

APPROVED
Northern Tier Transmission Use Committee
Business Practices Work Plan

1 Business Practices Work Plan

1.1 Business Goals

The Transmission Use Committee (TUC) of the Northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG) developed this work plan in response to expressed preference by NTTG members at the January 16, 2008 annual meeting. The work plan components discussed below were presented at a summary level to NTTG stakeholders at the July 25, 2008 semi-annual members meeting. No objections or questions were raised at that time. The TUC requests Steering Committee approval to complete the work described in this plan and present its findings at the next annual NTTG members meeting in January 2009.

1.2 Project Scope

1.2.1 Scope Includes

Business practices for utilities in the Western Interconnection primarily come from three sources:

- (1) A public utility may be required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to incorporate business practices developed by the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) into its Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) or;
- (2) The Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) regional business practices or;
- (2) Business practices may also be developed on a voluntary basis by a utility to provide consistency and clarity regarding certain aspects of its operations.

This work group will be responsible for developing an inventory of NTTG member business practices. This group will also identify where the business practices may be different among members and where potential opportunities may exist to achieve consistent business practices among NTTG members. This group will also review the business practice development process at NAESB and WECC..

This six month work plan is focused primarily on data collection and analysis. The findings of the group and possible next steps will be presented at the NTTG annual meeting in January 2009. Specifically, this work group will complete the following activities.

Q3	Milestone
9/30/2008	Agree on categories to inventory NTTG member-specific business practices
9/30/2008	Review WECC regional business practices and NAESB business practice overview

Q4	Milestone
10/10/2008	Obtain NTTG Steering Committee approval of work plan



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11/03/2008	Finalize inventory and categorization of member business practices
11/14/2008	Compare NTTG member-specific business practices and identify areas of similarity or difference
12/19/2008	Develop possible next steps

Possible next steps could include developing a process for NTTG-member involvement in developing business practices at WECC and/or NAESB or the identification of a need for a new business practice or revision to an existing business practice that could be pursued as part of the business practice development process. Other possible next steps will be determined following the substantial data collection efforts.

1.2.2 Scope Does Not Include

The scope of this project does not include an assessment or determination of whether an NTTG member organization is compliant with NAESB or WECC existing business practices. This project is not meant to provide advice or counsel for emerging NAESB or WECC business practices and involvement. The scope for Q3 and Q4 does not include consolidation of NTTG-member business practices or recommendation of an NTTG position on developing national or regional business practices..

1.3 Approach

The work group will be involved in developing, reviewing and approving each work plan activity and output. The work will be accomplished primarily through conference calls with work group members with action items completed in-between. An initial in-person meeting will occur in September 2008 to develop the categories for the business practices inventory. Depending upon the committees initial findings, a customer and stakeholder input session may be proposed prior to the January 2009 stakeholder meeting to provide an update on initial findings to date and get feedback on the value of what is being provided and direction of the work group.

1.4 Resource Requirements

Work group members should satisfy the requirements needed to complete this work plan and provide all of the business practices of their respective transmission providers.



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2 Assumptions, Issues and Risks

2.1 Assumptions

The TUC work group will adhere to the principles in its charter in performing its work. The work group provides a service to project sponsors and/or transmission providers.

2.2 Issues

An issue that will be determined through the work plan action items described above, is what categories will be the most appropriate to compare business practices of NTTG members assuming that each member will not have identical business practices and that requirements may not be in the same business practice standards.

2.3 Risks

Lack of involvement by the work group (i.e. competing needs for time and resources).



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Business Practices Work Plan

3 Stakeholders

Identify the primary project stakeholders for this effort. These are individuals or organizations whose interests may be positively or negatively affected as a result of project execution or project completion. They may also exert influence over the project and its results.

The following are the stakeholders that have been identified for this project:

Organization	Stakeholder Name	Reason
PacifiCorp	Shay LaBray	NTTG TUC Member w/bus. practices
Idaho Power	Kathy Anderson	NTTG TUC Member w/bus. practices
Northwestern Energy	Pat Weeres	NTTG TUC Member w/bus. practices
Deseret Power Electric Cooperative	Jim Tucker	NTTG TUC Member w/bus. practices
Portland General Electric	Matt Richard	NTTG TUC Member w/bus. practices