



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 1st day of May 2018. Participation via web and conference call was also available. The following members and designated alternates were present:

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

The following guests were present:

- Dave Angell, Idaho Power Company,
- Rich Bayless, CPS for NTTG,
- Justin Bieber, UAE
- Shaun Foster, Portland General Electric
- Laura Hatfield, Puget Sound Energy, Inc.,
- Sharon Helms, CPS for NTTG,
- Bill Hosie, TransCanada,

Chelsea Loomis, Northwestern Energy and NTTG Planning Committee Chair,
George Marshall, Puget Sound Energy, Inc.,
Dori Quam, Northwestern Energy,
Ron Schellberg, CPS for NTTG,
Courtney Waites, Idaho Power Company and NTTG Cost Allocation Committee Chair,
Amy Wachslicht, CPS for NTTG.

REPORT

NTTG QUARTER 1 DATA SUBMITTAL UPDATE

Chelsea Loomis, NTTG Planning Committee Chair, provided a recap of the 2018-2019 NTTG Quarter One data submittals including load and resource submissions, new transmission services, Public Policy Requirements, and Interregional Transmission Projects submitted to NTTG. No Economic Congestion Study requests were submitted.

Ms. Loomis pointed out the large [reduction in natural gas and coal retirements](#) in this cycles submission, along with the 2029 additional potential coal retirements. The Technical Workgroup is proposing a sensitivity study to evaluate impacts with or without the additional 2029 coal retirements. This sensitivity study would be for informational purposes only and would not result in inclusion of additional projects in the Regional Transmission Plan.

Ms. Loomis also reported on the Public Policy Consideration Study request that was submitted for consideration this cycle. The request was to examine how regional and interregional public policy impacts the transmission needs within the NTTG footprint. The Planning Committee worked with the requestors and the study details have been revised to better align with the confines of the members Attachment K obligations. The Planning Committee will vote on the study request at the May 9, 2018 meeting. If approved, the Public Policy Consideration Study will be incorporated into the Biennial Study Plan.

Courtney Waites, NTTG Cost Allocation Committee Chair, walked through the cost allocation data submitted by Great Basin Transmission for the SWIP-N Project and TransCanyon for the Cross-Tie Project. Committee members discussed how NTTG's proportionate share of costs are determined for Interregional Transmission Projects and requested additional information detailing how NTTG identifies costs and allocates benefits to beneficiaries be provided during the next Steering Meeting.

Ms. Waites also reported on the process underway for the development of cost allocation scenarios noting the similarities to what had been developed in previous cycles; i.e., high and low load forecast, replacing wind with solar, and coal replaced by wind and solar. The Cost

Allocation Committee meets on May 2, 2018 to vote on whether these are the appropriate scenarios.

REPORT

POTENTIAL NEW REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION UPDATE

Dave Angell, Idaho Power Delivery Planning Manager, presented an update on the efforts to establish a new Regional Planning Organization. Mr. Angell reviewed [benefits](#) that the new organization is hoping to realize including better coordination and collaboration, reduced costs and control over transmission planning for the Pacific Northwest and Intermountain Area.

Mr. Angell reviewed the proposed [governance structure](#) that includes a Member Committee comprised of jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional entities whose responsibilities are similar to the NTTG Funders Committee. The organizational structure also has an Area Planning Committee with participation by all members and a Regional Planning and Cost Allocation Committee that is comprised only of the FERC jurisdictional members who use the organization to comply with Order 1000 planning and cost allocation requirements. Members discussed the fact that this structure provides the non-FERC jurisdictional entities with the opportunity to participate in the project analysis and determination of benefits but ultimately can opt out if they decide the project does not make sense. While this could result in costs being allocated only to the FERC jurisdictional entities, it was noted that to date the only parties requesting NTTG cost allocation are the non-incumbents. Unless this changed, the process presents the same challenges as today; i.e., parties are still required to analyze a project's benefits and negotiate cost allocation.

Mr. Angell also updated the committee on the deliberations that are underway regarding how the states and other regulatory parties can participate in the new organization. He acknowledged that previously the states voiced an opinion that voting rights were not a "must have" but also recognized their request to continue to have the ability to meaningfully participate in the planning and cost allocation process. Dave noted that the new organization would have the same obligations for openness and transparency as NTTG, and stakeholder and committee meetings would be open and provide opportunities for state and regulatory engagement. Commissioner Kjellander stated that he felt the regulators role is greater than that of a stakeholder and while transparency and openness is a partial remedy, it's likely not sufficient on its own. Members further discussed the possibility setting up an advisory committee and the potential of using an existing organization like WIRAB or CREPC. Members also expressed the desire for the meetings to be rotated in various locations within the footprint and not become I-5 centric.

Mr. Angell stated that the participants are in the process of drafting funding agreements and charters and today's input will be helpful in formulating those documents. Commissioner Kjellander requested that to the extent it is determined there is a role for regulators, it would be helpful to have a document that compared the regulators current opportunities for input with those of the potential future organization.

Mr. Angell closed by reviewing the timeline, noting that the goal is to finalize the governance structure and agreements, including draft tariff language and charters, and for participants to vote on whether to move forward prior to the end of June 2018. A FERC filing is targeted for the end of 2018, followed by the initiation of an RFP process and vendor selection by the middle of the third quarter 2019.

APPROVAL

DECEMBER 14, 2017 STEERING NOTES

A motion by Commissioner Paul Kjellander to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2017 Steering Committee Meeting was seconded by Marshall Empey and approved. The minutes will be posted on the NTTG website.

APPROVAL

NTTG STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Incumbent Commissioner Travis Kavulla nominated Commissioner David Clark for the position of NTTG Steering Committee State Co-Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Paul Kjellander and Commissioner Clark was elected by acclamation.

Commissioner Kavulla nominated Commissioner Kjellander as the NTTG Steering Committee State Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Kjellander was elected by acclamation.

Dave Joerger nominated Brian Fritz for the position of NTTG Utility Co-Chair. The nomination was seconded by Travis Allen and Mr. Fritz was elected by acclamation. No submissions were put forth for the Utility Vice Chair and the position will remain vacant.

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: Approved:
David Clark, NTTG State Co-Chair



Approved:
Brian Fritz, NTTG Utility Co-Chair