



MINUTES OF THE
NORTHERN TIER STEERING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Northern Tier Transmission Group (“NTTG”) Steering Committee was held in Salt Lake City on 10th day of July 2018. Participation via web and conference call was also available. The following members and designated alternates were present:

- Stacy Myers, proxy for Travis Allen, MATL,
- Michelle Beck, Utah Office of Consumer Services,
- Shaun Foster, proxy for Larry Bekkedahl, Portland General Electric,
- David Clark, NTTG State Co-Chair/Utah Public Service Commission,
- Marshall Empey, UAMPS,
- Bryce Freeman, Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocates,
- Brian Fritz, NTTG Utility Co-Chair/PacifiCorp,
- Dave Joerger, Idaho Power Company,
- Bob Decker, proxy for Travis Kavulla, Montana Public Service Commission,
- Paul Kjellander, NTTG State Vice-Chair/Idaho Public Utilities Commission,
- Andrew McLain, NorthWestern Energy Corporation,
- Jamie Stamatson, proxy for Larry Nordell, Montana Consumer Counsel,
- David Piroutek, proxy for Bill Russell, Wyoming Public Service Commission, and
- Nathan Powell, proxy for Phil Solomon, Deseret Power Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Megan Decker, Oregon Public Utility Commission was not present and did not designate a proxy.

The following guests were present:

- Dave Angell, Idaho Power Company,
- Rich Bayless, CPS for NTTG,
- Justin Bieber, UAE,
- Kathleen Frasier, Energy Strategies,
- Stephen Goodson, Idaho Public Utilities Commission,
- Nadine Hanhan, Oregon Public Utility Commission,
- Laura Hatfield, Puget Sound Energy, Inc.,

Sharon Helms, CPS for NTTG,
Bill Hosie, TransCanada,
John Leland, CPS for NTTG,
Chelsea Loomis, Northwestern Energy and NTTG Planning Committee Chair,
George Marshall, Puget Sound Energy, Inc.,
Ron Schellberg, NTTG TWG Project Manager,
Courtney Waites, Idaho Power Company and NTTG Cost Allocation Committee Chair, and
Amy Wachslicht, CPS for NTTG.

APPROVAL

MAY 1, 2018 STEERING NOTES

A motion by Commissioner Paul Kjellander to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2018 Steering Committee Meeting was seconded by Brian Fritz and approved. The minutes will be posted on the NTTG website.

REPORT

NTTG 2018-2019 BIENNIAL STUDY PLAN REVIEW

Chelsea Loomis, NTTG Planning Committee Chair, facilitated a walk-through of the [2018-2019 NTTG Biennial Study Plan](#) including the system loads, resources, transmission service obligations, regional and interregional transmission project and alternative project assumptions that will be applied to all NTTG transmission planning studies performed during this study cycle. Ms. Loomis reported that 2028 resources will be included in the analysis and 2029 retirements will be studied as a sensitivity. The sensitivity case, with planned retirements and energy resources that would occur immediately following the ten-year planning horizon, is advised to ensure that unnecessary transmission not be recommended in the Regional Transmission Plan (“RTP”) for a short-term change in resources levels.

NTTG will utilize the round-trip methodology, using Grid View’s Production Cost software to determine those hours in the study year when load and resource conditions are likely to stress the transmission system within the NTTG footprint and Power World’s power flow software to evaluate transmission reliability under N-0 and N-1 conditions as well as certain credible N-2 contingencies. Economic studies will be employed to evaluate Change Cases that were deemed reliable to select the more efficient or cost-effective plan.

Ms. Loomis stated that Public Policy Requirements are included in NTTG’s planning process through the submission of the NTTG Providers Local Transmission Plans. During this

cycle, no additional transmission needs, beyond those submitted by the transmission providers, were submitted to satisfy Public Policy Requirements. Ms. Loomis noted that a Study Plan for the Public Policy Consideration (“PPC”) Study that was submitted this cycle is included as an Attachment in the Study Plan. The PPC analysis is scheduled to be completed in Quarter 6 of the 2018-2019 Biennial Planning Cycle.

Ms. Loomis also walked through the [stakeholder comments](#) that had been submitted on the NTTG 2018-2019 draft Study Plan and NTTG’s responses that were approved by the Planning Committee on June 27, 2018.

Courtney Waites, NTTG Cost Allocation Committee Chair, gave an overview of the four [cost allocation scenarios](#) and the [cost allocation sensitivity case](#). Ms. Waites concluded by noting that NTTG had received two requests for cost allocation and that cost allocation would only be conducted during the 2018-19 planning cycle if one or both projects seeking costs allocation are selected into the NTTG Regional Transmission Plan or the Planning Committee identifies and selects an unsponsored Alternative Project into the NTTG Regional Transmission Plan.

Following these reports, the resolution set forth below was presented for consideration. On a motion by Dave Joerger and second by Paul Kjellander, the resolution was adopted by unanimous consent of the members.

RESOLUTION

APPROVAL OF THE NTTG 2018-2019 BIENNIAL STUDY PLAN

RESOLVED: That the NTTG Steering Committee approves the 2018-2019 NTTG Biennial Study Plan.

REPORT

NTTG COST ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

John Leland, NTTG Technical Advisor, provided an overview of NTTG’s [planning process](#) to select the the more efficient or cost effective regional plan. He reminded parties that the process does not differentiate between regional or interregional transmission solutions. Both rely on the same planning processes and metrics.

Selection of the Draft Regional Transmission Plan (dRTP), requires the Technical Workgroup to complete powerflow analysis to identify reliable alternative plans, and then compute the three metrics (capital related costs, losses and reserves) and incremental costs for 1) the Initial Regional Transmission Plan and 2) the selected Change Cases. The plan with the lowest incremental cost is selected as the Draft Regional Transmission Plan.

Mr. Leland reviewed the iterative cost allocation process applied when an [Interregional Transmission Project \(“ITP”\) is selected in the dRTP](#). He noted that the process has some inherent risk in that the potential iterations between regions could take months. He reminded parties that the Transmission Providers’ regional Attachment K language is identical for all funding members and the Interregional Attachment K language is identical for the Western Planning Regions.

Mr. Leland then went on to review the logic for establishing Cost Allocation Scenarios and the methodology for identifying the benefits and allocating costs to beneficiaries. This allocation is completed in Quarter 6 after projects have been selected into the dRTP.

Finally, he noted that NTTG’s Regional Transmission Plan is informational and not a construction plan, however, cost allocation is firm. Cost recovery has yet to be tested.

REPORT

POTENTIAL NEW REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION UPDATE

Dave Angell, Idaho Power Delivery Planning Manager, provided an update on the efforts to establish a new Regional Planning Organization to replace NTTG and ColumbiaGrid. Mr. Angell reviewed the [organizational objectives](#) that the participants are seeking to achieve and the [logic for taking on this effort now](#).

The expectation is to launch the new organization by January 1, 2020. This timing suggests that the parties file revised tariff language with FERC by January 1, 2019. In April 2018, the CEOs signed a letter to dedicate the necessary resources. Steering, governance and legal committees have been established that are working closely on developing and drafting charters and governance documents. Agreements on charters are targeted for end of June 2019.

Michelle Beck raised concerns that the proposed structure appears to be disenfranchising the state commissions. Everyone is a stakeholder and state agencies, other than commissioners, are being cut out of the process. Commissioner Kjellander reminded parties that resolving governance structures and the role of the states is key to moving forward.

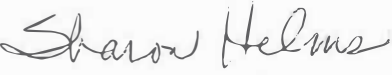
Dave Angell stated he appreciated the feedback and acknowledged that the group is large and moves a bit slowly. There is a multi-track effort in place to complete the work prior to 2020 and the NTTG Steering Committee will continue to be kept apprised on the progress.

STAKEHOLDER COMMENT PERIOD

No additional comments or topics were offered.

ROUND TABLE/OTHER BUSINESS

No additional comments or topics were offered. There being no further action, the meeting adjourned.

By: 
Sharon Helms, NTTG Project Manager

Approved: 
Brian Fritz, NTTG Utility Co-Chair

Approved: 
Paul Kjellander, NTTG State Vice Chair