

Description of Meeting:	NTTG Planning Committee
Meeting Date:	May 14, 2014
Meeting Notes Prepared By:	Amy Wachsnicht
Approved for Posting:	June 13, 2014

1. Agenda:

- a. Welcome, establish quorum and agenda review
- b. Approve April 9, 2014 Meeting Notes
- c. 2014-2015 NTTG Draft Study Plan Review and Approval Process
- d. Round Table/Other Business

2. Discussions & Decisions:

Decision: Approve April 9, 2014 Meeting Notes

- Minor Edits:
 - Marshall Empey added to attendee list
 - Remove “Chair” from John Leland
- Notes were unanimously approved with the minor edits listed above.

Discussion: 2014-2015 NTTG Draft Study Plan Review and Approval Process

- The goal is to have the draft study plan posted for stakeholder review and comment on Thursday, May 15th.
 - Stakeholder comment period window will be open from May 15th through May 30th.
- A letter will be distributed to stakeholders outlining the process for submitting comments.
- NTTG will have a tracking system similar to the last biennial transmission plan and Order 1000 process to track the written comments as well as a resolution and NTTG response to comments received.
- The initial response from NTTG and the Technical Work Group (TWG) will be compiled and shared at the NTTG Stakeholder meeting in Boise, ID on June 11th.
 - During the next Planning Committee on June 13th, members will vote to support sending the draft study plan to the Steering Committee for final approval.
- Summary of the Draft Study Plan:
 - NTTG will be following a similar approach as the last two study cycles. NTTG will continue to use the TEPPC production cost model (PCM) and develop power flow cases to run the performance analysis (known as the reliability analysis).
 - New to the process this year is that NTTG will be evaluating alternatives to which there was a single alternative project submitted and identify a more efficient or cost effective regional transmission plan.
 - The TWG has written their recommendation with regards to the public policy considerations (PPC); which is to undertake a scenario in the Montana area.
 - There is also information about cost allocation (not in previous study cycles) which has the details about how NTTG will be evaluating and creating scenarios for cost allocation purposes.
 - Similar as what’s in Attachment K, the three criteria or methods that will be used to determine the more efficient or cost effective solution are:
 - Capital costs
 - Changes in energy losses
 - Changes in reserve requirements
 - The details about how NTTG will be running those analyses are outlined in the draft study plan.
- **Question:** Jerry Maio – On the PPC, the recommendation by the TWG is that case that they are studying similar to what we discussed last? The Absaroka?



- **Answer:** Dave Angell – No it is a bit different. Absaroka's proposal was to perform an actual PCM of replacing coal with wind and some storage. The particular study request with regard to the PPC from Cameron Yourkowski was to remove 2 units in Colstrip and replace them with wind, not provide any storage, then take off an additional 2 units.
 - His interest was in evaluating how that impacts the transmission system and whether the transmission system would be able to absorb or if the system performance would still be satisfactory by putting those wind projects in there. It is not a PCM analysis.

Discussion: Round Table/Other Business

- Progress and response to FERC's review of NTTG's filing last fall on Order 1000:
 - NTTG received pretty favorable order with some minor adjustments, mostly clarifying and correcting a few items that were wrong.
 - Correction item –
 - NTTG's filing had required non-public utilities wanting to enroll as a Full Funder, to file a reciprocal tariff with the Commission.
 - Corrected so that the tariff does not have to be filed with FERC, but they would have to adopt and be bound by a tariff or other agreements with the same provisions as other NTTG member's Attachment K filing.
 - Clarification items –
 - Unsponsored projects and how they are generated and dealt with.
 - Provided clarity and additional language so that FERC is aware of what NTTG's intentions are.
 - Public Policy Requirements (PPR) and Public Policy Considerations –In the beginning members captured correctly that it was "transmission needs required by PPR" in Attachment K but left off "transmission needs required by" later in the document.
 - Inserted the language "transmission needs required by" before the terminology PPR in Attachment K.
 - Pre-Qualification eligibility requirements and 3rd Party Contractors:
 - Cleaned language up so that if an entity is using a 3rd party contractor, they do not have to have an executed agreement with the contractor. Instead they must identify the contractor and when they intend to enter into an agreement with the contractor.
 - Defining Ownership like rights.
 - Clarified and defined what that means.
 - The deadline for NTTG's filing is on June 16th; however members will be making their filing with FERC on June 13th.
 - During the June 11th Stakeholder meeting, NTTG will be reporting on the details about what was required and the filing.
- Sharon Helms reminded the committee members that the comment window on the draft study plan is opened starting May 15th and closes on May 30th.
 - During the June 11th NTTG Stakeholder meeting in Boise, ID, NTTG will review the comments and NTTG's proposed initial responses.
 - The next Planning Committee meeting is on June 13th starting at 9:00am (Pacific).
 - NTTG will be seeking a vote in support of the study plan and send it to the Steering Committee for their vote for approval during the June 23rd meeting.
- **Question:** Fred Heutte – Can you just say a word or two about the TWG, how it is organized and what they are doing, I think that would be helpful. You have a paragraph about that on Page 3 but I am curious about how active it is and what their role is going forward.
 - **Answer:** Dave Angell – In our charter of the Planning Committee chair has the opportunity to establish sub-committees as necessary to take on any activities as

delegated by the chair. The TWG is the one subcommittee that we traditionally had here at NTTG.

- They have two tasks:
 - One, is the Biennial Transmission Plan analysis to form the Regional Transmission Plan (RTP).
 - Two, complete any ESR analysis for economic studies that NTTG undertakes
 - The TWG is comprised of individuals who have the expertise in power flow analysis and or PCM and have access to the data so they would have to have agreement with WECC such that they can get the WECC data we run.
 - The Vice chair of the Planning Committee, he has the opportunity to steer the TWG and lead them through this process.
 - The group has been meeting at least once a week to develop the study plan.
 - Going forward, The TWG will be active in the comments that come in and finishing up the study plan so that it is submitted for Planning Committee support to send to the Steering Committee for approval.
 - If the Steering Committee remands the study plan, the TWG would work through that.
 - Starting in the Q3 the TWG will start gathering data and the TEPPC case and the subset of them are the PCM specialists and will undertake the PCM effort and generate the hours we will kick out in the reliability (system performance) analysis using power flow analysis tools.
 - They will develop the draft RTP which will be available in Q5.
 - The TWG will give updates at the monthly Planning Committee meetings, and bring any issues that the Planning Committee members need to weigh in on.
 - Once the draft RTP is reviewed through the stakeholder comment period and comments are received; the TWG will look to see if there is any new data or comments that need to be addressed or added.
 - The TWG will then write the RTP Report; at that time the Cost Allocation Committee will get engaged as well in Q6, if there is any cost allocation that needs to be addressed.
 - Then push to the finish of the RTP at the end of 2015.
- **Question:** Fred Heutte – Is the TWG open or is it closed to just members of that group?
 - **Answer:** Dave Angell – It is not open. It is a sit down and work. For the most part, the way that it has gone on in the past it that assignments are made and parties go off and complete their assignments. The TWG meets on a weekly basis to discuss the progress and issues they may be having. It is a closed meeting that focuses on making sure that tasks are completed and problems are addressed.
- **Question:** Fred Heutte – Is there documentation or minutes or any other kind of output from that group that come to the Planning Committee.
 - **Answer:** Dave Angell – We have not in the past. We have had summary reports that come to the PC on the monthly basis. I guess we will have to look at that benefit or need to put in writing, but it has been verbal in the past.
- **Question:** Fred Heutte – It looks like my proposed study case is not going forward and the reasoning seems reasonable there. There is no point in running it if it is basically identical to what TEPPC has already run. We have other cases and other potential adjustment to those cases in which you have described the process in the draft SP. If I or others have input about issues about data or analysis should we be communicating to the TWG through Craig or do we have to go through the PC?
 - **Answer:** Dave Angell – You have to go through the PC. There is not a forum to directly engage with the TWG.



- If you have those ideas let's discuss them at the PC meeting so all the PC members can weigh in and we can provide coherent direction to the committee.
- **Comment:** Rhett Hurless – Basically most of last month's Planning Committee discussion was about our study request and how the technical aspects of it really didn't fit NTTG's mission.
 - Wanted to advise the members of the PC that we have withdrawn our study request to facilitate the continued activity in NTTG and not confuse anyone.
 - Dave Angell informed committee members that he had dealt with that through email, and hopefully all the Planning Committee members saw those emails.
- The next meeting will be the Stakeholder Meeting on June 11th in Boise, ID with a Planning Committee meeting following on the morning of June 13th.

3. Assignments:

Item #	Assignment	Owner	Target Date	Status
1.	Update & Post April 9 th Meeting Notes	A Wachsnicht	5/19/2014	Completed
2.	Post Draft Study Plan for Stakeholder Comment	A Wachsnicht	5/15/2014	Completed
3.				
4.				

Next Meeting: The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 13th at 9AM Pacific.

- Voice Conference Mtg. **503-813-5252** (toll free #855-499-5252)
- Conference ID **2829572**



Attendees:

NTTG Planning Committee Member Representatives

Membership Class 1		
Dave Angell, Chair, Idaho Power	Rod Lenfest, Sea Breeze Pacific	Scott Waples, Avista Corp
Bill Hosie, TransCanada	Craig Quist, Vice Chair, PacifiCorp	Wes Wingen, Black Hills Power
John Leland, NorthWestern	Jim Tucker, Deseret	

Membership Class 2		
Marshall Empey, UAMPS	Rhett Hurless, Absaroka Energy	Dan Wheeler, Gaelectric

Membership Class 3		
Johanna Bell, ID PUC	Jerry Maio, UT PSC	David Walker, WY PSC
Bob Decker, MT PSC	Scott Pugurd, ID OFC of Energy Resources	

Other NTTG Members & Guests

Jamie Austin, PacifiCorp	Chelsea Loomis, NorthWestern	Amy Wachsicht, NTTG
Gil Coulam, NTTG	Kishore Patel, PacifiCorp	Cameron Yourkowski - RNP
Sharon Helms, NTTG	BJ Shubert - NorthWestern	
Fred Heutte, NWECC	Henry Tilghman, Tilghman & Assoc.	