestConnect

RE: TEPPC 2026 Common Case with Round Trip Capability

This is a collaborative request from the Western Planning Regions requesting TEPPC place the highest priority on producing an operational TEPPC 2026 Common Case, with round trip capability, by Quarter 1, 2016 but no later than March 31, 2016.

NTTG submitted comments to TEPPC addressing 2015 priorities on May 22, 2015 listing the new TEPPC 2026 Common Case as a top priority. In response the Final TEPPC Priorities list Appendix 1, dated June 22, 2015 stated that “[s]taff will begin work on the 2026 Common Case in 2015 and will seek additional resources to make as much progress as possible. But, it cannot be completed during 2015 and work will continue into 2016.” In subsequent meetings the staff noted the completion date of the 2026 Common Case will be spring of 2016.

The Western Planning Regions encourage TEPPC to finalize the development of the 2026 Common Case with the round trip capability by Quarter 1, 2016 but no later than March 31, 2016. The Western Planning Regions’ transmission planning cycles will commence on January 1, 2016, and we desire to make certain that the data and assumptions in the models (both the production cost model and power flow) are current, align with data submitted by stakeholders and reflect the latest public policies of the Western Planning Regions. In addition, the NTTG planning process depends on the TEPPC production cost model database for initiating their technical analysis. Using the round trip methodology with the production cost model (PCM), NTTG identifies hours of potential transmission system stress by surveying all 8760 hours in a year, and builds a corresponding power flow case from PCM data one-hour exports.

The Western Planning Regions’ understand that NTTG has significantly advanced the round trip methodology to automate much of the initial process of reading in a new power flow case. This includes generator mapping between the two datasets. The Western Planning Regions are willing to assist in the TEPPC development process by providing support as necessary to aid the advanced priority desired by the Western Planning Regions. We recognize that the datasets for production cost modeling and power flow are large and that



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WECC staff has limited resources. However, cooperating on data development and vetting issues among us all will yield considerable benefits to all users of this PCM case by:

- Providing TAS committees additional opportunity to collaborate with Western Planning Region stakeholders on developing enhanced data and assumptions that we believe will benefit all WECC users of the PCM data;
- Using the relatively new enhanced “round trip” development process to build the PCM database. NTTG believes that using the enhanced “round trip” development process will provide all WECC users visibility of the value of this development tool;
- Directly involving the Western Planning Regions in validating the data and assumptions within their regional footprints.

In closing, the Western Planning Regions acknowledge the difficult resource constraints WECC staff faces. However, we also believe that through the enhanced “round trip” development process, it is reasonable to conclude that the TEPPC 2026 Common Case can be developed earlier than March 31, 2016.

Thank you for considering our request and please do not hesitate contacting any of the Western Planning Region group contacts if you have questions or need additional information.

Western Planning Region Group Contacts:

WestConnect: Ron Belval, Planning Management Committee Chair (520-745-3420)

NTTG: Dave Angell, Planning Committee Chair (208-388-2701)

ColumbiaGrid: Paul Didsayabutra, Manager of Grid Planning (503-943-4956)

California ISO: Gary DeShazo, Director, Regional Coordination (916-608-5880)