

**Southwest Power Pool  
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Teleconference**

**March 4, 2010**

**• M I N U T E S •**

**Agenda Item 1 – Administrative Items**

Chair Nick Brown called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Other members in attendance or represented by proxy were: Jim Eckelberger (Director), Rob Janssen (Dogwood), Cindy Holman (OMPA), Mel Perkins (OG&E), and Steve Parr (KEPCo). SPP Staff included Stacy Duckett.

**Agenda Item 2 – Expiring Term Nominations**

Nick Brown reviewed those whose terms expire on the Board of Directors, Regional Entity Trustees and Members Committee at the end of 2010 (BOD, RE, Members Committee Terms – Attachment 1). Steve Parr moved to nominate Phyllis Bernard and Julian Brix for new 3-year terms on the Board of Directors. Cindy Holman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Steve Parr moved to nominate John Meyer for a new 3-year term on the Regional Entity Trustees. Cindy Holman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Membership has been notified of expiring terms on the Members Committee. Additional reminders will be issued prior to the Corporate Governance Committee meeting in September, at which time the committee will finalize the ballot for the 2011 election.

**Agenda Item 3 – Withdrawal Obligations/Transmission Expansion Costs**

The committee discussed preliminary drafts of proposed changes to the Membership Agreement, Bylaws and Tariff related to the continuing obligation of a withdrawing member to fund transmission expansion costs (Draft Document Revisions – Attachment 2). SPP Staff will distribute this to the Strategic Planning Committee for feedback as well. A meeting will be scheduled in conjunction with the July Board of Directors meeting to further discuss and finalize a recommendation. In the interim, the Committee members are encouraged to provide feedback.

**Adjournment**

Nick Brown thanked everyone for participating and adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Duckett, Secretary

## SPP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

	<b>TERM EXPIRES</b>
Larry Altenbaumer	2011
Phyllis Bernard	2010
Julian Brix	2010
Nick Brown	N/A
Jim Eckelberger	2012
Josh Martin	2011
Harry Skilton	2012

**Class of 2010**

Phyllis Bernard  
Julian Brix

**Class of 2011**

Josh Martin  
Larry Altenbaumer

**Class of 2012**

Jim Eckelberger  
Harry Skilton

## REGIONAL ENTITY TRUSTEES

	<b>TERM EXPIRES</b>
Gerry Burrows	2011
Dave Christiano	2012
John Meyer	2010

**Class of 2010**  
John Meyer

**Class of 2011**  
Gerry Burrows

**Class of 2012**  
Dave Christiano

## SPP MEMBERS COMMITTEE

SECTOR		COMPANY	TERM EXPIRES
Investor Owned Utilities	Kelly Harrison	Westar	2010
	Mel Perkins	OG+E	2011
	Mike Deggendorf	KCPL	2012
	Stuart Solomon	AEP	2010
Cooperatives	Steve Parr	KEPCo	2011
	Gary Roulet	WFEC	2012
	Gary Voigt	AECC	2010
	Mike Wise	GSEC	2012
Municipals	Jeff Knottek	City Utilities of Springfield	2010
	Cindy Holman	OMPA	2011
IPPs/Marketers	Trudy Harper	Tenaska	2012
	Rob Janssen	Dogwood	2010
	Brett Kruse	Calpine	2011
State/Federal Agencies	Kevin Easley	GRDA	2012
	Pat Pope	NPPD	2011
Large Retail Customer	vacant		2011
Small Retail Customer	vacant		2010
Public Interest/ Alternative Power	vacant		2011
	vacant		2012

### Class of 2010

Kelly Harrison  
Stuart Solomon  
Gary Voigt  
Jeff Knottek  
Rob Janssen  
Sm. Retail (vacant)

### Class of 2011

Mel Perkins  
Steve Parr  
Cindy Holman  
Brett Kruse  
Pat Pope  
Lg. Retail (vacant)  
Publ Int/Alt Pwr (vacant)

### Class of 2012

Mike Deggendorf  
Gary Roulet  
Mike Wise  
Trudy Harper  
Kevin Easley  
Publ Int/Alt Pwr (vacant)

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.  
Bylaws  
Original Volume No. 4

# **Southwest Power Pool, Inc.**

## **B Y L A W S**

Issued by: L. Patrick Bourne, Manager  
Transmission and Regulatory Policy

Effective: May 1, 2004

Issued on: August 2, 2004

Filed to comply with order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Docket Nos. RT04-1-002 and ER04-48-002, issued July 2, 2004, 108 FERC ¶ 61,003.

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**B Y L A W S**  
**of**  
**Southwest Power Pool, Inc.**

**PREAMBLE**

The values and principles upon which SPP is incorporated and formed include: a relationship-based organization; member-driven processes; independence through diversity of Organizational Group membership; recognition that reliability and economic/equity issues are inseparable; and, deliberate evolutionary, as opposed to revolutionary, implementation of new concepts. These values and principles should guide those serving this organization. The Board of Directors will endeavor to ensure equity to all Members while also assuring the continuous adaptation to controlling conditions within these stated values and principles.

**1.0 DEFINITIONS**

**1.1 Affiliate Relationships**

Affiliate Relationships are relationships between SPP Members that have one or more of the following attributes in common:

- (a) are subsidiaries of the same company;
- (b) one Member is a subsidiary of another Member;
- (c) have, through an agency agreement, turned over control of a majority of their generation facilities to another Member;
- (d) have, through an agency agreement, turned over control of a majority of their transmission system to another Member, except to the extent that the facilities are turned over to an independent transmission company recognized by FERC;
- (e) have an exclusive marketing alliance between Members; or
- (f) ownership by one Member of ten percent or greater of another Member.

## **1.2 Articles of Incorporation**

SPP's articles of incorporation as filed with the state of Arkansas.

## **1.3 Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of SPP, which shall manage the general business of SPP pursuant to these Bylaws.

## **1.4 Bylaws**

These bylaws.

## **1.5 Criteria**

Planning and operating standards and procedures as approved by the Board of Directors.

### **1.5a Existing Obligations**

Certain financial obligations as defined in Section 8.7.1 of these Bylaws.

### **1.5b ERO**

The Electric Reliability Organization under FERC jurisdiction that regulates reliability of the electric power grid.

## **1.6 Member**

An entity that has met the requirements of Section 2.2 of these Bylaws.

## **1.7 Membership**

The collective Members of SPP.

## **1.8 Membership Agreement**

The contract, that specifies the rights and obligations of the parties, executed between SPP and an entity seeking to become an SPP member.

## **1.9 NERC**

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation or successor organizations.

## **1.10 Net Energy for Load**

The electrical energy requirements of an electric system are defined as system net generation plus energy received from others, less energy delivered to others through interchange. It includes system losses but excludes energy required for the storage at energy storage facilities.

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### **1.11 Officers**

The officers of SPP as elected by the Board of Directors. The Officers consist of the President and the Corporate Secretary, at a minimum. Any Officer must be independent of any Member organization.

### **1.12 Organizational Group**

A group, other than the Board of Directors, comprising a committee or working group that is charged with specific responsibilities toward accomplishing SPP's mission.

### **1.13 Regional Criteria**

SPP planning and operating standards and procedures as approved by the Board of Directors.

### **1.14 Regional Entity Trustees**

A governing body of SPP, independent of the Board of Directors, which specifically oversees SPP's function as an ERO Regional Entity pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

### **1.15 Regional Reliability Standards**

Electric reliability requirements submitted to the ERO by the Regional Entity Trustees; and once approved, implemented and enforced by SPP under authority as the Regional Entity.

### **1.16 Registered Entity(ies)**

A bulk electric system owner, operator or user that is required to comply with ERO reliability standards pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

### **1.17 SPP**

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

### **1.18 SPP Regional Entity**

That part of SPP responsible for the delegated functions pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

### **1.19 SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program**

The program used by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") and the Regional Entities to monitor, assess, and enforce compliance with Reliability Standards within the United States.

### **1.20 Staff**

The technical and administrative staff of SPP as hired by the Officers to accomplish SPP's mission.

### **1.21 Standards Development Team**

An SPP Organizational Group assigned or choosing to develop an SPP Regional Reliability Standard for submission to the ERO for approval for enforcement.

### **1.22 Transmission Owning Member**

A Member that has placed more than 500 miles of non-radial facilities operated at or above 60 kV under the independent administration of SPP for the provision of regional transmission service as set forth in the Membership Agreement.

### **1.23 Transmission Using Member**

A Member that does not meet the definition of a Transmission Owning Member.

## **2.0 MEMBERSHIP**

### **2.1 Qualifications**

Membership in SPP is voluntary and is open to any electric utility, Federal power marketing agency, transmission service provider, any entity engaged in the business of producing, selling and/or purchasing electric energy for resale, and any entity willing to meet the membership requirements, including execution of the Membership Agreement. Membership also is open to any entity eligible to take service under the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT). These entities desire the greater efficiency and service reliability gained through better coordination by voluntary association in SPP as constituted herein and in the SPP Articles of Incorporation. Members recognize that such association has a significant effect upon the availability and reliability of the bulk electric power supply of the region, and thereby affects the reliability of the nation's electric power supply.

## **2.2 Applications**

Membership by an entity shall be obtained upon meeting the following requirements:

- (a) Meeting membership qualifications;
- (b) Providing an application for membership to the SPP President; and
- (c) Executing the Membership Agreement and delivering a signed copy to the President.

The President shall review applications, approve those meeting membership qualifications and promptly give written notice of the new Member to all other Members. The Board of Directors will review any disputes arising as to the qualifications of the new Member. Membership will commence at the beginning of the next calendar month following completion of these requirements or some other date as may be mutually agreed upon.

## **2.3 Member Responsibilities and Obligations**

Members recognize that SPP exists and operates for the benefit of the bulk electric transmission system and to ensure the reliability of the nation's power supply. As such, Members are required to act to further these goals by participating in projects, and complying with regulatory requirements. Failure to comply with these provisions will be considered a violation of these Bylaws and the Member may be removed in accordance with the provisions for *Removal of Members* in the Membership Agreement.

## **2.4 Termination, Removal and Reinstatement**

The Board of Directors may terminate the membership of any Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement. The President shall promptly give written notice of the removal to all other Members. Any former Member seeking to rejoin SPP shall apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement. In its application for reinstatement, the former Member shall:

- (a) provide evidence that it has fully paid any accrued financial obligation to SPP;
- (b) demonstrate it has corrected the reason for its removal;
- (c) establish that it will be in compliance with SPP membership requirements; and
- (d) deliver an executed Membership Agreement to the President.

## **2.5 Participation in Regional Entity Activities**

Participation in SPP Regional Entity activities is open to the public and does not require membership in SPP, Inc. nor any of the obligations of membership, including SPP, Inc.'s annual fee.

## **3.0 ORGANIZATIONAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **3.1 Structure**

Member input on decision-making shall be accomplished primarily through Membership participation in Organizational Groups. Members are expected to provide representation to Organizational Groups as requested. Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, Organizational Group representation will be appointed by the Board of Directors, who shall consider the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations, to achieve a widespread and effective representation of the Membership. The Chair of any Organizational Group may appoint any ad hoc task forces as necessary to fulfill its mission. Task force appointments shall be made with due consideration of the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations. Criteria for serving on an Organizational Group will be determined in the group's scope. Except for any full representation group, an appointment to an Organizational Group is for an individual, not a corporate entity. Participation in certain sessions of Organizational Group meetings where market sensitive issues are discussed may be restricted to persons representing entities that have executed ERO's Confidentiality Agreement. Representatives on all Organizational Groups will be documented in the SPP directory maintained by the Staff. Organizational Group vacancies will be filled on an interim basis by appointment of the President unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.

### **3.2 Attendance and Proxy**

Except for the Market and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC), if a representative does not attend three consecutive Organizational Group meetings, he/she will be considered to have resigned from the group, absent express waiver of this requirement by the chair of the group. Any appeal of removal from the roster of an Organizational Group should be directed to the Corporate Secretary. Any resulting vacancy will be filled in accordance with Section 3.1 *Structure* of these Bylaws.



If a representative is unable to attend an Organizational Group meeting, he/she may in writing appoint a substitute representative who shall have such rights to participate and vote as the representative specifies. The substitute representative may be another member of the Organizational Group or another person who has the authority to act on behalf of the representative. A representative may not grant a proxy for more than three consecutive meetings without the express consent of the chair of the Organizational Group. If a representative exceeds the proxy limit, he/she will be considered to have resigned from the Organizational Group and the vacancy will be filled in accordance with these Bylaws; except, in the case of any full representation Organizational Group, in which case a new representative will be solicited from the member company.

A proxy provided to another representative of the Organizational Group will not be recorded as attendance at the meeting and will not serve to meet or maintain the quorum requirements. A proxy provided to another person with the authority to act on behalf of the representative will be recorded as attendance at a meeting for the purpose of meeting or maintaining the quorum requirements.

### **3.3 Leadership**

#### **3.3.1 Appointment**

The Chair of all Organizational Groups shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration and appointment by the Board of Directors. A Vice Chair shall be elected by the members of an Organizational Group, unless provided otherwise in these Bylaws.

A Vice Chair shall act for a Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) if the Chair becomes incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the position; or
- (c) if the position of the Chair becomes vacant, until a new Chair takes office.

### **3.3.2 Terms**

The terms of the Chair and Vice Chair of all Organizational Groups shall coincide with the two-year term of the Chair of the Board of Directors. Organizational Group representation will be reviewed annually for compliance with the Bylaws by the Corporate Governance Committee.

### **3.3.3 Vacancies**

Should any individual having been appointed as a Chair of any Organizational Group be unable to serve for the term specified, or be unable to serve on a NERC Organizational Group under provisions of these Bylaws, a replacement shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Directors for the unexpired term of office.

### **3.4 Executive Authority**

The Officers shall carry out the rights, duties, and obligations of SPP pursuant to the authority granted by the Board of Directors. Officers will execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for all employees of SPP. The Officers shall be empowered to:

- (a) employ qualified technical and administrative employees;
- (b) engage office space;
- (c) employ outside technical and special service organizations;
- (d) execute contracts;
- (e) provide for independent regional reliability coordination, transmission service administration, and other services as may be directed by the Board of Directors;
- (f) serve as SPP's representative before regulatory bodies, NERC, and in other public forums;
- (g) incur reasonable expenses; and
- (h) make Staff resources available to individual Members or groups of Members on a non-firm, non-priority, first-come-first-serve basis so as not to interfere with current or future needs and priorities established by SPP.

### **3.5 Meetings**

Organizational Groups shall meet as necessary. SPP meetings shall be open, however, any Organizational Group may limit attendance at a meeting by an affirmative vote of the Organizational Group as necessary to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information, including but not limited to Order 889 Code of Conduct requirements, personnel, financial, or legal matters. Representatives shall be given at least fifteen days written notice of the date, time, place and purpose of each regular or special meeting. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair of any Organizational Group with at least one-day prior notice.

### **3.6 Order of Business**

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order will generally govern all SPP meetings on any point not specifically covered in these Bylaws.

### **3.7 Expenses**

The expenses of a representative participating in the activities of SPP Organizational Groups and task forces shall be borne by that representative.

### **3.8 Quorum**

The quorum for a meeting of the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership shall be those Members present. The quorum for any other Organizational Group or task force shall be one-half of the representatives thereof, but not less than three representatives; provided, that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time. The quorum for a meeting must be established and maintained throughout the meeting in order for the Organizational Group to take any binding action(s). Notwithstanding the above, any actions taken before a quorum is lost are considered valid and binding. A proxy will serve to meet the quorum requirements as described in Section 3.2 *Proxy* of these Bylaws.

### **3.9 Voting**

#### **3.9.1 Markets and Operations Policy Committee and Membership**

Upon joining, Members shall be assigned to one of two Membership sectors for the sole purpose of voting on matters before the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership: Transmission Owning Members, or Transmission Using Members. Each sector votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. An action is approved if the average of these two percentages is at

least sixty-six percent. If no Members are present within a sector, the single present sector-voting ratio will determine approval. Unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws, the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership may determine to vote on an issue by email. The outcome of any email vote must be recorded in the minutes for the group.

### **3.9.2 Organizational Groups and Task Forces**

Each representative of an Organizational Group or Task Force shall have one vote. A simple majority of participants present or represented by proxy and voting shall be required for approval of an action for all other Organizational Group and Task Force action(s). Unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws, an Organizational Group or Task Force may determine to vote on an issue by email. The outcome of any email vote must be recorded in the minutes for the group.

If an Organizational Group is acting as a Standards Development Team as defined in Section 9.5 *Regional Reliability Standards Development Process* of these Bylaws, it will vote in accordance with the SPP Standards Development Process as approved by FERC.

### **3.10 Appeal**

Should any Member or group of Members disagree on an action taken or recommended by any Organizational Group, such Member(s) may, in writing, appeal and submit an alternate recommendation to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting at which consideration of the action by the Board of Directors is scheduled.

### **3.11 Staff Independence and Support**

SPP Staff members will be required to execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment and annually thereafter. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for employees of SPP. The President shall assign to each Organizational Group an SPP Staff member, who shall attend all meetings and act as secretary to the Organizational Group and any ad hoc task forces of that group. Staff secretaries of all Organizational Groups and task forces shall be non-voting. Minutes shall be kept of pertinent discussion, business transacted, decisions reached, and actions taken at each meeting of SPP Organizational Groups or task forces by the secretary. Minutes shall be published within seven calendar days following a meeting but in any event in advance of the next meeting, and considered final documents upon their approval by the Organizational Group or task force.

### **3.12 Publications and Data Bases**

SPP shall publish and distribute reports as necessary to fulfill the SPP mission. SPP shall also develop and maintain electronic databases of relevant technical information. The release of member-specific proprietary information will be governed by the appropriate SPP governing document (the OATT, the Membership Agreement, the Bylaws, the SPP Criteria) and/or a properly executed confidentiality agreement. Standard publications and standard forms of non-proprietary information will be made available at no charge

### **3.13 Dispute Resolution**

These procedures are established for the equitable, efficient and expeditious resolution of disputes. These procedures are intended to cover disputes between any two or more Members, between Members and consenting non-members, or between SPP and any Member(s) or consenting non-member(s). SPP and Members are strongly encouraged to take part in the complete process herein described prior to litigation or the utilization of other dispute resolution processes. SPP administrative involvement in the proceeding is to coordinate with an appropriate firm or panel to facilitate the resolution of the dispute and to provide meeting coordination and facilities. These procedures do not apply to disputes that are covered by the dispute resolution procedures of the SPP OATT or the SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

#### **3.13.1 Instigation**

Any Member may begin these dispute resolution procedures by making a request in writing to the President. The President will inform the Board of Directors of the initiation of any dispute resolution proceedings. This written request must contain the authorized signatures of all parties to the dispute. The request must contain:

- (a) a statement of the issues in dispute;
- (b) the positions of each of the parties relating to each of the issues;
- (c) the specific dispute resolution procedure desired; and
- (d) any agreed-upon modifications or specific additions to the proceedings described in these Bylaws by which the dispute may be resolved.

#### **3.13.2 Dispute Resolution Process**

In the event SPP is a party to the dispute, the parties shall engage a firm specializing in alternative dispute resolution to administer the dispute resolution process. The firm will be mutually determined by the parties and the process will be administered in accordance with these Bylaws and such other SPP governing documents as may be relevant to the proceeding. In the event the parties cannot mutually agree to the engagement of a firm, the dispute resolution process will be abandoned and other available means for resolution will be pursued.

In the event SPP is not a party to the dispute, the parties to the dispute may engage a firm specializing in alternative dispute resolution to administer the dispute resolution process. The firm will be mutually determined by the parties and the process will be administered in accordance with these Bylaws and such other SPP governing documents as may be relevant to the proceeding. In the event the parties cannot mutually agree to the engagement of a firm, and do not determine some other mutually acceptable procedure, the President of SPP shall provide to each party to the dispute a list of candidates to be used in forming a three-person dispute resolution panel. The candidates shall be persons meeting the requirements for directors. The President shall then call a telephone conference meeting during which each party shall alternate striking names from the list

until those remaining constitute the dispute resolution panel. This panel shall select a chair from its membership. Should any candidate decline to serve or resign from a current appointment for any reason, the candidate whose name was last struck from the list shall be contacted to serve. The President shall assign a Staff representative to assist the panel as secretary. The President shall manage the panel selection process to ensure its timely completion.

### **3.13.3 Resolution Procedures**

The types of proceedings available for the resolution of disputes are:

- (a) An Advisory Proceeding to assist each party through discussion and advice, on a separate and individual basis without active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations, to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (b) A Mediation Proceeding to assist the parties through active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations (including specific recommendations of the issues in dispute) through which the parties indirectly attempt to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (c) A non-binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of fact, and issue specific written recommendations for resolution of each issue in dispute.
- (d) A binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of fact, and issue directives and awards for resolution of each issue in dispute.

The panel chair shall determine meeting arrangements and format necessary to efficiently expedite the resolution of the dispute, and the Staff secretary shall notify the parties of these details. Each party to the dispute must have at least one representative present at all related meetings with full authority to resolve the dispute. Upon conclusion of this process, the panel chair shall notify the President of its outcome. After consultation with the parties to the dispute



and the panel chair to determine the completion of the process as described herein, and/or as modified by the parties, the President shall discharge the panel, and notify the Board of Directors of the results. The parties to the dispute agree to complete the process within 90 days from selection of the panel. Final determinations may be subject to corporate or regulatory approvals, which the parties should disclose at the outset of the process. The Staff secretary shall maintain minutes of the panel meetings, which shall become part of SPP's historical records.

#### **3.13.4 Expenses**

The parties to the dispute shall share equally all reasonable charges for the meeting location, administrative costs, and related travel expenses of panel members. The parties to the dispute shall also share equally all reasonable compensation for time and service of panel members and related incremental expenses of the SPP Staff. The President shall determine reasonableness of time and service costs for panel members prior to process implementation. The SPP Staff secretary shall account for these expenses. Each party to the dispute shall be responsible for their respective associated expenses.

#### **3.13.5 Liability**

The parties to any dispute which is the subject of these dispute resolution procedures shall hold harmless SPP, its Members, Organizational Groups and each of their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives, and the panel members from any liabilities, claims, or damages resulting from any agreement or lack of agreement as a result of the dispute resolution proceedings. The foregoing hold harmless right shall not be extended to the parties to any given dispute or to their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives.

#### **3.14 Meeting of Members**

The Chair of the Board of Directors shall convene and preside over meetings of Members for the purpose of electing Directors, Members Committee representatives, and Regional Entity Trustees to positions becoming vacant in the ensuing year, and any other necessary business. The Membership shall meet at least once per calendar year.

### **3.15 Liability, Insurance and Indemnification**

For purposes of this section “SPP” refers to SPP and its officers, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, employees or agents, and “Member” refers to the Members of SPP as defined in these Bylaws. None of the provisions of this section, including the waiver of liability in Section 3.15.1 below, absolving SPP or its Members, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officer, agents, employees or other representatives of liability or any provisions for insurance or indemnification apply to actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

#### **3.15.1 Waiver of Liability**

- (a) SPP shall not be liable to any Member for damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action, or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (b) No Member shall be liable to any other Member or to SPP for damages arising out of or related to any action by the Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (c) Each Member waives any future claim it might have against SPP or other Members arising out of or resulting from any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (d) SPP waives any future claim it might have against any Member arising out of or resulting from any actions taken by a Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.

#### **3.15.2 Insurance**

The President is authorized to procure insurance to protect SPP, its directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives against damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria or pursuant to the OATT.

### **3.15.3 Indemnification of Directors, Officers, Agents and Employees**

Except for actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct, SPP shall indemnify its directors, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives to the maximum extent allowed by law consistent with these Bylaws. Each director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative of SPP shall be indemnified by SPP against all judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses, including legal fees, incurred as a result of, or in connection with, any threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative proceedings to which the incumbent may be made a party by reason of acting or having acted in official capacity as a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or representative of SPP, or in any other capacity which the incumbent may hold at the request of SPP, as its representative in any other organization, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative must have acted in good faith and, in the case of criminal proceedings, must have had no reasonable cause to believe that conduct was unlawful; provided, that SPP shall not provide indemnification of any conduct judged unlawful in criminal proceedings. When acting in official capacity, the incumbent must have reasonably believed that conduct was in the best interests of SPP, and, when acting in any other capacity, must have reasonably believed that conduct was at least not opposed to the best interests of SPP.
- (b) If the proceeding was brought by or on behalf of SPP, however, indemnification shall be made only with respect to reasonable expenses referenced above. No indemnification of any kind shall be made in any such proceeding in which the director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have been adjudged liable to SPP.

- (c) In no event, however, will indemnification be made with respect to any described proceeding which charges or alleges improper personal benefit to a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative and where liability is imposed on the basis of the receipt of such improper personal benefit.
- (d) In order for any director, Regional Entity Trustee, agent, employee, or other representative to receive indemnification under this provision, the person shall vigorously assert and pursue any and all defenses to those claims, charges, or proceedings covered herein which are reasonable and legally available and shall fully cooperate with SPP or any attorneys involved in the defense of any such claim, charges, or proceedings on behalf of SPP.
- (e) No indemnification shall be made in any specific instance until it has been determined by SPP that indemnification is permissible in that specific case, under the standards set forth herein and that any expenses claimed or to be incurred are reasonable. These two (2) determinations shall be made by a majority vote of at least a quorum of the Board of Directors consisting solely of directors who were not parties to the proceeding for which indemnification or reimbursement of expenses is claimed. If such a quorum cannot be obtained, a majority of at least a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including directors who are parties to said proceeding, shall designate a special legal counsel who shall make said determinations on behalf of SPP.
- (f) Any reasonable expenses, as shall be determined above, that have been incurred by a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative who has been made a party to a proceeding as defined herein, may be paid or reimbursed in advance upon a majority vote of a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including those who may be a party to the same proceeding. However, such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have provided SPP with (i) a written affirmation under oath that the incumbent, in good faith, believes the

conditions of indemnification herein have been met; and (ii) a written undertaking that the incumbent shall repay any amounts advanced, with interest accumulated at a reasonable rate, if it is ultimately determined that such conditions are not met.

#### **3.15.4 Limitations**

The provisions of this section 3.15 are subject to applicable state and federal laws, if any, which limit the ability of a Member to waive liability or enter into agreements of indemnity. Any benefits under this Section 3.15 shall not extend to any Member so limited by state or federal law in complying with the provisions thereof.

#### **3.16 Compliance with Membership Requirements**

Compliance monitoring of Members and Staff shall be performed to ensure compliance with all requirements of Membership. Certain SPP compliance monitoring and enforcement functions, as detailed in Section 9.0, shall be performed in concert with related ERO programs, and will be overseen by the Regional Entity Trustees. Other monitoring functions shall be provided by appropriate SPP staff under the oversight of the Oversight Committee and the Board of Directors. Compliance monitoring shall be an after-the-fact investigative and assessment function.

Monitoring functions shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved Bylaws, Regional Criteria, OATT, and agreements between SPP and its Members;
- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible non-compliance with Membership requirements;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in order to investigate non-compliance with Membership requirements upon approval from the Oversight Committee;
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of Membership requirements are determined and documented;
- (e) Imposition of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance associated with the results of investigations or audits pursuant to approved standards, policies and/or Criteria;
- (f) Confirmation that SPP is conforming to its own Regional Criteria, OATT, business practices, and reliability operations in a manner that does not stifle the efficiency of the energy markets;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and
- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define requirements and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance with Membership requirements.

Issued by: L. Patrick Bourne, Director – Regulatory Policy

Issued on: November 3, 2008  
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Effective: April 5, 2008

### **3.17 Market Monitoring**

SPP shall establish and provide appropriate support to a market monitoring function in accordance with its OATT. Market monitoring functions shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the SPP transmission system, the operation of a robust, competitive and non-discriminatory electric power market, and the principle that a Market Participant as defined in the SPP OATT, or group of Market Participants, shall not have undue influence or impact.

The market monitoring unit shall report to the Board of Directors. Any public reports submitted shall be provided to the Board of Directors and concurrently to the appropriate regulatory body or bodies. The President shall ensure that the market monitoring entity has adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of its duties.

Market monitoring functions shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Monitoring and reporting on compliance and market power issues relating to transmission services, including compliance and market power issues involving congestion management and ancillary services and the potential of any market participant(s) to exercise market power within the region by affecting available transmission capacity;
- (b) Evaluation and recommendation of any required modifications to the OATT, standards or Criteria;

- (c) Ensuring that the monitoring program is conducted in an independent and objective manner;
- (d) Development of reporting procedures to inform governmental agencies and others concerning market monitoring activities;
- (e) Monitoring the behavior of market participants to determine whether there is any behavior that hinders the reliable, efficient and non-discriminatory provision of transmission service by SPP;
- (f) Ensuring that SPP's involvement in markets does not discriminate in favor of any market participant or its own interests; and
- (g) Recommend plans for mitigating market power, subject to appropriate regulatory approval.

#### **4.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

##### **4.1 Duties**

The Board of Directors shall at all times act in the best interest of SPP in its management, control and direction of the general business of SPP. The Board of Directors shall solicit and consider a straw vote from the Members Committee as an indication of the level of consensus among Members in advance of taking any actions other than those occurring in executive session. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Direct activities of all SPP Organizational Groups;
- (b) Serve on SPP Organizational Groups;
- (c) Remove Members, and approve the re-entry of Members that have been removed;
- (d) Authorize all substantive contracts and debt instruments;
- (e) Select and review the performance of SPP Officers, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors;
- (f) Approve policies by which positions, duties, qualifications, salaries, benefits and other necessary matters pertaining to the SPP Officers are determined;
- (g) Review, approve, disapprove or recommend revision to the actions of any Organizational Group;
- (h) Act on appeals pursuant to Section 3.10;



- (i) Approve and implement Regional Criteria for enforcement under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement;
- (j) Provide input with the Members Committee to the Regional Entity Trustees, on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval;
- (k) Approve or revise the operating and capital budgets and any additional expenditures;
- (l) Convene a meeting of Members at least annually;
- (m) Approve amendments to these Bylaws as permitted by these Bylaws;
- (n) Approve amendments to the Membership Agreement as permitted by the Membership Agreement;
- (o) Approve Regional Criteria pertaining to planning and operating standards and policies and penalties for non-compliance with such Criteria; and
- (p) Authorize filings with regulatory bodies.

## **4.2 Composition and Qualifications**

### **4.2.1 Composition**

The Board of Directors shall consist of seven persons. The seven directors shall be independent of any Member; one director shall be the President of SPP. A Director shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve. The President shall be excluded from voting on business related to the office of President or the incumbent of that office. No other Staff member shall be permitted to serve as a director

#### **4.2.2 Qualifications**

Directors shall have recent and relevant senior management expertise and experience in one or more of the following disciplines: finance, accounting, electric transmission or generation planning or operation, law and regulation, commercial markets, and trading and associated risk management.

#### **4.2.3 Conflicts of Interest**

Directors shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member or customer of services provided by SPP. Directors may invest in accordance with SPP's Standards of Conduct. Participation in a pension plan of a Member or customer shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's or customer's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

### **4.3 Term and Election**

Except for the President, a director shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least 90 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members when election of new directors is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons equal in number to the directors to be elected;
- (b) At least 45 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall determine the persons it nominates for election as directors, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The Corporate Secretary shall prepare the ballot accordingly and shall deliver same to Members at least 30 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members;
- (c) For purposes of electing or removing directors only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) Any additional nominee(s) may be added to the ballot if a petition is received by the Corporate Secretary at least 15 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members and evidencing support of at least 20 percent of the existing Membership; and

- (e) 1) If only one candidate is nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for or against the nominee. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 *Voting* of these Bylaws, which requires a super majority. In the event a director position is not filled, the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting;
- 2) If multiple candidates are nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for only one nominee, but may vote against each candidate. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 *Voting* of these Bylaws, with the exception that a simple majority of votes cast will determine which nominee is elected. In the event a director position is not filled, the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting.

#### **4.4 Resignation and Removal of Directors**

Any director may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a director with cause by vote in accordance with Section 3.9 *Voting* of these Bylaws. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A director who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

#### **4.5 Vacancies**

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will present a nominee to the Membership for consideration and election to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term at a special meeting of Members following 30 calendar days notice from the Corporate Secretary. The election will be held in accordance with Section 4.3 *Term and Election* of these Bylaws. The replacement director shall take office immediately upon election.

#### **4.6 Functioning of the Board of Directors**

In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of any Organizational Group or task force, the Board of Directors shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws.

##### **4.6.1 Meetings and Notice of Meetings**

The Board of Directors shall meet at least three times per calendar year and additionally upon the call of the Chair or upon concurrence of at least four directors. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the President to each director, the Members Committee, and the Regional State Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting of the Board of Directors, unless such notice is waived by the Board of Directors. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair with at least one-day prior notice. Board of Directors' meetings shall include the Members Committee, a representative from the Regional Entity Trustees, and a representative from the Regional State Committee (as defined in Section 7.2) for all meetings except when in executive

session; provided however, the failure of representatives of the Members Committee and/or of the Regional Entity Trustees and/or of the Regional State Committee to attend, in whole or in part, shall not prevent the Board of Directors from convening and conducting business, and taking binding votes. The Chair shall grant any Member's request to address the Board of Directors.

#### **4.6.2 Chair and Vice Chair; Election and Terms**

The Board of Directors shall elect from its membership a Chair and Vice Chair for two-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office or until their term as a director expires without re-election. The President of SPP may not serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Vice Chair shall act for the Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) in the event the Chair should become incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the office; or
- (c) if the office of Chair becomes vacant, until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. The Chair shall appoint a director to fill a vacant Vice Chair position until the next meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Vice Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy.

#### **4.6.3 Quorum and Voting**

Five of the directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors; provided, that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time. Decisions of the Board of Directors shall be by simple majority vote of the directors present and voting. Directors must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. Voting will be by secret ballot. The Corporate Secretary will collect and tally the ballots, and announce the results of a vote. Only voting results will be announced and recorded in the minutes; individual votes will not be announced or recorded.

#### **4.6.4 Compensation of Directors**

Directors shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, and approved by the Membership, and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

#### **4.6.5 Executive Session**

Executive sessions (open only to directors and to parties invited by the Chair) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Board of Directors to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial, or legal matters.

### **5.0 COMMITTEES ADVISING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **5.1 Members Committee**

The Members Committee shall work with the Board of Directors to manage and direct the general business of SPP. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Provide individual and collective input to the Board of Directors, including but not limited to a straw vote from the Members Committee representatives as an indication of the level of consensus among Members, on all actions pending before the Board of Directors; and
- (b) Serve on committees reporting to the Board of Directors as appointed by the Board of Directors.
- (c) Provide input with the Board of Directors to the Regional Entity Trustees on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval.

#### **5.1.1 Composition and Qualifications**

##### **5.1.1.1 Composition**

Provided that Membership is sufficient to accommodate these provisions, the Members Committee shall consist of up to 19 persons. Four representatives shall be investor owned utilities Members; four representatives shall be cooperatives Members; two representatives shall be municipals Members (including municipal joint action agencies); three representatives shall

be independent power producers/marketers Members; two representatives shall be state/federal power agencies Members; two representatives shall be alternative power/public interest Members; one representative shall be a large retail customer Member; defined as non-residential end-use customers with individual or aggregated loads of 1-MW or more; and one representative shall be a small retail customer Member, defined as residential customers and other customers with individual or aggregated loads of less than 1-MW. Representatives will be elected in accordance with Section 5.1.2 of these Bylaws.



### **5.1.1.2 Qualifications**

A representative shall be an officer or employee of a Member with decision-making responsibility over SPP related activities, and must be the Member's representative to the Membership.

### **5.1.2 Term and Election**

Representatives shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee and elected each year at the meeting of Members to staggered three-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least 90 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members at which election of new representatives is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall nominate persons equal in number to the representatives to be elected;
- (c) At least 30 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall determine the persons it nominates for election as representatives, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The Corporate Secretary shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;
- (c) For purposes of electing and removing representatives only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single vote;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee or nominees may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded to add such nominee or nominees; and
- (e) The required number of representatives shall be elected by written ballot. A Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of representatives to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidates in each sector receiving the greatest number of votes will fill vacancies.

### **5.1.3 Resignation and Removal of Members Committee Representatives**

Any representative may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. A representative may be removed, with cause, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A representative who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

### **5.1.4 Vacancies**

If a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee may elect an interim representative from the same sector to serve until a replacement representative from the same sector is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement representative shall take office immediately following the election.

### **5.1.5 Meetings**

The Members Committee shall meet only with the Board of Directors.

## **6.0 COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

This section describes the general scopes and responsibilities of the Organizational Groups reporting directly to the Board of Directors. Nothing in this section is meant to limit these responsibilities or activities in the effort to fulfill SPP's mission.

### **6.1 Markets and Operations Policy Committee**

Each SPP Member shall appoint a representative to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC). Each representative designated shall be an officer or employee of

the Member. The Board of Directors will appoint the Chair and Vice Chair of the MOPC. Each member of the MOPC may continue to be a member thereof until the appropriate Member appoints a successor.

The MOPC shall meet at least three times per calendar year, and additionally as needed. The MOPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each MOPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the MOPC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Markets and Operations Policy Committee shall include:

- (a) Recommend practices for system design, planning, adequacy, regional transmission service tariff, interconnections, operation, reliability, market designs and efficiency, and market power mitigation that will help to assure efficient and reliable power supply among the systems in SPP and SPP transmission customers;
- (b) Coordinate and review with ERO Policies and Standards and their applicability to SPP, its Members, and Registered Entities in the SPP footprint;
- (c) Present any Regional Reliability Standards for ERO adoption in accordance with SPP's Standards Development Process.
- (d) Coordinate and oversee the work of any Standards Development Team(s).
- (e) Report to the Trustees on all standards recommended by working groups reporting to the MOPC.
- (f) Make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors and Regional Entity Trustees regarding SPP's compliance with ERO Policies and Standards;
- (g) Review Member operating plans and problems that are pertinent to SPP planning and operation;
- (h) Maintain an annual series of load flow and short circuit models and associated stability data bases representing the current and planned electric network of the region, and maintain a data base of all transmission, generation, and supporting facilities within SPP;
- (i) Review and assess the current and planned electric system of the region;
- (j) Make use of studies available from other regions;
- (k) Recommend to the Board of Directors criteria for planning, operations, and to assist in the efficiency and vitality of the wholesale electricity market;

- (l) Coordinate inter-regional and intra-regional plans and facilitate planning, information exchange, and operations between inter-regional and intra-regional groups;
- (m) Develop a coordinated plan for intra-regional transmission for greater efficiency and reliability of electric power supply;
- (n) Recommend to the Board of Directors and Members individual or joint action to improve the operation of the systems comprising SPP;
- (o) Respond to activities as requested by the Strategic Planning Committee and the Board of Directors;
- (p) Monitor the current state and evolution of the electric energy supply industry and proactively recommend commercial practices that meet industry needs and promote commerce;
- (q) Work with all SPP Organizational Groups to promote a high standard of operational reliability;
- (r) Continue coordination of its efforts with the efforts of North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) and the ISO/RTO Council (IRC), including periodic review of NAESB business practices and IRC policies and their applicability to SPP and its Members;
- (s) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the MOPC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (t) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

## **6.2 Strategic Planning Committee**

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) shall be comprised of eleven members. Three representatives shall be from the Board of Directors; four representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and four representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the SPC. Each representative of the SPC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of

Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The SPC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The SPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each SPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the SPC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Strategic Planning Committee shall include:

- (a) Gather information from SPP Members, customers, Staff, regulatory jurisdictions, market monitors, and legislative bodies on industry trends, forecasts and directions;
- (b) Assess the industry environment in which SPP will be operating;
- (c) Assess SPP's capabilities and competencies against the industry environment, including coordination with neighboring entities;
- (d) Develop and recommend to the Board of Directors a mission and vision statement and accompanying goals and objectives;
- (e) Formulate strategies to ensure achievement of SPP's mission statement, goals, objectives, and responsibilities, and recommend necessary modifications to SPP processes to carry out these strategies;
- (f) Work with other Organizational Groups in developing related action plans, schedules and budgets;
- (g) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the SPC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

### **6.3 Human Resources Committee**

The Human Resources Committee (HRC) shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the HRC. Each representative of the HRC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The HRC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The HRC shall report to the Board of Directors following each HRC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the HRC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Human Resources Committee shall include assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibility to the Members, and investment community with respect to the oversight of:

- (a) The development and administration of employee benefit programs;
- (b) The effectiveness of SPP's compensation plan for employees;
- (c) The activities of investment managers charged with managing employee benefit assets, including evaluation of performance;
- (d) Approve and monitor SPP staffing structure to ensure it accomplishes organizational mission;
- (e) Maintain current job description for the President and conduct annual performance evaluation;
- (f) Recommend policies by which positions, duties, qualifications, salaries, benefits and other necessary matters pertaining to the SPP Officers are determined;

- (g) Other duties and responsibilities detailed in the Human Resources Committee charter; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

#### **6.4 Oversight Committee**

The Oversight Committee (OC) shall be comprised of three members from the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the OC. Each representative of the OC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Board of Directors will fill the vacancy.

The OC shall meet as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The OC shall report to the Board of Directors following each OC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the OC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Oversight Committee shall include:

- (a) Oversee the process of monitoring compliance to SPP and NERC policies other than that assigned to the Regional Entity Trustees under these Bylaws;
- (b) Independently review activities of the Staff;
- (c) Hear and rule on appeals from Members regarding penalty assessment or fine distribution prior to dispute resolution proceedings;
- (d) Recommend Regional Criteria changes necessary for enforcement of mandatory compliance and in response to unclear enforcement provisions of Regional Criteria;
- (e) Grant specific additional authority to the Staff responsible for the oversight monitoring function when needed to perform challenging investigations;
- (f) Oversee the Internal Audit function and receive regular reports, except for that work associated with SAS70 Audit requirements and other financial matters;
- (g) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the OC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

## **6.5 Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee (FC) shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the FC. Each representative of the FC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The FC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The FC shall report to the Board of Directors following each FC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the FC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Finance Committee shall include assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibility to the Members, and investment community with respect to its oversight of:

- (a) The quality and integrity of SPP's financial statements;
- (b) SPP's compliance with financially-based legal and regulatory requirements;
- (c) The independent auditor's qualifications, selection, and independence;
- (d) The performance of SPP's internal audit function and independent auditors as relates to SAS70 Audit requirements;
- (e) The development and implementation of annual and long-term operating and capital budgets;
- (f) The management of risk;
- (g) Develop policies for management of debt financing and for long-term contracting;
- (h) Monitoring methodology for cost recovery to ensure continuing equity for Members;



- (i) Other duties and responsibilities detailed in the Finance Committee charter; and
- (j) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

#### **6.6 Corporate Governance Committee**

To the extent that the membership allows, the Corporate Governance Committee (CGC) shall be comprised of nine members. One representative shall be the President of SPP who will serve as the Chair; one representative shall be the Chairman of the Board, unless his/her position is under consideration, in which case the Vice Chairman of the Board; one representative shall be representative of and selected by investor owned utilities Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by co-operatives Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by municipals Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by independent power producers/marketers Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by state/federal power agencies Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by alternative power/public interest Members; and one representative shall be representative of and selected by large/small retail Members.

Where a vacancy occurs with respect to a representative of a sector, the representatives from the appropriate sector will fill the vacancy.

The CGC shall meet at least once per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The CGC shall report to the Board of Directors following each CGC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the CGC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Corporate Governance Committee shall include:

- (a) Seek input from the Board of Directors, the Members Committee, or the Trustees as to the skills needed to fill any vacancy under consideration;
- (b) In the event of a vacancy or the replacement of an existing director, provide candidates identified by an independent executive search firm for consideration to the Members for election to the Board of Directors;
- (c) In the event of a vacancy or the replacement of an existing Trustee, provide candidates for consideration to the Members for election to the Regional Entity Trustees;

- (d) In the event of a vacancy or the replacement of an existing Members Committee representative, provide candidates for consideration to the Membership for election to the Members Committee;
- (e) Fill vacancies for Organizational Groups in accordance with these Bylaws;
- (f) Monitor the composition of the Board of Directors to ensure balance, independence, maintenance of qualifications under any applicable laws, avoidance of conflict of interest, and periodic review of the criteria for independence set out in the Bylaws and appropriate regulatory bodies, recommending changes, as appropriate;
- (g) Recommend to the Board of Directors the appointment of Organizational Group representatives and leadership except for the Corporate Governance Committee, whose representatives are elected by members in each category; the Members Committee, whose representatives are elected by the Membership; and the Market and Operations Policy Committee, whose representatives are appointed by the Members;
- (h) Develop criteria governing the overall composition of the Board of Directors for recommendation to the Membership;
- (i) Develop criteria governing the overall composition of the Regional Entity Trustees for recommendation to the Membership;
- (j) Coordinate an annual review and assessment of the effectiveness of the Board of Directors, its structure, and process;
- (k) Coordinate an annual review and assessment of the effectiveness of the Regional Entity Trustees, its structure, and process;
- (l) Review annually the structure of the Organizational Groups, and together with the Organizational Group Chairs, the charters of each Organizational Group, and recommend changes to the Board of Directors, as appropriate;
- (m) Review the self-assessments of the Organizational Groups to assure that they are being done on a consistent basis;

- (n) Develop recommendations for the Board of Directors regarding a Chair/Vice Chair succession policy;
- (o) Recommend compensation levels for the Board of Directors and Regional Entity Trustees to the Membership;
- (p) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the CGC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (q) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

## **7.0 REGULATORY INVOLVEMENT AND REGIONAL STATE COMMITTEE**

Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member may participate fully in all SPP activities, including participation at the SPP Board of Directors meetings. These representatives shall have all the same rights as Members except the right to vote. Participation includes the designation of representatives by each of the regulatory jurisdictions to participate in any type of committee, working group, task force, and Board of Directors meetings.

### **7.1 Retention of State Regulatory Jurisdiction**

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish existing state regulatory jurisdiction and authority. Each state regulatory agency is expressly reserved the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

## **7.2 Regional State Committee**

An RSC, to be comprised of one designated commissioner from each state regulatory commission having jurisdiction over an SPP Member, shall be established to provide both direction and input on all matters pertinent to the participation of the Members in SPP. This direction and input shall be provided within the context of SPP's organizational group meetings as well as Board of Directors meetings. The SPP Staff will assist the RSC in its collective responsibilities and requests by providing information and analysis. SPP will fund the costs of the RSC pursuant to an annual budget developed by the RSC and submitted to SPP as part of its budgeting process, which budget must ultimately be approved by the Board of Directors.

The RSC has primary responsibility for determining regional proposals and the transition process in the following areas:

- (a) whether and to what extent participant funding will be used for transmission enhancements;
- (b) whether license plate or postage stamp rates will be used for the regional access charge;
- (c) FTR allocation, where a locational price methodology is used; and
- (d) the transition mechanism to be used to assure that existing firm customers receive FTRs equivalent to the customers' existing firm rights.

The RSC will also determine the approach for resource adequacy across the entire region. In addition, with respect to transmission planning, the RSC will determine whether transmission upgrades for remote resources will be included in the regional transmission planning process and the role of transmission owners in proposing transmission upgrades in the regional planning process.

As the RSC reaches decisions on the methodology that will be used to address any of these issues, SPP will file this methodology pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act. However, nothing in this section prohibits SPP from filing its own related proposal(s) pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act.

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### **7.3 Retention of Other Regulatory Jurisdiction**

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish the jurisdiction or authority of any other regulatory body. Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member or the regional transmission organization reserves the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

## **8.0 FISCAL ADMINISTRATION**

The fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year.

### **8.1 Operating Budget**

SPP Staff and the Finance Committee will prepare an annual budget of expenditures for the next fiscal year and an estimate for an additional two years. The proposed budget shall be submitted to the Board of Directors not less than two weeks prior to the meeting at which the budget is to be considered for approval. Except as addressed in Section 9.0 *Regional Entity Function*, once approved by the Board of Directors, the budget shall constitute the authority required by the Officers for expenditures for the ensuing year. Modifications to the budget during the fiscal year must be recommended to the Board of Directors by the Finance Committee. The President shall have the authority to approve expenditures in accordance with SPP policy as approved by the Board of Directors.

### **8.2 Annual Membership Fee**

All SPP Members will be subject to an annual membership fee in the amount of \$6,000, or other amount established by the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise agreed, Membership fees for new Members are due at the execution of the Membership Agreement. Membership fees are not subject to refund. The Board of Directors shall determine the annual membership fee for the upcoming year in advance of the last meeting of Members in a calendar year. Legitimate public interest groups (e.g. consumer advocates, environmental groups, or citizen participation groups) may seek a waiver of the annual membership fee. The request for waiver must be directed to the President in writing 90 days in advance of the start of each fiscal year.

### **8.3 ERO and Regional Entity Costs**

SPP is a Regional Entity of the Electric Reliability Organization and is subject to the terms of the Delegation Agreement executed by SPP and the ERO. SPP will have certain functions as signatory to the Delegation Agreement related to the establishment and submission of annual budgets related to fulfillment of Regional Entity functions as well as participation in the costs incurred by ERO. The Delegation Agreement may specify SPP's responsibility to collect ERO costs from SPP's Regional Entity footprint, and may specify ERO's responsibility to fund SPP's Regional Entity budget.

SPP will clearly set out the costs associated with its operation as a Regional Entity within SPP's annual budget.

#### **8.4 Monthly Assessments**

SPP will assess certain Members described herein on a monthly basis all costs not otherwise collected. Costs recovered under the assessment will include but are not limited to all operating costs, financing costs, debt repayment, and capital expenditures associated with the performance of SPP's functions as assigned by the Board of Directors. Significant among these are costs associated with regional reliability coordination and the provision of transmission service. SPP shall determine the assessment rate based on its annual budgeted net expenditures divided by estimated annual Schedule 1 billing units for service sold under SPP's OATT and Member load eligible to take, but not taking, Network Integration Transmission Service under SPP's OATT. The Board of Directors may review the assumptions used in determining the assessment rate at any time and may adjust the assessment rate appropriately should conditions warrant. Each load-serving Member shall then be assessed the monthly assessment rate applied to its load eligible to take Network Integration Transmission Service under the SPP OATT. Further, each load-serving Member shall receive a credit against the monthly assessment for that month's Schedule 1 fees paid for Network Integration Transmission Service and for Point-to-Point Transmission Service that had a delivery point within the SPP region, under the SPP OATT.

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## **8.5 Fiscal Agent**

The President shall serve as the fiscal agent of SPP. The President shall keep an up-to-date record of receipts and disbursements and furnish reports to the Board of Directors and the Finance Committee.

## **8.6 Auditors**

The Board of Directors shall annually engage an independent certified public accounting firm to perform an annual audit of SPP's financial records and prepare a report on the financial condition of SPP. The Finance Committee shall present the audit report to the Board of Directors upon completion.

## **8.7 Financial Obligation of Withdrawing Members**

### **8.7.1 Existing Obligations**

“Existing Obligations” are the following:

- a. Member's unpaid annual membership fee.
- b. Member's unpaid dues, assessments, and other amounts charged under Section 3.8 or otherwise under the Bylaws, plus the Member's share of costs SPP customarily includes in such dues, assessments or other charges, but which as of the Termination Date SPP had not included in such dues, assessments or other charges.
- c. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of the entire principal amounts of all SPP Financial Obligations outstanding as of the Termination Date. “Financial Obligations” are all long-term (in excess of six (6) months) financial obligations of SPP, including but not limited to the following:
  - i. debts under all loans, loan agreements, borrowings, promissory notes, bonds, and credit lines, under which SPP is obligated, including principal and interest;
  - ii. all payment obligations under equipment leases, financing leases, capital leases, real estate and office space leases, consulting contracts, and contracts for outsourced services;

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- iii. any unfunded liabilities of any SPP employee pension funds, whether or not liquidated or demanded; and
  - iv. the general and administrative overhead of SPP for a period of three (3) months.
- d. Any costs, expenses or liabilities incurred by SPP directly due to the Termination, regardless of when incurred or payable, and including without limitation prepayment premiums or penalties arising under SPP Financial Obligations.
- e. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of all interest that will become due for payment with respect to all interest bearing Financial Obligations after the Termination Date and until the maturity of all Financial Obligations in accordance with their respective terms ("Future Interest"). In the event that a Financial Obligation carries a variable interest rate, the interest rate in effect at the Termination Date shall be used to calculate the applicable Future Interest. In determining the Member's share of Future Interest, SPP shall take into account any reduction of Financial Obligations due to mitigation under this Section.

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### **8.7.2 Computation of a Member's Existing Obligations**

For purposes of computing the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or terminated Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement, such "Member's share" is a percentage calculated as follows:

$$A = 100 [0.25(1/N) + 0.75(B/C)]$$

Where: A = Member's share (expressed as a percentage)

N = Total number of Members

B = The Member's previous year Net Energy for Load within SPP

C = Total of factor B for all Members

The Finance Committee shall have the discretion to reduce the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or terminated Member, to reflect any SPP costs or expenses that may be mitigated in connection with such Member's withdrawal or termination. In the event of consolidation of affiliate memberships or the transfer of membership from one corporate entity to another, whereby one entity remains a member of SPP, the withdrawal obligation for the departing company(ies) may be waived at SPP's sole discretion.

### **8.7.3 Transmission Plan Obligations**

A withdrawing or terminated Member shall be financially responsible to pay SPP for all Transmission Plan Obligations as specified in the Membership Agreement upon the Member's Termination Date.

## **9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION**

### **9.1 Regional Entity**

SPP operates as a Regional Entity under FERC jurisdiction with oversight powers delegated to it by the ERO. The Regional Entity Trustees shall appoint representatives to ERO organizational groups as necessary to represent the interests of the SPP Regional Entity. SPP may pay appropriate associated travel expenses of those appointed representatives upon receipt by the Secretary to the Trustees of an expense report as normally filed within the representative's system.

### **9.2 Regional Entity Staff**

The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee staffing requirements for the SPP Regional Entity. All SPP Regional Entity staff shall report through the Regional Entity (RE) General Manager to the Trustees.

### **9.3 RE General Manager**

The RE General Manager shall be selected by and report to the SPP Regional Entity Trustees. The President shall ensure that the RE General Manager has adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of his/her duties.

#### **9.4 Duties of Regional Entity Staff**

Regional Entity functions related to compliance monitoring and enforcement shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved ERO policies and standards;
- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible noncompliance with ERO policies and standards;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in conjunction with the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP);
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of ERO policies and standards are determined and documented;
- (e) Recommendation of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance with ERO policies and standards pursuant to ERO guidelines;
- (f) Assist the Regional Entity Trustees with third party audits to confirm that SPP is conforming to ERO policies and standards;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and
- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define ERO requirements, and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance.

#### **9.5 Regional Reliability Standards Development Process**

When an SPP working group or task force is considering an SPP Regional Reliability Standard, it will be designated the Standards Development Team (SDT) for that Standard in accordance with the SPP Regional Entity Standards Development Process Manual. For purposes of an SDT, participation and voting will be open to any interested party in accordance with the Standards Development Process and without regard to membership status in SPP.

#### **9.6 Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program**

The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee SPP's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP). The CMEP will enforce compliance according to ERO reliability standards

for Registered Entities. Regional Entity staff shall oversee compliance auditing of registered entities, and will report audit results to the Regional Entity Trustees. All audits of SPP's compliance with ERO reliability standards will be performed by external third party auditors as coordinated and managed by the Regional Entity Trustees.

## **9.7 Regional Entity Trustees**

### **9.7.1 Functions and Duties of the Regional Entity Trustees**

The Regional Entity Trustees shall at all times act in the best interests of SPP's role as the SPP Regional Entity in its management, control, and direction of the general business of the Regional Entity functions. In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of an appropriate entity, the Regional Entity Trustees shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to oversight of the following:

- (a) Monitor all Registered Entities in the SPP footprint for compliance with ERO/FERC requirements, including auditing and issuance of official findings.
- (b) Administer SPP's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.
- (c) Coordinate and manage third party audits to confirm that SPP is conforming to ERO policies and standards;
- (d) Impose penalties as prescribed and approved by ERO/FERC.
- (e) Regional Entity staff administration.
- (f) Regional Entity budget decisions.
- (g) Track and review Regional Standards from MOPC for submission to the ERO and FERC for approval and implementation.
- (h) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the Regional Entity Trustees are meeting their responsibilities; and
- (i) Provide an annual report to the Board of Directors regarding the effectiveness of the Regional Entity function and processes.

### **9.7.2 Composition and Qualifications**

#### **9.7.2.1 Composition**

The Regional Entity Trustees shall consist of three (3) persons. The trustees shall be independent of the SPP Board of Directors, any Member, industry stakeholder, or SPP organizational group. Regional Entity Trustees do not serve as members of the SPP Board of Directors. A trustee shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve.

#### **9.7.2.2 Qualifications**

Regional Entity Trustees shall have relevant senior management expertise and experience in the reliable operation of the bulk electric transmission system in North America.

#### **9.7.2.3 Conflicts of Interest**

Regional Entity Trustees shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member, a customer of services provided by SPP, or a Registered Entity in the SPP footprint. Trustees may invest in accordance with the SPP Standards of Conduct. Participation in a pension plan of a Member, customer, or Registered Entity in the SPP footprint shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's, customer's, or Registered Entity's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

#### **9.7.3 Term and Election**

Regional Entity Trustees shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least 90 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members when election of a new trustee is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons for the position to be elected;

- (b) At least 45 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall determine the person it nominates for election as a trustee, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The Corporate Secretary shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least 30 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members;
- (c) For purposes of electing or removing trustees only, Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) Any additional nominee(s) may be added to the ballot if a petition is received by the Corporate Secretary at least 15 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members and evidencing support of at least 20 percent of the existing Membership; and
- (e) 1) If only one candidate is nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for or against the nominee. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 *Voting* of these Bylaws, which requires a super majority. In the event a trustees position is not filled the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held but no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting;

2) If multiple candidates are nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for only one nominee, but may vote against each candidate. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 *Voting* of these Bylaws, with the exception that a simple majority of votes cast will determine which nominee is elected. In the event a trustee position is not filled, the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting.

#### **9.7.4 Resignation and Removal of Regional Entity Trustees**

Any Regional Entity Trustee may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a trustee with cause in accordance with Section 3.9 *Voting* of these Bylaws. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A trustee who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.



### **9.7.5 Vacancies**

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will present a nominee to the Membership for consideration and election to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term at a special meeting of Members following 30 calendar days notice from the corporate Secretary. The election will be held in accordance with Section 9.7.3 *Term and Election* of these Bylaws. The replacement trustee shall take office immediately upon election.

### **9.7.6 Meetings and Notice of Meetings**

Regular Regional Entity Trustees' meetings will be scheduled in conjunction with the regularly scheduled SPP Board of Directors meetings, provided the meeting schedule may be adjusted for good cause and with sufficient notice, and additionally upon the call of the chair or upon concurrence of at least two trustees. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, all meetings will be open to any interested party. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the chair to each trustee, the Board of Directors, and the Members Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting, unless such notice is waived by the trustees. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the chair with at least one-day prior notice. The chair shall grant any party's request to address the Regional Entity Trustees.

### **9.7.7 Chair**

The Regional Entity Trustees shall elect from its membership a chair for a two-year term commencing upon election and continuing until the chair's duly elected successor takes office or until the chair's term as a trustee expires without re-election. The panel may elect to rotate the chair to the senior member of the panel when the initial, or subsequent, chair's term expires.

### **9.7.8 Quorum and Voting**

Two trustees shall constitute a quorum of the Regional Entity Trustees necessary for a binding vote. Decisions of the Regional Entity Trustees require two affirmative votes. Trustees must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. All Regional Entity Trustee decisions regarding the Regional Entity are final except as subject to oversight by the ERO and FERC.

### **9.7.9 Compensation of Regional Entity Trustees**

Regional Entity Trustees shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, and approved by the Membership submitted for approval as part of the ERO budget process. Trustees shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

### **9.7.10 Executive Session**

Executive sessions (open only to Trustees and parties invited by the chair of the Regional Entity Trustees) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Regional Entity Trustees to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial or legal matters, or confidential information related to compliance matters.

## **10.0 AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS, THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, AND MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT**

Except for modifications to Section 4.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 5.0 COMMITTEES ADVISING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION and Section 10.0 AMENDMENTS, these Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or added to by the Board of Directors only upon 30 days written notice to the Membership of the proposed modification(s). Approval of amendments to the Bylaws by the Board of Directors must be by an affirmative vote of at least five directors. Sections 4.0, 5.0, 9.0, and 10.0 of these Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation may be amended, repealed, or added to only by approval of the Membership. All amendments are subject to the requisite regulatory approval(s).

## **11.0 EFFECTIVE DATE AND TRANSITION PROVISIONS**

These Bylaws shall become effective the day following acceptance at FERC and remain in force thereafter as may be amended. These Bylaws hereby cancel and supersede SPP Bylaws; provided, that these Bylaws do not relieve any Member from any financial obligation incurred thereunder. Binding obligations entered into by authority of Officers or the Board of Directors, or the Regional Entity Trustees under these Bylaws are hereby assumed and confirmed as obligations of SPP under these Bylaws.

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.  
Membership Agreement  
Original Volume No. 3

# **SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.**

## **MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT**

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**Southwest Power Pool  
Membership Agreement**

This Agreement is made between the Member and SPP, as defined herein.

**1.0 DEFINITIONS**

**1.1 Agreement**

This Membership Agreement.

**1.2 Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors elected pursuant to the Bylaws.

**1.3 Bylaws**

SPP's Bylaws or any successor document.

**1.4 Distribution Facilities**

Facilities that are the subject of a separate distribution charge pursuant to the Open Access Transmission Tariff.

**1.5 Effective Date**

This Agreement is effective on January 1, 2000 or upon the date of execution by Member if after January 1, 2000.

**1.6 Electric Transmission System**

The transmission facilities subject to SPP's tariff administration, except for any Distribution Facilities.

**1.7 Existing Obligations**

Shall have the meaning given in Section 4.3.2(b).

**1.8 FERC**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or successor organization.

**1.9 Financial Obligations**

Shall have the meaning given in Section 4.3.2(b).

**1.10 Future Interest**

Shall have the meaning given in Section 4.3.2(b).

**1.11 Good Utility Practice**

Any of the practices, methods, and acts engaged in or approved by a significant portion of the electric utility industry during the relevant time period, or any of the practices, methods,

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and acts which, in the exercise of reasonable judgment in light of the facts known at the time the decision was made, could have been expected to accomplish the desired result at a reasonable cost consistent with good business practices, reliability, safety, and expedition. Good Utility Practice is not intended to be limited to the optimum practice, method, or act, to the exclusion of all others, but rather to be a range of acceptable practices, methods, or acts generally accepted in the region. SPP Criteria and NERC Policies and Standards are considered Good Utility Practice.

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### **1.12 Member**

Signatory to this Agreement that has completed the application requirements pursuant to the Bylaws.

### **1.13 NERC**

North American Electric Reliability Corporation or successor organizations.

#### **1.13a Net Energy for Load**

The electrical energy requirements of an electric system are defined as system net generation plus energy received from others, less energy delivered to others through interchange. It includes system losses but excludes energy required for the storage at energy storage facilities.

### **1.14 Non-Transmission Owner**

A Member that is not a Transmission Owner. A Non-Transmission Owner that owns or controls Tariff Facilities may have its status changed to a Transmission Owner under this Agreement upon notice to SPP and execution of this Agreement as a Transmission Owner.

### **1.15 Partial Termination**

Shall have the meaning given in Section 4.1.

### **1.16 Regional Entity**

An entity having enforcement authority delegated to it by NERC pursuant to a delegation agreement accepted by FERC.

### **1.17 Reliability Coordinator**

SPP, in performing its reliability coordinator function as recognized by NERC pursuant to its policies, and pursuant to SPP Criteria and this Agreement.

### **1.18 SPP**

Southwest Power Pool, Inc., or successor organization.

### **1.19 SPP Criteria**

SPP's approved operating and planning criteria.

### **1.20 SPP Region**

The geographic area encompassing the transmission systems of Members that are Transmission Owners.

### **1.21 Standards of Conduct**

SPP's Standards of Conduct that apply to the conduct of its directors, officers, employees, Regional Entity trustees, contractors, and agents on file with FERC.

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**1.22 Tariff Facilities**

The Electric Transmission System and the Distribution Facilities subject to SPP's tariff administration.

**1.23 Termination**

Shall have the meaning given in Section 4.1.

**1.24 Termination Date**

Shall mean the date of Termination is effective in accordance with Section 4.2.2(b).

**1.25 Transmission Customer**

A customer under the Open Access Transmission Tariff.

### **1.26 Transmission Owner**

A signatory to this Agreement which: (1) transfers functional control related to the rates, terms and conditions of the OATT to SPP by executing this Agreement; (2) ~~or~~ appoints SPP under another agreement to provide service under the Transmission Tariff over Tariff Facilities which it owns or controls; (3) is assigned by the SPP Board of Directors to construct and accepts the obligation to construct new Tariff Facilities pursuant to an approved plan of SPP; or (4) undertakes another Transmission Owner's obligation to construct Tariff Facilities pursuant to an approved SPP plan in accordance with Section 3.3(c) of this Agreement and Attachment O of the SPP OATT.

### **1.27 Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT)**

The SPP nondiscriminatory, Open-Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) on file with FERC pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act under which SPP will offer transmission service, or any such successor tariff.

## **2.0 RIGHTS, POWERS AND OBLIGATIONS OF SPP**

SPP possesses the rights, powers, and obligations as detailed in this Section 2.

### **2.1 Operation and Planning**

#### **2.1.1 General**

- (a) SPP shall schedule transactions and administer transmission service over Tariff Facilities as necessary to provide service in accordance with the SPP OATT.
- (b) SPP shall function in accordance with Good Utility Practice and shall conform to applicable reliability criteria, policies, standards, rules, regulations, guidelines and other requirements of SPP and NERC, Transmission Owner's specific reliability requirements and operating guidelines (to the extent these are not inconsistent with other requirements specified in this paragraph), and all applicable requirements of federal and state regulatory authorities.
- (c) SPP shall maintain a publicly available registry of all facilities that are not classified as critical energy infrastructure information that constitute the Electric Transmission System.

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- (d) SPP shall review and approve, as appropriate, requests for service, schedule transmission transactions, and determine available transfer capability under the OATT, provided that SPP shall coordinate with the Transmission Owner when processing requests for service involving its Tariff Facilities.
- (e) SPP shall be responsible for coordinating with neighboring regional organizations and/or non-member transmission owners or providers as appropriate.
- (f) SPP shall not exercise its administration of transmission service over the Tariff Facilities in such a way as to interfere with contracts between Transmission Owner and any Transmission Customer that are in effect as of the Effective Date of this Agreement except as permitted by the OATT.
- (g) SPP shall be responsible for documenting all transmission service requests, the disposition of such requests, and any supporting data required to support the decision with respect to such requests. SPP shall negotiate as appropriate to develop reciprocal service, equitable tariff application, compensation principles, and any related arrangements.
- (h) SPP shall propose and file with FERC pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act modifications to the OATT and make any other necessary filings subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- (i) SPP shall develop penalties and incentives, subject to FERC filings where appropriate.
- (j) SPP shall direct Transmission Owner pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.3 to construct transmission facilities in accordance with coordinated planning criteria, or if necessary under the OATT.
- (k) SPP shall have the authority to direct the day-to-day operations of the Tariff Facilities in order to carry out its responsibilities as a Transmission Provider and Reliability Coordinator as described in SPP's Operational Authority Reference Document, attached hereto as Appendix A; provided, however, nothing in this Agreement or the OATT shall be

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construed to require a change in the physical control of any Tariff Facilities using a Party's existing facilities or equipment.

- (1) SPP shall take any actions necessary for it to carry out its duties and responsibilities, subject to receiving any necessary regulatory approvals and any necessary approvals from the Board of Directors.

### **2.1.2 Reliability**

SPP shall have responsibility for reliability of the Electric Transmission System in connection with its rights, powers, and obligations under this Agreement. SPP shall act as the Reliability Coordinator of the Electric Transmission System, and as such, shall have reliability monitoring and emergency response responsibilities pursuant to related SPP Criteria and the following requirements:

- (a) SPP shall monitor real-time data to determine whether any control areas are experiencing generation capacity deficiencies. If a generation capacity deficiency event threatens the security of the Electric Transmission System, SPP is authorized to and shall direct the acquisition of generation capacity and, if that direction is not satisfied, is authorized to and shall direct the shedding of firm load in the deficient control area.
- (b) SPP shall work with other reliability coordinators and non-member transmission owners or providers to develop regional reliability plans and emergency operating procedures.
- (c) SPP shall maintain emergency response procedures for responding to specified critical contingencies and shall continuously analyze issues that may require the initiation of such actions.
- (d) SPP is authorized to and shall direct the response to any emergency and Members shall carry out the required emergency actions as directed by SPP (except in cases involving endangerment to the safety of employees or the public), including the shedding of firm load if required for regional reliability.

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- (e) After the conclusion of an emergency condition, any affected entity that disagrees with SPP's handling of the emergency may resolve that disagreement pursuant to the dispute resolution procedures in the Bylaws.
- (f) SPP shall monitor and coordinate the maintenance of adequate Electric Transmission System voltage levels with control areas and Transmission Owner, where appropriate.
- (g) SPP shall direct redispatch of generation in accordance with the OATT and in its role as Reliability Coordinator, subject to the generator receiving appropriate compensation pursuant to an applicable rate schedule.

### **2.1.3 Transmission Maintenance**

SPP is required to approve all planned maintenance of the Electric Transmission System consistent with the following requirements:

- (a) SPP shall review planned transmission maintenance schedules submitted by Transmission Owner for a minimum of a rolling one-year period. These planned maintenance schedules shall be updated daily. Planned transmission maintenance requests shall be submitted to SPP at least one week in advance of an outage.
- (b) SPP shall analyze a planned transmission maintenance request to determine its effect on available transfer capability, ancillary services, the reliability of the Electric Transmission System, and any other relevant effects. Within two business days of receiving a planned maintenance request, SPP shall provide a response. If SPP's response indicates that such planned transmission maintenance will have an adverse impact, Transmission Owner shall work with SPP to minimize the impact of such planned maintenance, up to and including re-scheduling the maintenance.
- (c) SPP shall notify Transmission Owner of the need to change previously reviewed planned transmission maintenance outages if forced transmission outages or other circumstances compromise the integrity or reliability of the Electric Transmission System. If Transmission Owner is fully

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compensated for any additional costs resulting from any changes in maintenance schedules as provided in an applicable rate schedule, Transmission Owner shall revise maintenance outages to address such emergency circumstances.

- (d) As part of its review process, SPP shall identify planned transmission maintenance schedules that limit available transfer capability. If requested by a Transmission Customer, SPP shall identify opportunities and associated costs for rescheduling planned maintenance to enhance available transfer capability. Transmission Owner shall be compensated for the additional costs of rescheduled maintenance as provided in the SPP OATT.
- (e) SPP shall be responsible for documenting all planned transmission maintenance requests, the disposition of those requests, and all data supporting the disposition of each request.
- (f) SPP shall coordinate with Transmission Owner to the extent practicable to implement schedules for unplanned transmission maintenance when conditions endanger the safety of employees or the public, may result in damage to facilities, or may result in the unsatisfactory operation of its transmission system or any other transmission system.

#### **2.1.4 Generation Maintenance**

SPP shall coordinate the maintenance of generating units as appropriate to the extent such generation maintenance directly affects the capacity or reliability of the Electric Transmission System and the generation is located in the SPP Region as follows:

- (a) SPP shall review planned generating unit maintenance schedules submitted by generation owners for a minimum of a rolling one-year period. The planned maintenance schedules shall be updated daily. SPP shall keep such information confidential.

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- (b) SPP shall analyze a planned generating unit maintenance schedule to determine its effect on available transfer capability, ancillary services, the reliability of the Electric Transmission System, and any other relevant effects. SPP shall inform a generation owner if its maintenance schedule is expected to have an impact on the reliability of the Electric Transmission System.
- (c) As part of its review process, SPP shall identify generating unit maintenance schedules that limit available transfer capability and shall identify opportunities and associated costs for rescheduling planned maintenance to enhance available transfer capability.
- (d) A generation owner that changes planned maintenance at the request of SPP pursuant to this Section 2.1.4 shall be compensated in accordance with the SPP OATT.
- (e) SPP shall be responsible for documenting all planned generating unit maintenance schedules, all schedule changes, and all SPP studies and services performed with respect to planned generation maintenance.

#### **2.1.5 Planning Activities**

- (a) SPP shall engage in such planning activities, in coordination with Member, as are necessary to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement, SPP Criteria and the OATT. Such planning shall conform to applicable reliability requirements of SPP, NERC, Transmission Owner's specific reliability requirements and operating guidelines (to the extent these are not inconsistent with other requirements), and all applicable requirements of federal or state regulatory authorities. Such planning shall seek to minimize costs, consistent with the reliability and other requirements set forth in this Agreement. The division of responsibility for planning between Member and SPP is set forth in the SPP Criteria.

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- (b) As part of its planning activities, SPP shall be responsible for planning, and for directing or arranging, necessary transmission expansions, additions, and upgrades that will enable it to provide efficient, reliable and non-discriminatory transmission service and to coordinate such efforts with the appropriate state authorities.

## **2.2 Non-Discriminatory Transmission Service**

SPP shall offer and administer transmission service over Tariff Facilities as specified in the OATT.

### **2.2.1 Pricing**

In connection with its administration of the OATT, SPP on behalf of its Members may propose to FERC such transmission pricing for transmission service as is necessary to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement, and may propose to FERC such changes in prices, pricing methods, terms, and conditions as are necessary to continue to fulfill such obligations. The Board of Directors must approve such filings. The OATT rates shall be designed and administered so as to recover full cost of service to the greatest extent practicable associated with the provision of transmission service under the OATT for Tariff Facilities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Transmission Owner possesses the right to revise certain rates as provided in Section 3.10 of this Agreement.

### **2.2.2 Standards of Conduct**

SPP, its directors, officers, employees, Regional Entity trustees, contractors, and agents shall adhere to the Standards of Conduct.

### **2.2.3 OASIS**

SPP shall administer an Open Access Same-time Information System (OASIS) or successor systems for administration of transmission service. The OASIS, or any successor system, shall conform to the requirements for such systems as specified by FERC.

### **2.2.4 Ancillary Services**

SPP, as part of the OATT, shall facilitate the provision of such ancillary services as are required to be offered by FERC.

### **2.2.5 Transmission Service Scheduling**

- (a) SPP shall schedule and curtail transmission service in accordance with the OATT.
- (b) SPP shall, in consultation with its Members, develop and from time-to-time amend when necessary, detailed scheduling protocols and procedures for service under the OATT, which shall be provided to all Members and be made publicly available.

### **2.3 Fiduciary Responsibilities and Duties of SPP to Members**

SPP shall have the following fiduciary responsibilities and duties to Member under this Agreement:

- (a) Using best efforts to avoid damage to the Tariff Facilities or any other facilities of the Member affected by SPP activities;
- (b) Collecting and distributing revenues to Member in accordance with the Transmission Tariff and other SPP documents applicable to the Transmission Tariff and approved by the Members;
- (c) Using best efforts to maximize transmission service revenues associated with such transmission services in discounting transmission services in accordance with the Transmission Tariff; and
- (d) Using best efforts to promote the design and development of Transmission Tariff rates to assure recovery by Transmission Owner of transmission revenue requirements to the greatest extent practicable and subject to receiving necessary regulatory approvals.

### **2.4 Additional Obligations of SPP**

#### **2.4.1 Inspection and Auditing Procedures**

SPP shall grant Member, its employees, agents, or external auditors, and federal and state regulatory authorities having jurisdiction over SPP or Member, such access to SPP's books, records, business practices, control procedures and required audit test results, and related financial transactions and settlement activities as is necessary to verify compliance by SPP with this Agreement, to audit and verify transactions under this Agreement, and to assist Member in

complying with its statutory and regulatory requirements. Such access shall be at reasonable times and under reasonable conditions. SPP shall also comply with the reporting requirements of federal and state regulatory authorities having jurisdiction over SPP with respect to the business aspects of its operations. Contact between officers, employees, and agents of Member and those of SPP shall comply with the Standards of Conduct.

#### **2.4.2 Stranded Cost Recovery Charges**

SPP shall collect and distribute, as appropriate, any stranded cost recovery charges pursuant to applicable schedules accepted by appropriate regulatory entities.

### **3.0 COMMITMENTS, RIGHTS, POWERS, AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBER**

Member has made the following commitments, and shall have the following rights and shall be responsible for the following functions, some of which apply only to a Transmission Owner, some only to a Non-Transmission Owner.

- (a) Transmission Owner shall transfer functional control related to the rates, terms and conditions of the OATT of its Transmission Facilities, subject to receiving all necessary regulatory authorizations, thereby allowing SPP to (i) direct the operation of the Transmission Facilities in accordance with the terms of this Agreement; (ii) administer transmission service under the Transmission Tariff over that Transmission Owner's Tariff Facilities; and (iii) receive funds from Transmission Customers relating to transmission service over Tariff Facilities and distribute funds to the Transmission Owner. Where Member, owns generators within the SPP Region which directly affect the capacity or reliability of the Electric Transmission System, it shall offer to provide the ancillary services required under the OATT at rates approved by regulatory authorities, where appropriate, to the extent such generators are able to provide such ancillary services.
- (b) Transmission Owner shall operate and maintain its Tariff Facilities subject to the requirements of this Agreement.

- (c) Where Transmission Owner is a balancing area operator, it shall continue to operate its balancing areas for local generation control and economic dispatch, and shall be responsible for identifying and addressing local problems in a reliable manner.
- (d) Transmission Owner shall provide transmission service over its Tariff Facilities at the direction of SPP pursuant to the terms of the OATT.
- (e) Member agrees to comply with the instructions of SPP in its role as Reliability Coordinator.
- (f) Transmission Owner shall retain all rights of ownership, including legal and equitable title in its Tariff Facilities, subject to the provisions of this Agreement. Transmission Owner, or one acting under its authority, shall retain all rights to access to its Tariff Facilities so long as such access is consistent with the provisions of this Agreement.
- (g) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, Transmission Owner shall not be obligated or be considered to be allowing transmission over its facilities if such transmission would cause the loss of the tax-exempt status of Transmission Owner or any bonds or other debt of Transmission Owner.
- (h) Member reserves the right to exercise operational authority of Member's Tariff Facilities (1) to protect public safety and the safety of its workers, to prevent damage to equipment, and to preserve reliability in compliance with NERC standards, and (2) as necessary to preserve Member's rights, duties and obligations regarding electric service to its retail and wholesale native load customers pursuant to its state law and consistent with NERC standards, if SPP's exercise of operational authority over the Tariff Facilities would endanger said electric service or is contrary to or would curtail, surrender or delegate such state law rights, duties and obligations. Member will, as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, notify SPP of such actions taken by Member. Member and SPP will meet and confer regarding the matter and, as necessary, negotiate in good faith to modify the Agreement to address the matter.

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### **3.1 Redispatch and Curtailment**

Where Member owns or controls generation, it shall follow the instructions of SPP in its role as Reliability Coordinator in redispatching generation if such generation directly affects the reliability and capability of the Electric Transmission System and is located within the SPP Region. Member shall follow the instructions of SPP in its role as Reliability Coordinator or as administrator of the OATT to effectuate curtailment of load. Member shall submit to and coordinate with SPP unit schedules and must-run units within the SPP Region that affect Electric Transmission System capability or reliability. Where Member is providing redispatch it shall receive appropriate compensation in accordance with appropriate rate schedules.

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### **3.2 Transmission and Generation Maintenance Practices**

Transmission Owner shall maintain its Tariff Facilities in accordance with Good Utility Practice. Member shall maintain its generation facilities subject to this Agreement in accordance with Good Utility Practice. Transmission Owner shall coordinate and obtain SPP approval for maintenance on its Tariff Facilities in accordance with Section 2.1.3 of this Agreement. Where Member owns or controls generation facilities within the SPP Region directly affecting Electric Transmission System capability or reliability, it shall coordinate maintenance of such facilities with SPP in accordance with Section 2.1.4 of this Agreement.

### **3.3 Construction**

- (a) As part of its planning activities, SPP shall be responsible for planning, and for directing or arranging, necessary transmission expansions, additions, and upgrades that will enable it to provide efficient, reliable and non-discriminatory transmission service and to coordinate such efforts with the appropriate state authorities, including the Member's governing board where it serves as that authority. Transmission Owner shall use due diligence to construct transmission facilities as directed by SPP in accordance with the OATT and this Agreement, subject to such siting, permitting, and environmental constraints as may be imposed by state, local and federal laws and regulations, and subject to the receipt of any necessary federal or state regulatory approvals, including, as necessary, the Member's governing board where it serves as that authority. Such construction shall be performed in accordance with Good Utility Practice, applicable SPP Criteria, industry standards, Transmission Owner's specific reliability requirements and operating guidelines (to the extent these are not inconsistent with other requirements), and in accordance with all applicable requirements of federal or state regulatory authorities. Transmission Owner shall be fully compensated to the greatest extent permitted by FERC, or other regulatory authority for the costs of construction undertaken in accordance with the OATT.
- (b) After a new transmission project has received the required approvals and been approved by SPP, SPP will direct the appropriate Transmission Owner(s) to begin implementation of the project. If the project forms a connection between facilities of a single Transmission Owner, that Transmission Owner will be designated to

provide the new facilities. If the project forms a connection between facilities owned by multiple parties, all parties will be designated to provide their respective new facilities. The parties will agree among themselves as to how much of the project will be provided by each entity. If agreement cannot be reached, SPP will facilitate the ownership determination process.

- (c) A designated ~~provider~~ Transmission Owner for a project can elect to arrange for ~~a new~~ another entity or another Transmission Owner to build and/or own the project in its place, provided that such other entity executes this Agreement as a Transmission Owner and accepts all of the obligations of a Transmission Owner under this Agreement and the OATT. If a designated ~~provider(s)~~ Transmission Owner(s) does not or cannot agree to implement the project in a timely manner, SPP will solicit and evaluate proposals for the project from other entities and select a replacement.

### **3.4 Use of Distribution Facilities**

Transmission Owner shall provide such service over its Distribution Facilities, where applicable, as is necessary to effectuate transmission transactions administered by SPP, at approved rates, and subject to a separate tariff or agreement as appropriate.

### **3.5 Providing Information**

Member shall provide such information to SPP as is necessary for SPP to perform its obligations under this Agreement and the OATT, and for planning and operational purposes. Such information shall be treated as confidential when so designated so long as its designation is reasonable.

### **3.6 Facilities Access**

Transmission Owner shall allow SPP such access to Tariff Facilities as is necessary for SPP to perform its obligations under this Agreement. Such access shall be at reasonable times and under reasonable conditions.

### **3.7 Inspection and Auditing Procedures**

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Transmission Owner shall grant SPP such access to its books and records as is necessary for SPP to perform its obligations under this Agreement and to audit and verify transactions under this Agreement. Such access shall be at reasonable times and under reasonable conditions.

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Transmission Owner shall not be required to provide access to confidential information unless it consents, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld. Transmission Owner may require reasonable disclosure conditions before giving its consent. Disclosure of confidential information shall be made consistent with such disclosure conditions or in accordance with any effective order requiring production of such confidential information issued by a court or regulatory authority. SPP shall provide Transmission Owner immediate notice of any request by an entity to review any such confidential information.

### **3.8 Compliance with Bylaws and Other Policies and Procedures**

- (a) Member agrees to and will comply with and abide by the provisions of the SPP Bylaws and pay, when due, any dues, assessments, OATT charges, and other amounts owing to SPP.
- (b) Member shall comply with all approved and applicable SPP and NERC policies, principles, criteria, standards, and guides and monitoring and certification procedures.
- (c) Where Member is also a member of another NERC Regional Entity it may, at its request and upon approval of the President, be granted a waiver of responsibilities associated with SPP Criteria and/or Bylaws that are duplicative of or inconsistent with responsibilities of membership in another Regional Entity. Where Member receives such a waiver, it agrees to forgo voting privileges on issues before any organizational group pertaining to waived responsibilities.

### **3.9 Planning and Participation**

Transmission Owner shall participate in regional joint planning and coordinated operation of the Electric Transmission System. Non-Transmission Owner shall be entitled to participate in regional joint planning and coordinated operation of the Electric Transmission System.

### **3.10 Pricing**

Transmission Owner shall possess the unilateral right to file with FERC, and, if the Transmission Owner is non-jurisdictional, the Transmission Owner shall have the option to file with FERC, or submit to SPP for filing with FERC, pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act modifications to change the rates or rate structure for transmission service over its Tariff Facilities, including filing a fixed revenue requirement and supporting data or a rate formula template for its cost of service revenue requirements, and to submit proposals or filings governing new construction with FERC; provided, however, Transmission Owner may not submit a proposal which results in a Transmission Customer paying two or more transmission charges for transmission for one transaction under the OATT (excluding Distribution Facilities for which an additional charge may be imposed, and Grandfathered Agreements as defined in the OATT). Transmission Owner shall notify SPP in advance of its intention to submit a filing to FERC and provide SPP with a copy of the filing. No approval from SPP is required for such filings.

### **3.11 No Waiver of Jurisdictional Immunity**

If Member is not subject to the jurisdiction of FERC as a public utility under the Federal Power Act, Member shall not be required to take any action or participate in any filing or appeal that would confer FERC jurisdiction over Member that does not otherwise exist. Any order, decision, rule or regulation issued by FERC to SPP or any other Members or Member of SPP relating to matters exempt from FERC jurisdiction under Section 201(f) of the Federal Power Act shall not apply directly or separately to a non-jurisdictional Member. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, except as otherwise provided in the Federal Power Act, a non-jurisdictional Member shall not be bound or obligated by any FERC order, decision, rule or regulation requiring a change in the rates, terms or conditions for transmission service or compensation for utilizing the transmission facilities of a non-jurisdictional Member, which conflicts with applicable state law, including any order requiring the suspension of the use of such rates, terms or conditions or the payment of refunds of rates or compensation previously collected or received. A non-jurisdictional Member and SPP acknowledge that FERC, in the context of its jurisdiction over SPP's rates, may review a non-jurisdictional Member's revenue requirement and rates to the extent they comprise or affect the rates charged by SPP or other Members. If FERC does not accept a non-jurisdictional

Member's revenue requirement or rates, the non-jurisdictional Member may terminate this Agreement pursuant to the withdrawal provisions of the Agreement. In such event, the non-jurisdictional Member and SPP agree to meet and confer prior to any termination of this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement, or the participation of a non-jurisdictional Member in SPP and its operations waives any objection to or otherwise constitutes a consent to, the jurisdiction by FERC that does not otherwise exist over the non-jurisdictional Member or its transmission service, facilities and rates.

### **3.12 Compliance with State Law**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, a non-jurisdictional Member shall not be required to take any action or do any other thing with respect to rates, charges, terms or conditions of service, the resolution of disputes under this Agreement or any other matter regarding its obligations and performance under this Agreement, that (i) the non-jurisdictional Member is not permitted by state law to undertake or that is prohibited in whole or in part by any state law or regulation applicable to the non-jurisdictional Member; or (ii) would require the non-jurisdictional Member to violate a provision of such state law or regulation in order to comply with this Agreement. Determination of compliance with and permissible action, conduct or obligations under this Section 3.12 by a non-jurisdictional Member shall be within the sole jurisdiction of the non-jurisdictional Member's governing board, subject to applicable state court review. A non-jurisdictional Member shall not object to SPP's participation in any state proceedings that impact the non-jurisdictional Member's ability to perform under this Agreement or determinations regarding such impact. To the extent possible without violating state law, a non-jurisdictional Member shall notify SPP in advance of any action that the non-jurisdictional Member is required to take that the non-jurisdictional Member believes would constitute a violation of state law, and the non-jurisdictional Member and SPP promptly shall meet and confer regarding the matter. As necessary, the non-jurisdictional Member and SPP agree to negotiate in good faith to modify the Agreement as consistent as possible with the original intent to allow SPP to exercise operational authority over the non-jurisdictional Member's Tariff Facilities as otherwise provided in the Agreement. If the non-jurisdictional Member and SPP are unable to resolve the matter, the non-jurisdictional Member may terminate this Agreement pursuant to the withdrawal provisions of the Agreement.

#### **4.0 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

This Section states the terms and conditions applicable to any Termination or Partial Termination.

**4.1 Events of Termination and Partial Termination.** A “Termination” shall mean any cessation of Membership, voluntary or involuntary, or a termination of this Agreement for any reason including the following:

- a. Member voluntarily withdraws from membership under Sections 4.0 or 5.0 of this Agreement;
- b. An involuntary termination of membership occurs pursuant to Section 6.0 of this Agreement;
- c. Member withdraws from membership or terminates this Agreement to comply with the terms of any applicable law or regulation;
- d. A withdrawal from membership or termination of this Agreement is ordered by any court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction; SPP reserves the right, but is not obligated, to maintain before such court or administrative agency, or on any appeal, that FERC has preemptive jurisdiction;
- e. A material breach or repudiation of this Agreement, in the discretion of the non-breaching or non-repudiating party;
- f. The liquidation or dissolution of SPP, unless a third party has assumed the rights and obligations of SPP under this Agreement and has reasonably demonstrated capability to perform SPP’s obligations under this Agreement;
- g. An agreement between SPP and the Member to terminate this Agreement.

A “Partial Termination” occurs upon a Member’s voluntary removal of a portion of its transmission facilities or customers from the SPP Region, including, by way of example and not limitation, sale of a part of the Member’s distribution or transmission network or transfer to another service provider of a portion of its retail load.



## **4.2 Termination Procedures and Effective Dates**

### **4.2.1 Notice of Voluntary Withdrawal**

Subject to Section 4.3, a Member may withdraw voluntarily from this Agreement, provided that it has given written notice to the President of its intent to withdraw. Notice of intent to withdraw must state a proposed date for the withdrawal and be delivered to the President no less than twelve (12) months prior to such date. The President will advise the Members and the Board of Directors of any withdrawal notices received. In order to assure that there is no more than one proposed termination date with respect to a Member, a withdrawal notice shall be deemed to rescind any prior withdrawal notice given by the Member. Voluntary withdrawal is a Termination and creates the same obligations as a Termination for any other reason.

### **4.2.2 Effective Date of Termination**

(a) **Voluntary Withdrawal.** If the withdrawing Member is not a Transmission Owner subject to FERC jurisdiction, the Termination Date shall be the date proposed in the withdrawal notice under Section 4.2.1 or otherwise agreed by SPP. If the withdrawing Member is a Transmission Owner subject to FERC jurisdiction, the Termination Date shall be the later of (i) the proposed date specified in the withdrawal notice or otherwise agreed by SPP, (ii) the effective date, if any, set by the FERC order approving the withdrawal; or (iii) the date that such FERC order is no longer subject to review by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) **Termination other than Voluntary Withdrawal.** If the Termination occurs for any reason other than the Member's voluntary withdrawal under Section 4.2.1 or by agreement with SPP, the Termination Date shall be as follows:

(i) If the Member is not a Transmission Owner subject to FERC jurisdiction, the Termination Date shall be the date of the event by which the Termination occurs, for example, the date a party gives notice that it will treat a breach or repudiation as a Termination or the date a Member withdraws in order to comply with the terms of a law or regulation. The foregoing notwithstanding, if the Termination occurs due to the order of a court or administrative agency, the

Termination Date shall be the date the order is no longer subject to review by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(ii) If the Member is a Transmission Owner requiring regulatory agency approval prior to effectively withdrawing from SPP, then the Termination Date shall be the later of (i) the effective date, if any, set by the regulatory agency order approving the Termination; or (ii) the date that such regulatory order is no longer subject to review by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(iii) In conjunction with the requirements and limitations imposed in Section 4.2.2(b)(ii) above; Transmission Owning Members of SPP wishing to withdraw from SPP and requiring regulatory agency approval prior to such withdrawal being effective are required to initiate the required regulatory filings seeking approval to withdraw prior to the end of the 12 month notice period. Additionally, these members must provide SPP copies of the regulatory filings in a timely manner after filing with the appropriate regulatory agency. Failure to comply with the terms of this paragraph will effectively rescind the notice of the withdrawing member.

(iv) Member may terminate this Agreement with less than the required twelve (12) months notice, in the event that the state law governing Member changes, or any provisions of this Agreement or the provisions of SPP's OATT are changed or modified in a manner that causes a conflict with the Member's state law, regulations, or rate schedules, and the internal dispute resolution process described in Section 12 of the OATT is unable to resolve such conflict. In such event, Member and SPP shall meet and confer to facilitate the withdrawal as soon as practicable as necessary to ensure compliance with state law.

### **4.3 Obligations Upon Termination**

#### **4.3.1 Obligation to Hold Users Harmless**

Transmission Customers taking service which involves facilities being withdrawn by a Transmission Owner from the functional control of SPP and where such service is under transmission contracts executed before the Termination Date shall continue to receive the same service for the remaining term of each such contract at the same rates, terms, and conditions that would have been applicable if the Termination or Partial Termination had not occurred. Transmission Owner agrees to continue providing service to such Transmission Customers in accordance with the preceding sentence, and shall receive revenues calculated in accordance with the OATT but no more in revenues for that service than if there had been no Termination or Partial Termination.

#### **4.3.2 Obligation to Pay Current ~~and~~, Existing, and Transmission Plan Obligations**

(a) In the event of a Termination or Partial Termination, Member shall pay all obligations incurred under this Agreement at any time prior to the Termination Date. In addition, in order for SPP to recover a portion of certain debts and cost payable by SPP after the Termination Date as further specified in this Agreement, the Member shall pay all Existing Obligations (as defined herein) calculated as of the Termination Date. SPP shall make reasonable efforts to mitigate the Member's Existing Obligations by commercially reasonable actions (such as prepayment of allocable debt, or investment of part or all of the Member's payment in an interest-bearing instrument) and, in its discretion, may further discount the Member's Existing Obligations to reflect any additional mitigation SPP determines it will achieve. In addition, the Member shall pay all Transmission Plan Obligations (as defined herein) that have been allocated as of the Termination Date.

(b) "Existing Obligations" are all of the following and other obligations as may be set forth in the Bylaws from time to time;

- i. Member's unpaid annual membership fee,

- ii. Member's unpaid dues, assessments, and other amounts charged under Section 3.8 or otherwise under the Bylaws, plus the Member's share of costs SPP customarily includes in such dues, assessments or other charges, but which as of the Termination Date SPP had not included in such dues assessments or other charges.
- iii. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of the entire principal amounts of all SPP Financial Obligations outstanding as of the Termination Date. "Financial Obligations" are all long-term (in excess of six (6) months) financial obligations of SPP, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. debts under all loans, loan agreements, borrowings, promissory notes, bonds, and credit lines under which SPP is obligated, including principal and interest;
  - b. all payment obligations under equipment leases, financing leases, capital leases, real estate and office space leases, consulting contracts, and contracts for outsourced services;
  - c. any unfunded liabilities of any SPP employee pension funds, whether or not liquidated or demanded; and
  - d. the general and administrative overhead of SPP for a period of three (3) months.
- iv. Any costs, expenses or liabilities incurred by SPP directly due to the Termination, regardless of when incurred or payable, and including without limitation prepayment premiums or penalties arising under SPP Financial Obligations.
- v. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of all interest that will become due for payment with respect to all interest bearing Financial Obligations after the Termination Date and until the maturity of all Financial Obligations in accordance with their respective terms ("Future Interest"). In the effect at the Termination Date shall be used to calculate the applicable

Future Interest. In determining the Member's share of Future Interest, SPP shall take into account any reduction of Financial Obligations due to mitigation under this Section.

(c) “Transmission Plan Obligations” include a Member’s share of the costs of transmission facilities approved for inclusion in an SPP transmission plan prior to the Member’s Termination Date. The Member’s share of Transmission Plan Obligations shall be calculated as the sum of: (1) the percentage of the Member’s Net Energy for Load within SPP to the total Net Energy for Load for the Member’s zone(s) multiplied by the total cost of transmission facilities allocated to the Member’s zone(s) pursuant to Attachment J of the OATT; (2) the percentage of the Member’s Net Energy for Load within SPP to the total Net Energy for Load for the SPP region multiplied by the total cost of transmission facilities allocated on a Region-wide basis pursuant to Attachment J of the OATT; and (3) any other costs of transmission facilities directly allocated to the Member under the OATT.

\_\_\_\_\_ (ed) In the event of a Partial Termination, Existing Obligations shall first be calculated as though a Termination occurred, and the Member shall pay a percentage thereof as Existing Obligations due to the Partial Termination. Such percentage shall be the percentage reduction of the Net Energy for Load Ratio applicable to the Member resulting from the Partial Termination.

(de) SPP shall invoice Member for Existing Obligations within one month after the Termination Date, except that delay by SPP in issuing the invoice shall not diminish Member’s obligation to make timely payment. The invoice shall be due and payable no later than five (5) business days after issuance. Any amounts owed by SPP to the Member shall, solely at SPP’s election and in its discretion, be offset against the Member’s Existing Obligations or paid to the Member concurrently with issuance of the invoice.

(e) The Member acknowledges and agrees that Existing Obligations include amounts that SPP expects to accrue and that will become payable by SPP between the date of Member's Notice of Termination and the Member's Termination Date, and that no part of a payment of Existing Obligations shall be refundable to the Member under any circumstances, including (except as provided in this Section with respect to mitigation) any reduction of the Financial Obligations. Any disagreement as to the calculation of Existing Obligations shall be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures in the Bylaws.

Issued by: Heather H. Starnes, Manager, Regulatory Policy

Issued on: February 25, 2009

Effective: April 27, 2009

### **4.3.3 Construction of Transmission Facilities**

Any obligations relating to the construction of new facilities pursuant to an approved plan of SPP shall be renegotiated between SPP and the Transmission Owner prior to the Termination Date ~~or promptly thereafter~~ so as to continue the Transmission Owner's construction obligation. If such obligations cannot be resolved through negotiations, they shall be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures in the Bylaws.

### **4.3.4 Regulatory and Other Approvals or Procedures**

Any Termination with respect to a Transmission Owner shall be subject to applicable federal and state law and regulatory approvals or procedures.

## **5.0 REGULATORY, TAX, AND OTHER AUTHORITIES**

### **5.1 Regulatory and Other Authorities**

This Agreement and the participation of Member is subject to acceptance or approval by FERC, and may be subject to actions of respective state regulatory authorities to which Member may be subject, and to the actions of any other governmental body which may affect the ability of Member to participate in this Agreement. The following items describe Member's rights and obligations in the event regulatory and other approvals or acceptances are not obtained or changes are required:

- (a) In the event FERC disapproves or refuses to accept this Agreement or the changes to the OATT developed together with this Agreement, then this Agreement shall cease to be effective except that the signatories shall be obligated to attempt expeditiously and in good faith to negotiate a substitute agreement and OATT which address the reasons for such FERC action. If, despite such good faith negotiation, the signatories are unable to produce such a substitute agreement and OATT, then the signatories shall have no further obligations under this Agreement or any filing associated herewith.

- (b) In the event of any order or decision by FERC or by a court modifying this Agreement or the OATT submitted as part of the initial filing seeking FERC acceptance or approval, that in the judgment of Member adversely affects it, then Member, at its sole discretion, may withdraw from this Agreement by providing written notice to the President of SPP no later than thirty days after such order or decision without receiving any FERC authorization. In such event, Member will in good faith negotiate to determine whether changes should be made to the Agreement or OATT to address the reasons for Member's withdrawal.

Issued by: L. Patrick Bourne, Director  
Transmission and Regulatory Policy

Effective: July 26, 2005

Issued on: August 9, 2005

Filed to comply with order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Docket Nos. RT04-1 and ER04-48, issued February 11, 2005, 110 FERC ¶ 61138 (2005).



## **5.2 Tax Authorities**

If the Internal Revenue Service or any other federal, state, or local taxing authority issues, or fails to issue, any ruling, or imposes any requirement or obligation, in connection with this Agreement on Member adverse to Member (in its sole judgment), or if adherence to this Agreement jeopardizes the tax-exempt status of Member or its bonds, then Member may, within 30 days of the date of such final order, or a good faith belief of such adverse consequences, withdraw from this Agreement subject to receiving any necessary regulatory approvals. In such event, Member and SPP will, in good faith, negotiate to determine whether changes should be made to the Agreement to address the reasons for Member's withdrawal.

Nothing in this Agreement, nor Member's obligations and performance thereunder, shall affect, or require Member to take or refrain from taking any action that would affect the rights and obligations or enforceability of Member's present or future bond resolutions, tax-exempt debt covenants and financing agreements. Member shall determine in its sole discretion and judgment, in accordance with advice and opinions from its legal counsel, what actions, conduct and performance it is permitted to or must take under its bond resolutions, tax-exempt debt covenants and financing agreements. Member and SPP will meet and confer regarding the matter and, as necessary, negotiate in good faith to modify the Agreement to address the matter.

## **5.3 Effectiveness as to Certain Members**

The effectiveness of this Agreement as to Member where it is a governmental entity and has outstanding tax-exempt bonds issued to finance, in whole or in part, generation, transmission, or Distribution Facilities is dependent upon satisfaction or Member's written waiver of the following conditions precedent:

- (a) Receipt of an unqualified opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel to the effect that the provisions of this Agreement do not adversely affect the exclusion from gross income of interest on any such outstanding bonds issued to finance generation, transmission, and Distribution Facilities under the Internal Revenue code of 1986, as amended;

- (b) Receipt of an unqualified opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel or general counsel to Member to the effect that the provisions of this Agreement do not constitute a breach or impairment of, or a default under, any agreement to which it is a party, including, but not limited to, its master bond resolution, as amended, and any power sales contracts with its municipal transmission users (if any), as amended, or other agreements;
- (c) Receipt of a certificate of the trustee for any such outstanding bonds issued for generation, transmission and Distribution Facilities to the effect that Member's entry into this Agreement is permitted under the master bond resolution, as amended; and

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Issued on: February 25, 2009

Effective: April 27, 2009

- (d) Receipt of an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel or general counsel to Member that it has full constitutional and statutory authority to enter into this Agreement.

In the event that any of the foregoing conditions are not satisfied or waived by Member, then it shall promptly give notice of its objections or conditions which have not been satisfied to SPP, and SPP shall expeditiously attempt in good faith to negotiate a substitute agreement.

## **6.0 REMOVAL OF MEMBERS**

The Board of Directors may terminate the membership of Member for cause, including but not limited to material violation of the Bylaws or nonpayment of obligations, subject to any applicable regulatory approvals. Such Board of Directors termination shall be after an affirmative vote consistent with the voting procedures in the Bylaws. Where membership is terminated by the Board, Member shall comply with the requirements of Section 4.3 of this Agreement.

## **7.0 EFFECTIVE DATE, DURATION, AND TRANSITION**

- (a) This Agreement shall be effective on the Effective Date and shall remain in force until any Termination Date. All obligations incurred pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Agreement shall survive a termination.
- (b) Where Member has, prior to the Effective Date of this Agreement, executed an agency agreement and/or a membership agreement with SPP, upon the Effective Date of this Agreement any prior agreements shall be considered terminated between Member and SPP.

Issued by: L. Patrick Bourne, Director  
Transmission and Regulatory Policy

Effective: July 26, 2005

Issued on: August 9, 2005

Filed to comply with order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Docket Nos. RT04-1 and ER04-48, issued February 11, 2005, 110 FERC ¶ 61138 (2005).

## **8.0 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **8.1 Governing Law**

This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, and governed by the laws of the State of Arkansas, except to the extent preempted by the law and/or unless a court with jurisdiction rules otherwise, provided, however, that (i) all matters relating to real property or any interest in realty shall be governed by the laws of the State wherein such real property or interest in realty is physically located, and (ii) any court or regulatory body applying Arkansas law shall give full effect to Section 3.12 of this Agreement regarding Member's obligations under state law.

### **8.2 Successors and Assigns**

This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon SPP and Member, their respective successors and assigns permitted hereunder, but shall not be assignable by Member, by operation of law or otherwise, without the approval of the Board of Directors which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, except that no Board of Directors approval is required as to a successor in the operation of Transmission Owner's Tariff Facilities committed to administration by SPP by reason of a merger, consolidation, reorganization, sale, spin-off, or foreclosure, as a result of which substantially all such transmission facilities are acquired by such successor, and such successor becomes a Transmission Owner under this Agreement.

### **8.3 No Implied Waivers**

The failure of Member or SPP to insist upon or enforce strict performance of any of the specific provisions of this Agreement at any time shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment to any extent of Member's or SPP's rights to assert or rely upon any such provisions, rights, or remedies in that or any other instance, or as a waiver to any extent of any specific provision of this Agreement; rather the same shall be and remain in full force and effect.

### **8.4 Severability**

Each provision of this Agreement shall be considered severable, and if for any reason any provision of this Agreement, or the application thereof to any person, entity, or circumstance, is determined by a court or regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, then the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and

effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated, and such invalid, void, or unenforceable provision shall be replaced with a suitable and equitable provision in order to carry out, so far as may be valid and enforceable, the intent and purpose of such invalid, void, or unenforceable provision. This Section 8.4 does not modify or change in any way the right of Member to withdraw as provided elsewhere in this Agreement.

### **8.5 Renegotiation**

If any provision of this Agreement, or the application thereof to any person, entity or circumstance, is held by a court or regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, or if a modification or condition to this Agreement is imposed by a regulatory authority exercising jurisdiction over this Agreement, Member and SPP shall endeavor in good faith to negotiate such amendment or amendments to this Agreement as will restore the relative benefits and obligations of the signatories under this Agreement immediately prior to such holding, modification, or condition. If after 60 days such negotiations are unsuccessful, Member or SPP may exercise any withdrawal or termination rights available under Sections 4, 5 or 6 of this Agreement.

### **8.6 Representations and Warranties**

Member and SPP each represent and warrant to the other that as of the later of the date it executes this Agreement or the Effective Date of this Agreement:

- (a) It is duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction where organized;
- (b) Subject to any necessary approvals by federal or state regulatory authorities of SPP, the execution and delivery by Member and SPP of this Agreement, and the performance of its respective obligations hereunder have been duly and validly authorized by all requisite action on the part of the signatories and does not conflict with any applicable law or with any other agreement binding upon the signatories, other than third party joint agreements covered in this Agreement. This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by Member and SPP, and, subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement, constitutes the legal, valid,

Issued by: L. Patrick Bourne, Manager  
Transmission and Regulatory Policy

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and binding obligation on the part of Member and SPP, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms except insofar as the enforceability thereof may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, fraudulent conveyance, moratorium, or other similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditor's rights generally, and by general principles of equity regardless of whether such principles are considered in a proceeding at law or in equity; and

- (c) There are no actions at law, suits in equity, proceedings, or claims pending or, to the knowledge of Member or SPP, threatened against Member or SPP before or by any federal, state, foreign or local court, tribunal, or governmental agency or authority that might materially delay, prevent, or hinder the performance by such entity of its obligations hereunder.

#### **8.7 Further Assurances**

Member and SPP agree that each shall hereafter execute and deliver such further instruments, provide all information, and take or forbear such further acts and things as may be reasonably required or useful to carry out the intent and purpose of this Agreement and as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement.

#### **8.8 Delivery of Notices**

Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, notices required under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent to Member or SPP by U.S. mail, overnight courier, hand delivery, facsimile, or other reliable electronic means. Any notice required under this Agreement shall be deemed to have been given either upon delivery, if by U.S. mail, overnight courier, or hand delivery, or upon confirmation, if given by facsimile or other reliable electronic means.

#### **8.9 Entire Agreement**

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between Member and SPP with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement, and no previous oral or written representations, agreements, or understandings made by any officer, agent, or employee of Member or SPP shall be binding upon either party unless contained in this Agreement.

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### **8.10 Good Faith Efforts**

Member and SPP agree that each shall in good faith take all reasonable actions necessary to fulfill its respective obligations under this Agreement. Where the consent, agreement, or approval of Member or SPP must be obtained hereunder, such consent, agreement, or approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. Where Member or SPP is required or permitted to act, or omit to act, based on its opinion or judgment, such opinion or judgment shall not be unreasonably exercised. To the extent that the jurisdiction of any federal or state regulatory authority applies to any part of this Agreement and/or the transactions or actions covered by this Agreement, Member and SPP secure any necessary or desirable approval or acceptance of such regulatory authorities of such part of this Agreement and/or such transactions or actions.

### **8.11 Third Party Joint Agreements**

This Agreement shall not be construed, interpreted, or applied in such a manner as to cause Member to be in material breach, anticipatory or otherwise, of any agreement (in effect on the later of the Effective Date of this Agreement or the date that it becomes a Member under this Agreement) between Member and one or more third parties who are not signatories (regardless of the inclusion of one or more other Members as parties to such agreement) for the joint transmission, operation, or maintenance of any electrical facilities covered by this Agreement or the OATT. If such a conflict arises, Member shall advise the Board of Directors, but resolution remains within the sole discretion of Member; provided, however, that Member shall utilize all available remedies and informal and formal dispute resolution procedures to resolve such conflict, and provided, further, that in no event shall Member enter into a resolution of such conflict which would impair the reliability of the Electric Transmission System.

### **8.12 Amendment**

This Agreement may be amended, repealed, or added to by the Board of Directors, only upon 30 days written notice to the Membership of the proposed modification(s), and subject to any necessary regulatory approvals. Approval of amendments to this Agreement by the Board of Directors must be by an affirmative vote of at least five directors. Member agrees to be bound by this Agreement as it may be amended, provided that Member possesses the right to challenge any amendments at FERC and to exercise any withdrawal rights that it possesses under this Agreement if it is dissatisfied with the amendment.

### **8.13 Counterparts**

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument, binding upon Member and SPP.

**[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]**

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Filed to comply with order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Docket Nos. RT04-1-002 and ER04-48-002, issued July 2, 2004, 108 FERC ¶ 61,003.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Member and SPP have caused their duly authorized representatives to execute this Agreement on their respective behalves.

**MEMBER:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Entity (Transmission Owner or Non-Transmission Owner)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Execution

**SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Execution

Issued by: L. Patrick Bourne, Manager  
Transmission and Regulatory Policy

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Issued on: August 2, 2004

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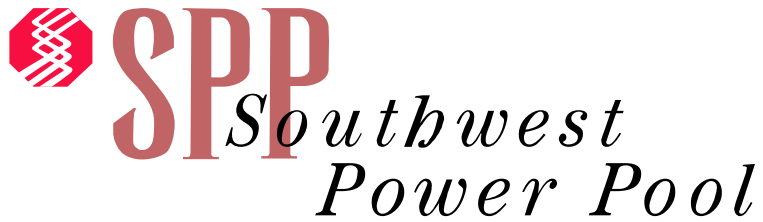
## **APPENDIX A TO SPP'S MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT**

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## **SPP's Operational Authority Reference Document**

PREPARED BY  
Southwest Power Pool

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## Background

In its order issued on February 10, 2004, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) granted Southwest Power Pool (SPP) RTO status subject to the fulfillment of certain requirements. Among those requirements is that the RTO demonstrate clear operational authority as required in Order 2000. As part of its February 10 order (the Order), FERC directed SPP to report on how it intends to exercise day to day operational authority using the functions and terminology outlined in the recent NERC classification of service functions.<sup>1</sup>

This document is intended to serve as a strawman offered to the responsible SPP staff and working groups to ensure that the required information conveys the information required by FERC completely, accurately and effectively.

## Operational Authority Needed by an RTO

Order 2000 States that the RTO must have *Operational Authority* for the facilities under its control. Furthermore, the RTO must be the reliability coordinator for its region. Although SPP does not directly operate the elements of the transmission system (i.e., SPP does not operate switches or other devices), as outlined in the remainder of the document based on the NERC Functional Model, SPP does have operational *authority* over facilities under the RTO. Thus, SPP (in a manner similar to PJM, MISO and others) meets the hierarchical control structure outlined in Order 2000.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> NERC Reliability Functional Model: Function Definitions and Responsible Entities, Version 2 (Approved by Standing Committees on November 11-13, 2003).

<sup>2</sup> FERC Order 2000, pp. 280-281.

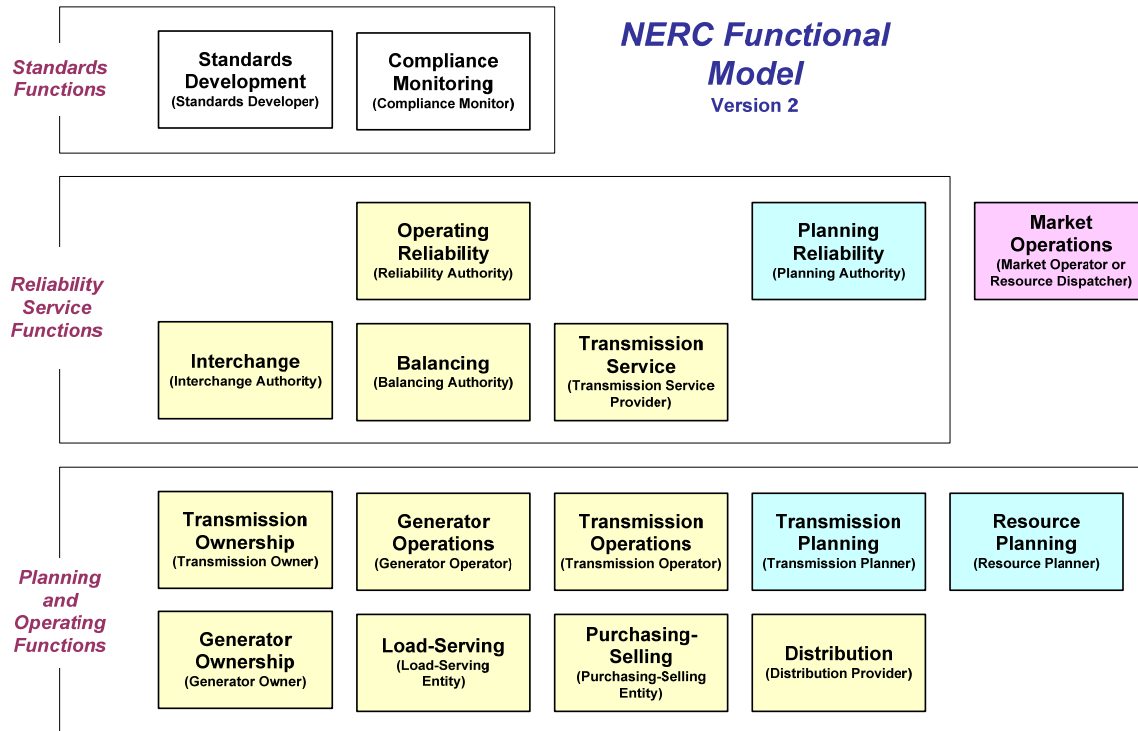
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## Overview of the NERC Functional Model



The goal of the NERC functional model is to (1) define the functions necessary to ensure the reliable operation of the bulk electric system and (2) explain the relationships between those entities performing such functions.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> NERC Functional Model document, p. 6.

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In the second revision of the functional model, NERC makes a distinction between entities and functions. In the Order, FERC asked SPP to adopt the following terminology in describing its roles: Reliability Authority, Balancing Authority, Interchange Authority, Transmission Service Provider, Transmission Owner, Transmission Operator, Market Operator and Planning Authority. These relate to functions in the NERC functional model as follows<sup>4</sup>:

<b>Function Name</b>	<b>Responsible Entity</b>
Operating Reliability Function	Reliability Authority
Planning Reliability Function	Planning Authority
Balancing Function	Balancing Authority
Interchange Function	Interchange Authority
Transmission Service Function	Transmission Service Provider ("TSP")
Transmission Ownership Function	Transmission Owner ("TO")
Transmission Operations Function	Transmission Operator ("TOP")
Transmission Planning Function	Transmission Planner ("TP")
Resource Planning Function	Resource Planner
Market Operations Function	Market Operator (or Resource Dispatcher)

Note that in the functional model, the roles "Transmission Planner" and "Resource Planner" exist in addition to the Planning Authority.

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<sup>4</sup> Id., p. 7 has a complete list of functions and responsible entities.

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## **SPP AND OPERATIONAL AUTHORITY**

### **Bases for SPP Authority**

The bases for SPP's operational authority are principally derived from the following documents: the SPP Membership Agreement, SPP Criteria, NERC Operating Policies , NERC Planning Standards and the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff ("the Tariff," or "OATT").

### **Membership Agreement**

SPP's operational authority over transmission facilities is granted to it in principle by the Membership Agreement between it and transmission owners. Much of the authority is conveyed in Section 2 of the Membership Agreement, specifically<sup>5</sup>:

- Operational and Planning authority;
  - SPP to be scheduling authority over tariff facilities;
  - SPP to be the determinant of ATC under its OATT;
  - SPP shall coordinate with other regions;
  - SPP to direct transmission construction under coordinated planning criteria or under its OATT;
- Reliability authority.
  - SPP to act as reliability coordinator;
  - SPP to direct control areas to maintain adequate reserves up to and including directing them to shed firm load;
  - SPP shall coordinate reliability with other regions;
  - SPP is authorized to direct the emergency response of any of its members, including the shedding of firm load;

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<sup>5</sup> The information following is paraphrased from Section 2 of the SPP Membership Agreement.

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- SPP shall monitor voltage and coordinate voltage schedules;
- SPP shall direct redispatch of generation in accordance with its OATT.
- Transmission Maintenance.
  - SPP to review and coordinate transmission maintenance schedules;
  - SPP may redirect maintenance outage schedules for reliability reasons and may provide compensation.
- Generation Maintenance.
  - SPP to review and coordinate generation maintenance schedules;
  - SPP may offer compensation in order to redirect generation outage schedules.

The Membership Agreement also requires members to abide by SPP criteria, which outline planning, reliability and operational principles.

## **NERC Policies**

By virtue of the Membership Agreement and its associated Criteria, SPP and its members are contractually obligated to comply with NERC Operating Policies. NERC Policies give SPP operational authority in certain areas, especially in its role as reliability coordinator. There is intentionally much overlap between the Membership Agreement, Criteria and NERC Policies. This overlap helps emphasize, clarify and fully define the authorities and responsibilities within SPP.

## **SPP Criteria**

SPP Criteria provides specific details of how SPP and its members implement NERC Policies and Standards. These Criteria are the policies, standards or principles of conduct by which the coordinated planning and operation of the interconnected electric system is achieved. Certain Criteria deal with aspects of operational authority, most notably Criteria 5. Under Criteria 5, SPP shall perform the following tasks:

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- Monitor real-time operating information and daily forecasts from control area;
- Utilize its model to assess reliability of the system, including contingency analysis;
- Work to resolve conditions where reliability is threatened;
- Monitor and approve bulk transmission equipment maintenance;
- Monitor and coordinate the implementation of operating reserve, transmission loading relief, load shedding and restoration and black start procedures;
- Approve interchange schedules as reliability authority; and
- Implement transmission loading relief procedures.

## **SPP Regional Transmission Tariff**

The Tariff outlines SPP's authority and responsibility as a transmission provider. It also contains terms and provisions that apply to both members and non-members who wish to connect to SPP's transmission system. For example, the large generator interconnection agreement obligates generators to abide by SPP's operational policies.

## **NERC Functional Model/SPP Authority Matrix**

Appendix A details each of the tasks associated with the NERC functional model and details how the responsibility for each task is handled within SPP.

## **SPP as Reliability Authority**

SPP, in performing the Operating Reliability Function, performs several activities that are essential for its role.

- SPP operates a single reliability area (see Appendix B) monitored from Little Rock, Arkansas.

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- SPP reliability coordinators have the authority (see Appendix A) and responsibility to direct activities associated with maintaining (and restoring) the electric reliability within the Reliability Authority Area.
- SPP reliability coordinators are provided with fully redundant voice and data communications facilities.
- SPP is collecting real-time data needed for essential monitoring, including frequency, reserves and ACE of each Balancing Authority area, and the loading and limits of critical facilities impacting its Reliability Authority area.
- Transmission outage plans are prepared by owners or operators and submitted to the SPP. SPP has the final approval authority for transmission outages on critical facilities within the Reliability Area.
- SPP has access to the NERC IDC, interacts with it as necessary, and uses NERC provided tools to coordinate transmission loading relief with other regions.
- SPP has a back up operations center with all the equipment and communications necessary to perform reliability coordination in the event that the coordination center is uninhabitable. SPP plans to have fully redundant critical systems in place by year-end.

## **SPP as Transmission Provider**

In its role as transmission provider, SPP performs the following activities associated with operational authority:

- Calculates ATC's and AFC's for the Tariff.
- Administers an OASIS node, evaluates and has approval authority for all new requests for transmission service in the SPP Tariff footprint.

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## **SPP and the Interchange Function**

SPP coordinates approvals and implementation on all schedules sourcing or sinking in the scheduling footprint. In its role as scheduling agent for its members, SPP also does the following:

- Has approval rights as a scheduling entity as well as a transmission provider;
- Maintains and monitors RTO\_SS, SPP's regional scheduling software;
- Evaluates schedules against reservations made on SPP and member OASIS systems;
- Checks schedules for correctness and consistency;

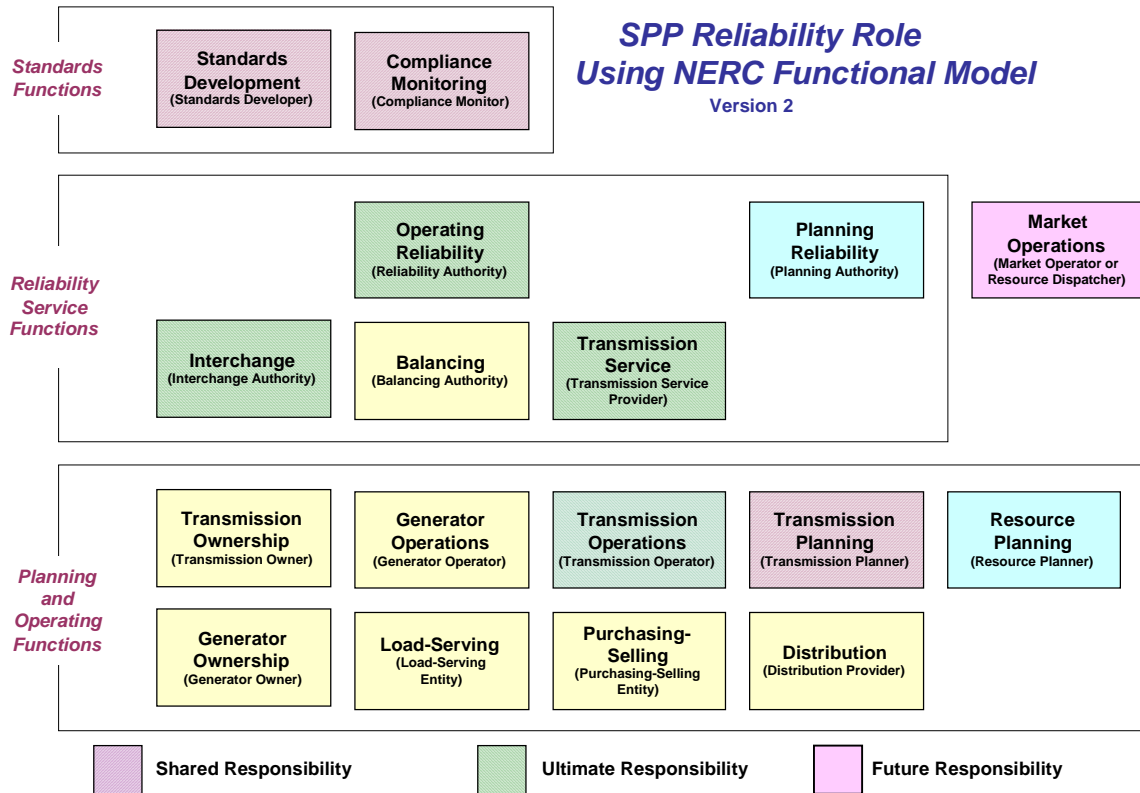
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## CONCLUSION



SPP has the operational authority necessary to perform as an RTO under Order 2000. This authority is given to it principally by the SPP Membership Agreement (and associated Criteria), NERC Policies and the Tariff. An analysis of authority in terms of the NERC functional model emphasizes that SPP performs much of its task using a hierarchal structure, and SPP has the authority to direct, or redirect, actions affecting the reliability of the system as well as SPP's ability to provide transmission service under the Tariff.

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## **Appendix A: NERC Functional Responsibility Matrix**

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	<i>Current Responsibility</i>	<i>RTO Day-1 Responsibility</i>	<i>RTO Post- Market Responsibility</i>	<i>Authority Given By</i>
<b>Function – Operating Reliability</b>				
<i>Ensures the real-time operating reliability of the interconnected bulk electric transmission systems within a Reliability Authority Area<sup>6</sup>.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Enforce operational reliability requirements	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP Criteria 5.2.4.3, 5.2.1 (with modifications), 14.4.1.1 SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.2
2. Monitor all reliability-related parameters within the Reliability Authority Area, including generation dispatch and transmission maintenance plans	SPP <sup>6</sup>	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies 4 and 9 SPP Criteria 5.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.4.1, 5.2.4.2 (with modifications), 14.4.1.1, and Appendix 7 Membership Agreement 2.1.2a, 2.1.2f, 3.5, 3.8

<sup>6</sup> For these purposes the Reliability Authority Area is the SPP Reliability Coordination area. To the extent that TO's have responsibility for similar functions on a smaller scale, that is included as part of the Transmission Owner role.

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3. Direct revisions to transmission maintenance plans as required and as permitted by agreements	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies (only stated specifically in functional model) SPP Criteria 5.2.1 (with modifications), 5.2.4.2 (with modifications) Membership Agreement 2.1.1k, 2.1.3, 3.2, 3.8
4. Request revisions to generation maintenance plans as required and as permitted by agreements	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies (only in functional model)  SPP OATT (LGIA) Membership Agreement 2.1.4
5. Develop Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits (to protect from instability and cascading outages).	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies 9 SPP Membership Agreement 3.8  SPP Criteria (authority needs to be added 14.4.1.3)
6. Perform reliability analysis (actual and contingency) for the Reliability Authority Area	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies 9, Appendix 9D SPP Criteria 14.3

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7. Approve or deny bilateral schedules from the reliability perspective <sup>7</sup>	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies 9, Appendix 9D SPP Criteria 5.2.5, 14.4.3 SPP OATT Membership Agreement 2.2.5, 3.8
8. Assist in determining Interconnected Operations Services requirements for balancing generation and load, and transmission reliability (e.g., reactive requirements, location of operating reserves).	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies Appendix 9D SPP Criteria 5.2.4.4 SPP OATT (with modifications) Membership Agreement 2.1.2a, 2.1.2f, 3.8
9. Identify, communicate, and direct actions to relieve reliability threats and limit violations in the Reliability Authority Area	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies 9, Appendix 9D SPP Criteria 5.2.4.1, 5.2.4.4, 5.2.5, 14.4.3 Membership Agreement 2.1.1k, 2.1.2d
10. Direct implementation of emergency procedures	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies Appendix 9D SPP Criteria 5.2.4.4, 5.2.5 Membership Agreement 2.1.2d
11. Direct and coordinate System Restoration	SPP TOP's	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies Appendix 9D SPP Criteria 9.1.2 (with modifications) Membership Agreement 2.1.2d (add language to for restoration in addition to emergency) Membership Agreement 3.8

<sup>7</sup> Current tagging specifications do not currently allow for this kind of approval. These transactions can be curtailed as part of the TLR process.

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<b>Function – Planning Reliability (SPP Staff)</b>				
<i>Ensures a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan is available for adequate resources and transmission within a Planning Authority Area<sup>8</sup>. It integrates and assesses the plans from the Transmission Planners and Resource Planners within the Planning Authority Area to ensure those plans meet the reliability standards, and develops and recommends solutions to plans that do not meet those standards.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Develop and maintain transmission and resource (demand and capacity) system models to evaluate transmission system performance and resource adequacy.	TO's SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP Criteria (3.4.1 –MDWG) MDWG procedure manual, MDWG charter SPP OATT (with revisions) NERC Planning Standards I A M1-M4 & II A M1-M6
2. Maintain and apply methodologies and tools for the analysis and simulation of the transmission systems in the assessment and development of transmission expansion plans and the analysis and development of resource adequacy plans.	TO's SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP Criteria (Section 3.1 ,3.3 and 3.4 and 12.0) SPP OATT (with revisions) (Attachment O) NERC Planning Standards II A M1-M6 Membership Agreement (2.1.J. and 2.1.5) TWG and GWG charter
3. Define and collect or develop information required for planning purposes, including:				

<sup>8</sup> For Day 1 operations, the Planning Authority Area refers to area encompassing facilities under the SPP OATT.

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a. Transmission facility characteristics and ratings,	TO's SPP	TO's SPP	TO's SPP	SPP Membership Agreement with revisions NERC Planning Standards II.C SPP Criteria 12.2
b. Demand and energy end-use customer forecasts, capacity resources, and demand response programs,	LSE's (ultimate responsibility) SPP	LSE's (ultimate responsibility) SPP	LSE's (ultimate responsibility) SPP	SPP Membership Agreement SPP OATT (with modifications) SPP Criteria 2 and 12
c. Generator unit performance characteristics and capabilities, and	Generation Owners	Generation Owners	Generation Owners	SPP OATT Generation 12.1, 2.3 (reporting)
d. Long-term capacity purchases and sales.	LSE's	LSE's	LSE's Generation Owners, etc.	SPP OATT
4. Evaluate plans for customer requests for transmission service.				
a. Evaluate responses to long-term (generally one year and beyond) transmission service requests.	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Section 17 & 29 SPP Criteria 4.5 Membership Agreement Section 2.1
b. Review transmission facility plans required to integrate new (end-use customer, generation, and transmission) facilities into the interconnected bulk electric systems.	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's	SPP OATT Section 19 & 32 SPP OATT Attachment V SPP Criteria 3 Membership Agreement Section 2.1
5. Review and determine TTC values (generally one year and beyond) as appropriate.	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT SPP Criteria 4.4

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6. Assess, develop, and document resource and transmission expansion plans.				
a. Integrate and verify that the respective plans for the Planning Authority Area meet reliability standards.	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Planning Standards Membership Agreement 2.1.1b, 2.1.1J SPP OATT Attachment O SPP Criteria 3.0, 3.1
b. Identify and report on potential transmission system and resource adequacy deficiencies, and provide alternate plans that mitigate these deficiencies.	SPP TO's/TOP's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's/TOP's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's/TOP's	NERC Planning Standards I.A Membership Agreement 2.1.1b SPP Criteria 3.4.2, 3.4.3, and 3.4.4
7. Provide analyses and reports as required on the long-term resource and transmission plans for the Planning Authority Area.	SPP TO's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's	NERC Planning Standards I.A Membership Agreement 2.1.1b SPP Criteria, 3.4.3, and 3.4.4
8. Monitor transmission expansion plan and resource plan implementation.	SPP TO's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's	SPP (ultimate responsibility) TO's	NERC Planning Standards Membership Agreement 3.3
9. Coordinate projects requiring transmission outages that can impact reliability and firm transactions.	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies 2A1, 2A3 ,4C, 6A,6 B3 and 9.1 NERC Planning Standards 1.AS.2 Membership Agreement 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 SPP Criteria 3.3, 5.2.1 SPP OATT Attachment G 3.5 and 4.4

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10. Evaluate the impact of revised transmission and generator in-service dates on resource and transmission adequacy.	SPP	SPP	SPP	NERC Operating Policies 2A1, 2A3 4C, 6A, B3and 9.1 NERC Planning Standards 1.AS.2, SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.3 , 2.1.4, and 3.3 SPP OATT (LGIA)
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<b>Function – Balancing</b> <sup>9,10</sup>				
<i>Integrates resource plans ahead of time, and maintains load-interchange-generation balance within a Balancing Authority Area and supports Interconnection frequency in real time.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Must have control of any of the following combinations within a Balancing Authority Area:				
a. Load and Generation (an isolated system)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
b. Load and Scheduled Interchange	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.1d
c. Generation and Scheduled Interchange	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.1d
d. Generation, Load, and Scheduled Interchange	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.1d
2. Calculate Area Control Error within the Balancing Authority Area.	CA's	CA's	CA's	NERC Operating Policies
3. Review generation commitments, dispatch, and load forecasts.	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP OATT SPP Membership Agreement SPP Criteria 5.2.4.1, Appendix 7

<sup>9</sup> Currently, the existing SPP control areas are performing the Balancing Area.

<sup>10</sup> As part of its feasibility analysis of becoming a single control area, SPP will be evaluating shifting many BA authorities to SPP.

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4. Formulate an operational plan (generation commitment, outages, etc) for reliability assessment	CA's	CA's	CA's SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP OATT SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.2 SPP Criteria 5.2.4.1, and Appendix 7
5. Approve Interchange Transactions from ramping ability perspective	CA's	CA's	CA's	NERC Operating Policies
6. Implement interchange schedules by entering those schedules into an energy management system	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	SPP CA's	NERC Operating Policies SPP OATT (Market Protocols) SPP Criteria Appendix 7 (with revisions)
7. Provide frequency response	CA's	CA's	CA's	NERC Operating Policies
8. Monitor and report control performance and disturbance recovery	CA's (CPS) SPP (DCS)	CA's (CPS) SPP (DCS)	CA's(CPS) SPP (DCS)	NERC Operating Policies SPP Criteria 5.2.4.3
9. Provide balancing and energy accounting (including hourly checkout of Interchange Schedules and Actual Interchange), and administer Inadvertent energy paybacks	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	CA's SPP <sup>11</sup>	NERC Operating Policies SPP OATT (Market Protocols, TBD) SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.1d (scheduling)
10. Determine needs for Interconnected Operations Services	CA's SPP	CA's SPP <sup>12</sup>	SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP OATT (Market Protocols)

<sup>11</sup> In recognition of the requirement of Order 2000, this may be shifted to SPP under the market.

<sup>12</sup> SPP's involvement is currently with Operating Reserve and Black Start services

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11. Deploy Interconnected Operations Services.	CA's SPP	CA'S SPP <sup>12</sup>	CA's SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP OATT (Market Protocols)
12. Implement emergency procedures	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	CA's SPP	NERC Operating Policies SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.2d

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<b>Function – Market Operations</b>				
<i>Integrates energy, capacity, balancing, and transmission resources to achieve an economic, reliability-constrained dispatch of resources. The dispatch may be either cost-based or bid-based.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Administer a market that provides capacity, energy, balancing resources, and other Ancillary Services subject to system requirements and constraints.	None	None	SPP (expanding as markets developed for ancillary services) <sup>13</sup>	SPP OATT (Market Protocols)
2. Arrange resources for congestion management.	CA's SPP (not market based)	CA's SPP (not market based)	SPP (expanding as markets developed for ancillary services)	SPP OATT (Market Protocols) SPP OATT Attachment R SPP Criteria 14
3. Provide dispatch plans.	CA's	CA's	SPP (expanding as markets developed for ancillary services)	SPP OATT (Market Protocols) SPP Criteria 5 and Appendix 7

<sup>13</sup> Ancillary service markets (other than EIS) to be implemented subject to cost/benefit analyses.

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<i>Special Considerations</i> <i>The Market Operations function, its tasks, and the interrelationships with other entities is included in the Functional Model only as an interface point with other types of industry models.</i>				
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<b>Function – Resource Planning</b>				
<i>Develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the resource adequacy of specific loads (customer demand and energy requirements) within a Planning Authority Area<sup>14</sup>.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Maintain resource models and apply appropriate tools for the development of adequate resource plans.	LSE's	LSE's	LSE's	NERC Planning Standards I.A.S1 SPP Criteria 3.4.1
2. Define and collect or develop demand and resource information required for planning purposes.	LSE's	LSE's	LSE's	NERC Planning Standards II.D.S1 SPP Criteria 1.0
3. Provide capacity resource information to planning and operating functions and service functions.	LSE's	LSE's	LSE's	NERC Planning Standards II.D.S1 SPP Criteria 2.2
4. Assist in the evaluation of the deliverability of resources to customers.	TP	TP	TP	NERC Planning Standards I.A.S1 (Table 1 Category A) SPP Criteria 3.3.2
5. Include consideration of generation capacity from resources both within and outside of the Planning Authority Area.	LSE's	LSE's	LSE's	NERC Planning Standards I.A.S1 (Table 1 Category A) SPP Criteria

<sup>14</sup> This function has oversight by the Planning Authority function.

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6. Develop and report, as appropriate, on its resource plans to others for assessment and compliance with reliability standards.	LSE's	LSE's	LSE's	NERC Planning Standards I.B. S1, S2, M2, M3 SPP Criteria 2.3, 3.4.4
7. Monitor and report, as appropriate, on its resource plan implementation.	LSE's	LSE's	LSE's	NERC Planning Standards I.B S1, S2, M2, M3 SPP Criteria 2.4. 3.4.4

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<b>Function – Transmission Operations</b>				
<i>Operates or directs the operations of the transmission facilities<sup>15</sup>.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Maintain reliability of the transmission area in accordance with Reliability Standards.	SPP (ultimate authority) TOP's	SPP (ultimate authority) TOP's	SPP (ultimate authority) TOP's	NERC Operating Policies All of Policies 2,4,5,9 SPP Criteria 5.2.4, 6.4.2, 14.4.3
2. Provide detailed maintenance schedules (dates and times)	TOP's	TOP's	TOP's	NERC Operating Policies Requirements section of 2A1, 2A2, 2A3, 4C1 SPP Criteria 5.2.1, 5.2.4.2
3. Adjust dc ties within the transmission area for those Interchange Transactions that include the dc tie in the transmission path	TOP's	TOP's	TOP's	NERC Operating Policies 3B4.1.3, Appendix 3A2A and B SPP Criteria 5.2.4.5 (doesn't specify DC ties but talks about Interregional coordination)
4. Maintain defined voltage profiles.	TOP's Generators	TOP's Generators	TOP's Generators	NERC Operating Policies All of Section 2B, but specifically 2B1 SPP Criteria 7.8.2
5. Define operating limits, develop contingency plans, and monitor operations of the transmission facilities.	SPP TOP's	SPP TOP's	SPP TOP's	NERC Operating Policies 1A2, 2, 4A, 5C, 9, Appendix 9B & 9C1. SPP Criteria Section 4.2.4, 5.2.4, 14.4
6. Provide telemetry of transmission system information	TOP's (as directed by SPP)	TOP's (as directed by SPP)	TOP's (as directed by SPP)	NERC Operating Policies 1H, 2B4, 2B6, 4A, 4B, Appendix 4B SPP Criteria 5.1, 5.2.4.1A, Appendix 7

<sup>15</sup> Actions are subject to SPP oversight in its roles as Transmission Service Provider and Reliability Authority.

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<b>Function – Interchange</b>				
<i>Authorizes implementation of valid and balanced Interchange Schedules between Balancing Authority Areas, and ensures Interchange Transactions are properly identified for reliability assessment purposes.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Determine valid, balanced, Interchange Schedules (validation of sources and sinks, transmission arrangements, interconnected operations services, etc.).	SPP <sup>16</sup>	SPP	SPP	Membership Agreement (with modifications) Section 2.2.5, Section 3.8b-c NERC Operating Policies (Policy 3A4, Appendix 3A4, Policy 9C 3.3)
2. Verify ramping capability of the source and sink Balancing Authority Areas for requested Interchange Schedules	CA	SPP	SPP	Membership Agreement Section 3.8b-c NERC Operating Policies (Policy 3A4, Policy 9C 3.3)
3. Collect and disseminate Interchange Transaction approvals, changes, and denials	SPP	SPP	SPP	Membership Agreement Section 3.8b-c NERC Operating Policies (Policy 3A5, 3A6, 9C 3.3) SPP Criteria Appendix 7
4. Authorize implementation of Interchange Transactions	SPP	SPP	SPP	Membership Agreement Section 3.8b-c NERC Operating Policies (3A6, 9C 3.3)
5. Enter Interchange Transaction information into Reliability Assessment Systems (e.g., the Interchange Distribution Calculator in the Eastern Interconnection)	SPP	SPP	SPP	Membership Agreement Section 3.8b-c NERC Operating Policies (9C 1.1, 9C 1.1.1, 9C 3.2.1.2) SPP Criteria Appendix 7

<sup>16</sup> Currently, SPP validates these attributes only for attributes inside its geographical area.

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6. Maintain record of individual Interchange Transactions	SPP	SPP	SPP	Membership Agreement Section 2.4.1, Section 3.8b-c NERC Operating Policies (1F4)
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<b>Function – Transmission Planning</b>				
<i>Develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the reliability (adequacy) of the interconnected bulk electric transmission systems within its portion of the Planning Authority Area<sup>17</sup></i>				
Tasks				
1. Maintain transmission system models (steady-state, dynamics, and short circuit) and apply appropriate tools for the development of transmission plans.	TP's SPP	SPP TP's	SPP TP's	SPP Criteria 3.4.1 SPP OATT (Attachment O) NERC Planning Standards I A M1-M4 & II A M1-M6
2. Define and collect transmission information and transmission facility characteristics and ratings.	SPP TP's	SPP TP's	SPP TP's	SPP Criteria 3.4.1 SPP OATT (Attachment O) NERC Planning Standards I A M1-M4 & II A M1-M6
3. Develop plans within defined voltage and stability limits and within appropriate facility thermal ratings.	SPP TP's	SPP TP's	SPP TP's	SPP Criteria 3.4.1 SPP OATT (Attachment O) NERC Planning Standards I A M1-M4 & II A M1-M6
4. Define system protection and control needs and requirements, including special protection systems (remedial action schemes), to meet reliability standards.	TP's	TP's	TP's	NERC planning standards
5. Determine TTC values as appropriate.	TP's/SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP Criteria 4.4 SPP OATT

<sup>17</sup> The tasks of this function are subject to oversight by the planning authority.

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6. Notify others of any planned transmission changes that may impact their facilities.	TP's	TP's	TP's	SPP OATT (Attachment O) SPP Membership Agreement 2.1.3 , 2.1.4, and 3.3 NERC Planning Criteria
7. Evaluate and plan for transmission service and interconnection requests beyond one year.	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Section 19 & 32 SPP OATT Attachment V SPP Criteria 3 Membership Agreement Section 2.1
8. Develop and report, as appropriate, on its transmission expansion plan for assessment and compliance with reliability standards.	TP's SPP	SPP TP's	SPP TP's	SPP Criteria (Section 3.1 ,3.3 and 3.4 and 12.0) SPP OATT (with revisions) (Attachment O) NERC Planning Standards II A M1-M6 Membership Agreement (2.1.J. and 2.1.5)
9. Monitor and report, as appropriate, on its transmission expansion plan implementation.	TP's	SPP TP's	SPP TP's	NERC Planning Standards Membership Agreement 3.3

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<b>Function – Transmission Service</b>				
<i>Administers the transmission tariff. Provides transmission services to qualified market participants under applicable transmission service agreements (for example, the pro forma tariff).</i>				
Tasks				
1. Receive transmission service requests and process each request for service according to the requirements of the tariff.	SPP/TO's	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT, Section 17.1, Section 18.1, Section 29.2
a. Maintain commercial interface for receiving and confirming requests for transmission service according to the requirements of the tariff (e.g., OASIS).	SPP/TO's	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Section 4
2. Approve or deny transmission service requests	SPP/TO's	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Section 15
3. Approve Interchange Transactions from transmission service arrangement perspective	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Section 13.8, 14.6, Attachment G (Section 6.0) Membership Agreement Section 2.2.5
4. Determine and post available transfer capability (ATC <sup>18</sup> ) values.	SPP/TO's	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Attachment C (Short-term) Membership Agreement 2.1.1.d SPP Criteria 4
5. Allocate transmission losses (MWs or funds) among Balancing Authority Areas.	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Attachment M

<sup>18</sup> ATC and AFC are used herein synonymously

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<b>Function – Transmission Ownership</b>				
<i>Owns and maintains transmission facilities.</i>				
Tasks				
1. Install and maintain transmission facilities according to prudent utility practice	TO's	TO'S	TO's	SPP Criteria (Introduction) SPP Membership Agreement Section 2.1.1j, Section 3.2, Section 3.3a
2. Establish ratings of transmission facilities.	TO's	TO'S	TO's	SPP Criteria Section 12.2, Section 12.2.2.5
3. Develops interconnection agreements.	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP OATT Appendix V (Section 1.10, Section 1.10.4)

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## **Appendix B: Specific Identification of NERC Functional Responsibilities**

This appendix contains a list of several vertically integrated utilities and how they participate with SPP's tariff, reserve sharing and reliability coordination functions.

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	CLEC	CSWS	DENL	EDE	EES	GRDA	INDN	KACY	KCPL	LAFA	LAGN	LEPA	MCLN	MIDW	MPS	OKGE	SECI
<b>Executed Membership Agreement</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Existing Authority</b>																	
Reliability Authority		SPP		SPP		SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP		SPP	SPP	SPP		SPP	SPP
Balancing Authority	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	WR	X	X	X
Interchange Authority																	
Transmission Provider (Transmission Provider on SPP's OASIS Node)		X		X		X			X					X	X	X	X
Tariff		X		X		X			X					X		X	
Transmission Operator		X		X		X			X					X		X	
Market Operator	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Planning Authority		Shared		Shared		Shared	Shared	Shared	Shared	Shared		Shared	Shared	Shared		Shared	Shared
Tariff				X		X											
Using Regional Scheduling System		X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	
SPP Implement Schedules		X			N/A				X		N/A		N/A		N/A	X	N/A
Reserve Sharing Group	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>RTO DAY 1 Authority</b>																	
Reliability Authority		SPP		SPP		SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP		SPP	SPP	SPP		SPP	SPP
Balancing Authority	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	WR	X	X	X
Interchange Authority																	
Transmission Provider (Transmission Provider on SPP's OASIS Node)																	
Tariff		X		X		X			X					X		X	
Transmission Operator		X		X		X			X					X		X	
Market Operator	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Planning Authority		SPP		SPP		SPP			SPP					SPP		SPP	
Tariff		X		X		X			X					X		X	
Using Regional Scheduling System		X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	
SPP Implement Schedules		X			N/A				X		N/A		N/A		N/A	X	N/A
Reserve Sharing Group	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X

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the interconnection receipt point, required to accommodate a request for generation interconnection in accordance with Attachment V and (iii) whether any additional costs may be incurred in order to provide transmission service or generation interconnection.

**1.44 Third-Party Sale:** Any sale for resale in interstate commerce to a Power Purchaser that is not designated as part of Network Load under the Network Integration Transmission Service.

**1.44a Transition Period:** The period from the Effective Date of this Tariff for the provision of Network Integration Transmission Service to the last day of the fifth year thereafter. The transition period for a Member that is a Nebraska public-power entity shall be the period from the effective date of the transfer of functional control to the last day of the fifth year thereafter.

**1.45 Transmission Customer:** Any Eligible Customer (or its Designated Agent) that (i) executes a Service Agreement, or (ii) requests in writing that the Transmission Provider file with the Commission, a proposed unexecuted Service Agreement to receive transmission service under Part II of the Tariff. This term is used in the Part I Common Service Provisions to include customers receiving transmission service under Part II and Part III of this Tariff.

**1.45a Transmission Owner:** Each member of SPP whose transmission facilities (in whole or in part) make up the Transmission System and has executed a membership agreement as a Transmission Owner, including Members that have been assigned by SPP to build and/or own transmission facilities but do not yet own transmission facilities under SPP's functional control. Those Transmission Owners that are not regulated by the Commission shall not become subject to Commission regulation by virtue of their status as Transmission Owners under this Tariff; provided, however, that service over their facilities classified as transmission and covered by the Tariff shall be subject to Commission regulation.

established Load Shedding and Curtailment procedures or to cease or reduce service in response to a directive by the Transmission Provider, the Network Customer shall pay any applicable charges and the following penalty (in addition to the charges for all of the service used): For the applicable month, 100% of the Network Integration Transmission Service charge under Schedule 9 plus 100% of the charges assessed under Schedule 11. This penalty shall apply only to the portion of the service that the Transmission Customer fails to curtail in response to a Curtailment directive. The Transmission Provider shall compensate the Transmission Owners for 100% of the (i) Network Integration Transmission Service charge, (ii) Base Plan Zonal Charge and (iii) Region-wide Charge for the period for which they have provided service.

### **34 Rates and Charges**

The Network Customer shall pay the Transmission Provider for any Direct Assignment Facilities, Directly Assigned Upgrade Costs, Ancillary Services, Base Plan Zonal Charges (Schedule 11), Region-wide Charges (Schedule 11) and applicable study costs, consistent with Commission policy, along with the following:

**34.1 Monthly Demand Charge for all Zones except Zone 1:** Except as provided in Section 34.2, for all *Network Load* served by the Transmission Provider, other than *Network Load* physically located within Zone 1, the Network Customer shall pay a monthly Demand Charge, which shall be determined by multiplying its Load Ratio Share times one twelfth (1/12) of the sum of the Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement specified in Attachment H less any amount reallocated in accordance with Section IV.A of Attachment J plus any credit for firm Point-To-Point revenue allocated to the Zone under Attachment L included in such revenue requirement, less the previous calendar year's total firm Point-To-Point transmission revenues, that are credited directly to wholesale customers through other mechanisms under this Tariff, allocated to the Zone under Attachment L for each Zone in which the Network Customer's Network Load is physically

located. Where a Network Customer has designated Network Load not physically interconnected with the Transmission System under Section 31.3, the Network Customer shall pay a monthly Demand Charge, which shall be determined by multiplying its Load Ratio Share times one twelfth (1/12) of the sum of the Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement specified in Attachment H less any amount reallocated in accordance with Section IV.A of Attachment J plus any credit for firm Point-to-Point revenue allocated to the Zone under Attachment L included in such revenue requirement, less the previous calendar year's total firm Point-to-Point transmission revenues, that are credited directly to wholesale customers through other mechanisms under this Tariff, allocated to the Zone under Attachment L for the Zone that is the basis for charges under Schedule 9. In the event the Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement specified in Attachment H for a specific Zone is established pursuant to a formula rate that is adjusted annually, the Network Customer's monthly Demand Charge shall be determined by multiplying the Network Customer's Load Ratio Share times one twelfth (1/12) of such revenue requirement less any amount reallocated in accordance with Section IV.A of Attachment J.

**34.2 Monthly Demand Charge – Zone 1:** For all Network Load physically located within Zone 1, the Network Customer shall pay monthly Demand Charges calculated as shown on Addendum 1 to Attachment H.

**34.3 Monthly Demand Charge – Zone 11:** *For all Network Load physically located within Zone 11, the Network Customer shall pay monthly Demand Charges according to Addendum 5 of Attachment H.*

**34.4 Determination of Network Customer's Monthly Network Load:** The Network Customer's monthly Network Load is its hourly load (60 minute, clock-hour); provided, however, the Network Customer's monthly Network Load will be its hourly load coincident with the monthly peak of the Zone where the Network Customer load is physically located. Where a Network Customer has Network Load in more than one Zone, the monthly Network Load will be determined separately for each Zone. Where a Network Customer has designated Network



Load not physically interconnected with the Transmission System under Section 31.3, the Network Customer's monthly Network Load will be its hourly load coincident with the monthly peak of the Zone that is the basis for charges under Schedule 9.

**34.5 Determination of Transmission Provider's Monthly Zone Transmission**

**Load:** The Transmission Provider's monthly Transmission System load shall be determined for each Zone on a non-coincident basis. The Transmission Provider's monthly Zone transmission load is the Zone's Monthly Transmission System Peak.

**34.6 Redispatch Charge:** The Network Customer shall pay a Load Ratio Share of any redispatch costs allocated between the Network Customer and the Transmission Provider pursuant to Attachment K. To the extent that the Transmission Provider incurs an obligation to the Network Customer for redispatch costs in accordance with Section 33, such amounts shall be credited against the Network Customer's bill for the applicable month.

**34.7 Stranded Cost Recovery:** This Tariff does not affect in any way the right of any Transmission Owner to seek and receive stranded cost recovery or the right of anyone to oppose such stranded cost recovery. Thus, the Transmission Owner(s) may seek to recover stranded costs from the User(s) in accordance with the terms, conditions and procedures set forth in FERC Order No. 888. However, the Transmission Owner(s) must separately file any specific proposed stranded cost charge under Section 205 of the Federal Power Act, if FERC jurisdictional. If the Commission approves stranded cost charges to be recovered through schedules to be implemented by the Transmission Provider, the Transmission Provider as agreed shall charge and collect the appropriate charge(s) from the relevant User(s) and distribute the appropriate amounts directly to the relevant Transmission Owner(s).

**34.8 SPP Costs:** The Network Customer shall pay SPP's administrative costs in accordance with Schedule 1.

**34A Network Service Termination Costs**

Upon the Network Customer's termination of service under the Tariff, where the network load is not thereafter served by another entity's Network Service under the Tariff, the Network Customer shall pay to SPP the Network Customer's share of the costs of transmission facilities approved for inclusion in an SPP transmission plan prior to the date that the Network Customer's service is terminated. If the Network Customer is a Member of SPP, the Network Customer's responsibility for Network Service Termination Costs will be calculated in accordance with the SPP Membership Agreement. If the Network Customer is not a Member of SPP, the Network Customer's share of such costs shall be the sum of: (1) for each Zone in which the Network Customer has Network Load, the portion of the Net Energy for Load (as defined in the SPP Membership Agreement) that is represented by the Network Customer's Network Load multiplied by the total cost of transmission facilities allocated to the Zone pursuant to Attachment J of the OATT; (2) the portion of the Net Energy for Load (as defined in the SPP Membership Agreement) in the SPP Region that is represented by the Network Customer's Network Load multiplied by the total cost of transmission facilities allocated on a Region-wide basis pursuant to Attachment J of the OATT; and (3) any other costs of transmission facilities directly allocated to the Transmission Customer under the OATT.

**35 Operating Arrangements**

**35.1 Operation under the Network Operating Agreement:** The Network Customer shall plan, construct, operate and maintain its facilities in accordance with Good Utility Practice and in conformance with the Network Operating Agreement.

**35.2 Network Operating Agreement:** The terms and conditions under which the Network Customer shall operate its facilities and the technical and operational matters associated with the implementation of Part III of the Tariff shall be specified in the Network Operating Agreement. The Network Operating Agreement shall provide for the Parties, including the affected Transmission Owner(s), to (i) operate and maintain equipment necessary for integrating the

Network Customer within the Transmission System (including, but not limited to, remote terminal units, metering, communications equipment and relaying equipment), (ii) transfer data between the Transmission Provider and the Network Customer (including, but not limited to, heat rates and operational characteristics of Network Resources, generation schedules for units outside the Transmission System, interchange schedules, unit outputs for redispatch required under Section 33,



**Current Effective Attachment O With Pending Changes**

**Includes:**

**11/2/2009 Order 890 Compliance Filing**

**11/2/2009 Balanced Portfolio Filing**

**12/30/2009 Errata**

## **ATTACHMENT O**

### **TRANSMISSION PLANNING PROCESS**

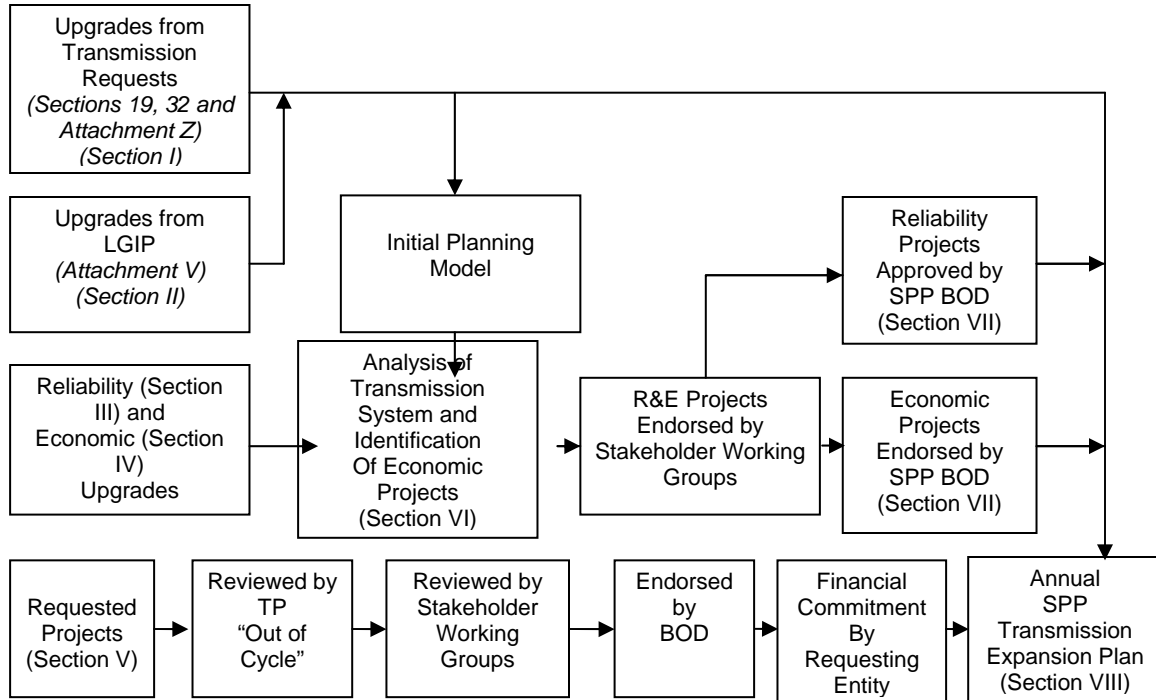
The Transmission Provider's transmission planning process is an open process. New transmission facilities or increases in physical transmission ratings can come from five different areas of the Tariff. These areas are: 1) transmission service requests; 2) Generation Interconnection Service requests; 3) upgrades needed to satisfy reliability criteria (reliability upgrades); 4) upgrades that provide economic benefits as part of a Balanced Portfolio; and 5) upgrades that do not fit these other categories (Sponsored Upgrades). Each of these sources of upgrades has its own evaluation and approval process. The results from all these sources are collected and reported in the annual SPP Transmission Expansion Plan which gives a ten (10) year projection of transmission changes in the SPP Region. The SPP Transmission Expansion Plan, as endorsed by the Markets and Operations Policy Committee, is presented to the SPP Board of Directors once a year for their review and approval, as required in accordance with Section VII of this Attachment O. The SPP Board of Directors may modify reliability upgrades and upgrades that are part of approved Balanced Portfolios to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan throughout the year in accordance with Section VII of this Attachment O. Projects associated with transmission service requests and Generation Interconnection Service requests and Sponsored Upgrades are also added throughout the year as Service Agreements and interconnection agreements are executed.

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### The Annual Transmission Planning Process



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References to the “stakeholder working group” is a generic term that references those working group(s) as defined in the SPP Bylaws, Sections 3 through 6 that are charged with the transmission planning process. The current names of all the working groups shall be posted on the SPP website.

### **I. Transmission Upgrades Related to Transmission Service Requests**

Transmission upgrades related to requests for transmission service are described in Sections 19 and 32 of the Tariff and Attachment Z1 to the Tariff. These upgrades are included as part of the future expansion of the transmission system, upon the execution of the various Service Agreements with the Transmission Customers. Transmission upgrades related to an approved request for transmission service may be deferred or supplemented by other upgrades based upon the results of subsequent studies. Changes in planned upgrades do not remove the obligation of the Transmission Provider to have adequate transmission facilities available to start or continue the approved transmission service.

### **II. Transmission Upgrades Related to Generation Interconnection Service Requests**

Interconnection facilities and other transmission upgrades related to requests for generation interconnection service are described in Attachment V. These upgrades are included as part of the future expansion of the transmission system upon the execution of the various interconnection agreements with the Generation Interconnection Customers. Transmission upgrades related to an approved interconnection agreement may be deferred or supplemented by other upgrades based upon the results of subsequent studies. Changes in planned upgrades do not remove the obligation of the Transmission Provider to have adequate transmission facilities available to start or continue the approved interconnection service.

### **III. Transmission Upgrades Needed to Satisfy Reliability Criteria**

Reliability upgrades are those transmission upgrades and additions that are required to meet NERC, SPP and the Transmission Owner’s local area reliability criteria. Section III describes the process of determining these requirements, how the requirements are approved, and ultimately how the final set of reliability projects is selected. In this area of transmission planning the future grid requirements for maintaining service to firm transmission service sold in the past is evaluated and approved.

#### 1) Roles and Responsibilities

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- a) The rights, powers and obligations for planning are set forth in the SPP Membership Agreement in (i) Articles 2.1.1(j), 2.1.5 and 2.2(a) for the Transmission Provider and (ii) Articles 3.5 and 3.9 for the Members. The division of responsibility between the Transmission Provider and the Members is set forth in Section 3.0 of the SPP Criteria and in this Attachment O. The SPP Membership Agreement, the SPP Criteria and the Tariff shall be posted on the SPP website.
- b) The Transmission Provider shall be responsible for developing the list of reliability projects in accordance with the stakeholder process set forth in Sections III.2, III.3 and VII of this Attachment O, and including inter-regional coordination set forth in Section X of this Attachment O.
- c) To develop the list of reliability projects, the Transmission Provider shall perform transmission planning studies to assess the reliability and economic operation of the Transmission System.
- d) In concert with the planning process to develop the reliability projects, the Transmission Provider shall include and maintain requirements to serve existing commitments for long-term transmission service and interconnection service in accordance with Sections I and II of this Attachment O and any applicable roll-over rights as set out in Section 2.2 of the Tariff. It shall also take into account all previously approved projects.
- e) The Transmission Provider shall review, and include as appropriate, all local area upgrades as proposed by the Transmission Owners including those plans developed by Transmission Owners that have their own FERC approved local planning process to meet local area reliability criteria to ensure coordination of the projects set forth in such plans with the potential solutions developed in the regional planning process.
- f) *The Transmission Provider shall review and include, as appropriate, all reasonably expected demand resource, transmission, or generation options identified by stakeholders.*

## 2) Stakeholder Working Groups

- a) The purpose of the stakeholder working groups is to provide technical advice, assistance and oversight to the Transmission Provider in all aspects of the regional, sub-regional and local planning process, including but not limited to:
  - i) Review and development of coordinated planning among the Transmission Provider and the Transmission Owners including accepted Network Upgrades developed by those Transmission Owners that have their own FERC approved local planning process to meet local area reliability criteria;
  - ii) Review and development of regional planning criteria;

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- iii) Review and development of Available Transfer Capability related calculation criteria as specified in Attachment C to the Tariff;
  - iv) Review and development of transmission rating criteria; and
  - v) Compliance with NERC Reliability Standards concerning transmission assessment, transfer capability and ratings of transmission facilities.
- b) All the stakeholder working group representation shall be appointed and chaired in accordance with Article 3.0 of the SPP Bylaws. All meetings of the stakeholder working groups are open to all entities.
- c) Voting in the various stakeholder working groups shall conform to Article 3.9 of the SPP Bylaws.

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- d) The data, information, and technical support necessary for the Transmission Provider to perform studies as required by the planning process and to develop the regional reliability projects are provided by the Transmission Owners, Transmission Customers and Generation Interconnection Customers and other entities within the area for which SPP is the regional entity. This process is described in Section IX of this Attachment O.
  - e) Stakeholder working groups that work with the Transmission Provider on transmission planning shall meet at least quarterly and additional meetings, web conferences and teleconferences shall be scheduled as needed. Teleconference capability will be made available for stakeholder working group meetings. Notice of meetings of the stakeholder working groups shall be posted on the SPP website and distributed via email distribution lists. Meeting agendas and minutes shall be posted on the SPP website.
- 3) Transmission Planning Forums
- a) Planning Summits
    - i) The purpose of the planning summits is for the Transmission Provider and the stakeholders to share current SPP transmission network issues, develop the study scopes, provide solution alternatives and review study findings. These summits also provide an open forum where all stakeholders have an opportunity to provide advice and recommendations to the Transmission Provider to aid in the development of the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.
    - ii) The planning summits shall be open to all entities.
    - iii) The Transmission Provider shall chair and facilitate the planning summits.
    - iv) Planning summits shall be held at least semi-annually, including sub-regional breakout sessions of the SPP Region. Teleconference capability will be made available for planning summits. Planning summit web conferences shall be held as needed.
    - v) Notice of the planning summits and web conferences shall be posted on the SPP website and distributed via email distribution lists.
  - b) Sub-regional Planning Meetings
    - i) The Transmission Provider shall define sub-regions from time to time to address local area planning issues.
    - ii) The purpose of the sub-regional planning meetings is to identify unresolved local stakeholder issues and transmission solutions at a more granular level than can be accomplished at general regional planning meetings. The sub-regional planning meetings shall provide stakeholders with local needs the opportunity to provide advice and recommendations to the Transmission Provider and to the Transmission Owners. The sub-regional planning meetings shall provide a forum to review local planning criteria as specified in Section III.5.b of this Attachment O.

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- iii) The sub-regional planning meetings shall be open to all entities.
  - iv) The Transmission Provider shall facilitate the sub-regional planning meetings.
  - v) A planning meeting shall be held at least annually for each individual sub-region.
  - vi) The sub-regional planning meetings shall be held in conjunction with the stakeholder working group meetings. Teleconference capability will be made available for sub-regional planning meetings. Sub-regional planning web conferences shall be held as needed.
  - vii) Notice of the sub-regional planning meetings, teleconferences and web conferences shall be posted on the SPP website and distributed via email distribution lists.
- c) Participation by State Regulators  
In accordance with Article 7.0 of the SPP Bylaws, any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member may participate fully in all SPP planning activities.
- 4) Reliability Studies
- a) The Transmission Provider shall summarize the regional, sub-regional and local transmission needs, including accepted Network Upgrades developed by those Transmission Owners that have their own FERC approved local planning process to meet local area reliability criteria, of the SPP Region into a single plan which is assessed on the basis of maintaining the reliability of the SPP Region and economic transmission improvement opportunities.
  - b) The reliability studies shall conform to the NERC Reliability Standards, the SPP Criteria, and to company-specific planning criteria.
  - c) The reliability studies shall cover, at a minimum, the subsequent ten year planning horizon. Information included as part of the analysis is:
    - i) Previously identified and approved transmission projects;
    - ii) Zonal Reliability Upgrades developed by those Transmission Owners that have their own FERC approved local planning process to meet local area reliability criteria;
    - iii) Load and capacity forecasts, including the impact on load of existing and planned demand response resources;
    - iv) Long-term firm transmission service;
    - v) Capacity forecasts, including generation additions and retirements; and
    - vi) Existing and planned demand response resources.
  - d) The details regarding expansion planning methodology, criteria, assumptions and data are included in the SPP Transmission Expansion Planning Manual which shall be posted on the SPP website.

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- e) The reliability studies shall accommodate and model the specific long-term firm transmission service of the Transmission Customers with Service Agreements under the Tariff and specific interconnections of Generation Interconnection Customers with interconnection agreements under the Tariff, where such Service Agreements and interconnection agreements are either executed or filed unexecuted with the Commission. The reliability studies shall also accommodate and model upgrades within approved Balanced Portfolios and Sponsored Upgrades that have been approved for construction in accordance with Section VIII of this Attachment O.

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- f) The reliability studies shall accommodate and reflect generation and demand response resources which are capable of providing any of the functions assessed in the SPP planning process, and can be relied upon on a long-term basis. Such demand response resources shall be permitted to participate in the planning process on a comparable basis. These studies will consider operational experience gained from markets operated by the Transmission Provider.
  - g) Each annual reliability report shall include a list of the following:
    - i) Regional upgrades required to maintain reliability in accordance with the NERC Reliability Standards and SPP Criteria;
    - ii) Zonal upgrades required to maintain reliability in accordance with more stringent individual Transmission Owner planning criteria; and
    - iii) Inter-regional upgrades developed with neighboring Transmission Providers to meet inter-regional needs, including results from the coordinated system plans.
- 5) Transmission Planning Criteria
- a) Regional Planning Criteria
    - i) The regional planning criteria are comprised of the NERC Reliability Standards and SPP Criteria.
    - ii) The regional planning criteria may change from time to time based upon the then current process for changing reliability criteria.
    - iii) The individual transmission owners shall be obligated under the NERC Reliability Standards and SPP Criteria to resolve reliability violations and compliance needs identified by the Transmission Provider or by the individual transmission owners themselves in accordance with these standards and criteria. The SPP Criteria shall be posted on the SPP website.
  - b) Local Planning Criteria
    - i) Individual Transmission Owners within the SPP Region may develop company-specific planning criteria that, at a minimum, conform to the NERC Reliability Standards and SPP Criteria.
    - ii) For each annual planning cycle, Transmission Owners, including those Transmission Owners that have their own FERC approved local planning process, must provide to the Transmission Provider at least once a year, by April 1<sup>st</sup> their company-specific planning criteria in order for the need for Zonal Reliability Upgrades to be assessed and included in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.
    - iii) Transmission Owner planning criteria and assumptions may be modified at any time provided that, if the planning criteria are made more stringent, the increased requirements will not apply retroactively to studies previously completed or studies already underway by the Transmission Provider. Access to the individual Transmission Owner's planning criteria shall be made available via an electronic link on the SPP website.

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- iv) The individual planning criteria of each Transmission Owner, including those Transmission Owners that have their own FERC approved local planning process, shall be the basis for determining whether a reliability violation exists for which a need for a new Zonal Reliability Upgrade should be considered.
- v) The Transmission Owner shall apply its local planning criteria comparably to all load in its service territory.

#### **IV Transmission Upgrades That Provide Economic Benefits**

Economic upgrades are those transmission upgrades and additions that have been shown to provide customers access to *demand resource, transmission, or* generation options such that the potential energy savings exceed the cost of the proposed transmission upgrade(s). This section describes the process of determining how these upgrades are identified and added to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.

##### 1) Overview of the Process

Following is a flow chart of the process to perform the economic assessment and economic planning studies.

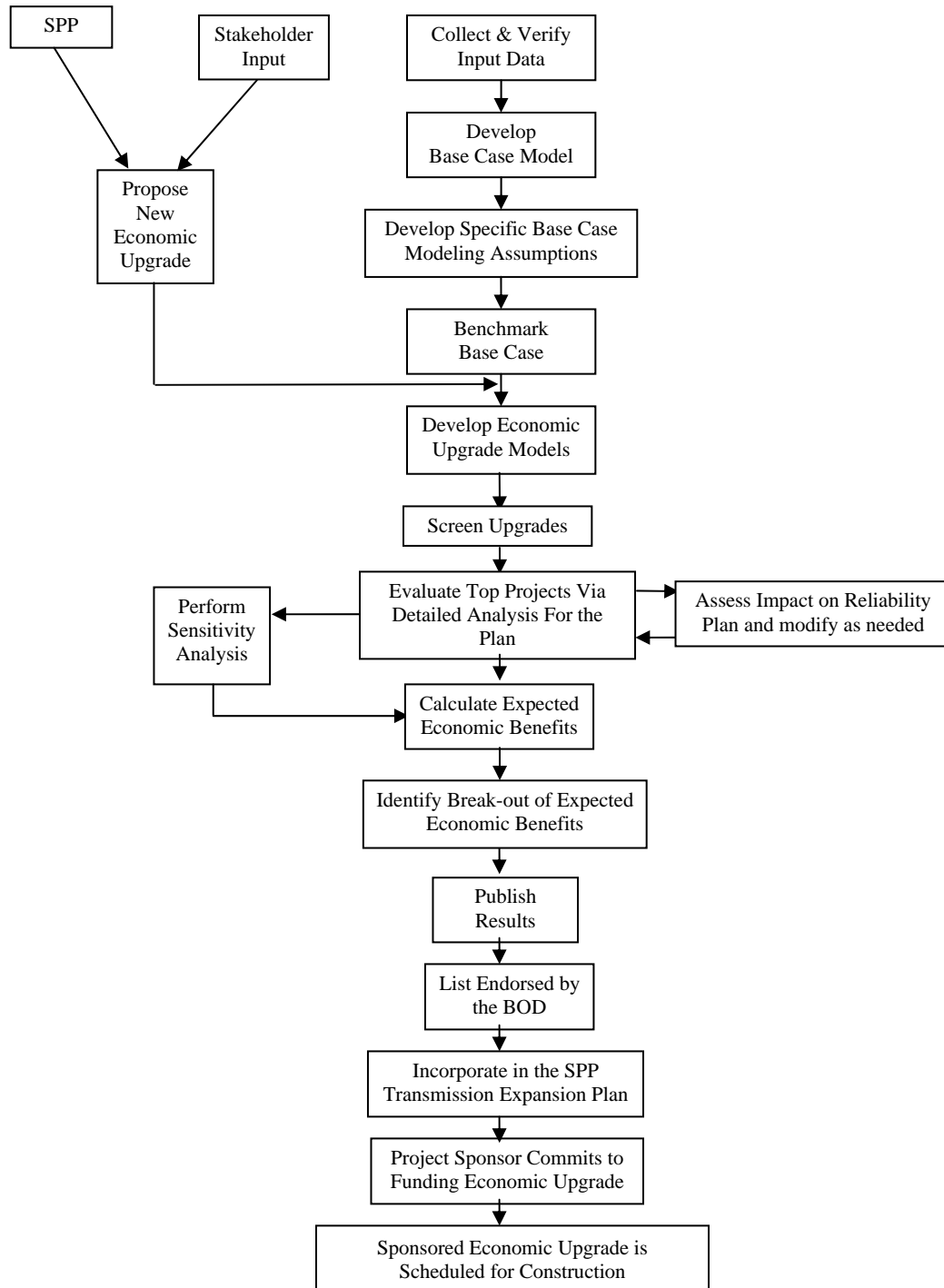
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**Economic Assessment and Economic Planning Study  
 Process Flow Chart**



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2) Economic Assessment

- a) The Transmission Provider shall perform an economic assessment as part of the planning process described in Section VI.4.e of this Attachment O.
- b) The economic assessment shall be based on the most current planning model(s) and shall address:
  - i) Congestion within the SPP Region;
  - ii) Congestion between the SPP Region and other regions and balancing areas.

3) High Priority Studies

- a) The Transmission Provider shall perform high priority studies in accordance with this Attachment O and the Transmission Network Economic Modeling & Methods manual which shall be maintained on the SPP website.
  - b) Potential Balanced Portfolios, as developed through the process specified in Sections IV.4 through IV.7, shall be considered to be high priority studies.
  - c) The stakeholders may request high priority studies, *including a request for the Transmission Provider to study potential upgrades or other investments necessary to integrate any combination of resources, whether demand resources, transmission, or generation, identified by the stakeholders*. Annually, the costs of up to three high priority studies requested by the stakeholders and performed by the Transmission Provider shall be recovered pursuant to Schedule 1-A of this Tariff. A high priority study of a potential Balanced Portfolio initiated by the Transmission Provider will not be considered a stakeholder request pursuant to this Section IV.3.c.
  - d) The Transmission Provider, in consultation with the stakeholders, shall develop the scope for each high priority study and post the scope(s) on the SPP website.
  - e) Each study shall include:
    - i) Quantification of benefits and costs in accordance with this Attachment O and the Transmission Network Economic Modeling and Methods manual; and
    - ii) An analysis of the sensitivity of the economics of the upgrades included in the high priority study to changes in assumptions.
  - f) The Transmission Provider shall solicit input from the stakeholders and the Regional State Committee regarding the appropriate sensitivity analyses to be performed.
  - g) For each high priority study the Transmission Provider shall publish a report, including but not limited to, the study input assumptions, the estimated cost of the upgrades included in the high priority study, the expected economic benefits of the upgrades, and identify reliability impacts, if any, of the upgrades. The report and related studies and the criteria, assumptions and data underlying the report shall be posted on the SPP website, with password protected access if required to preserve the confidentiality of information in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and the SPP Membership Agreement and to address Critical Energy
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Infrastructure Information (CEII) requirements. The CEII compliant redacted version of the report shall be posted on the SPP website. The redacted version shall include instructions for acquiring the complete version of the report.

4) Identification of Potential Economic Upgrades

The Transmission Provider shall solicit suggestions of potential economic upgrades as outlined in the study scope. The Transmission Provider may also suggest potential economic upgrades. The Transmission Provider shall post the list of all potential economic upgrades on the SPP website, subject to confidentiality requirements. Suggestion of potential economic upgrades does not require the submission of a specific request for transmission service or for interconnection service.

5) Screening Analysis of Potential Economic Upgrades

- a) The Transmission Provider shall perform a screening analysis of the potential economic upgrades.
- b) To perform the screening analysis, the Transmission Provider shall estimate the cost and the benefit of each potential economic upgrade.
- c) The screening analysis shall establish a relative ranking of all potential economic upgrades based on the ratio of the estimated benefit to the estimated cost.
- d) The Transmission Provider shall post a list of all of the potential economic upgrades screened and the results of the screening analysis, including their relative rankings, on the SPP website.
- e) The Transmission Provider shall discuss the results of the screening analysis with the stakeholder working groups and with stakeholders at a planning summit or web conference.

6) Evaluation of Potential Balanced Portfolios

- a) The Transmission Provider shall solicit input from stakeholders on combinations of potential economic upgrades to be evaluated as potential Balanced Portfolios.
- b) Each economic upgrade to be included in a potential Balanced Portfolio:
  - i) Must include a 345 kV or higher voltage facility;
  - ii) May include lower voltage transmission facilities needed to integrate the 345 kV or higher facilities and achieve the benefits; however, the cost of the lower voltage transmission facilities cannot exceed the cost of the 345 kV or higher facilities included in the economic upgrade; and
  - iii) An economic upgrade that includes lower voltage transmission facilities for which the cost of such facilities exceeds the cost of the 345 kV or higher facilities constituting the economic upgrade may be included in the evaluation of a potential Balanced Portfolio, if a Project Sponsor agrees to bear the portion of the cost of the lower voltage facilities that is in excess of the cost of the 345 kV or higher facilities.
  - iv) Will include an evaluation of the costs of the upgrades, including any cost impacts potentially allocable to the Transmission Provider or a Zone(s) from third party upgrade(s) required to relieve congestion on a neighboring system due to the construction of the potential Balanced Portfolio.
- c) The Transmission Provider shall determine for each Zone the net present value of the revenue requirements of each potential Balanced Portfolio as follows:
  - i) The revenue requirements for each potential Balanced Portfolio shall be calculated as if all of the upgrades associated with the potential Balanced Portfolio are simultaneously available to the power system. This requirement is for evaluation purposes only and shall not restrict the timing of the construction of individual upgrades within a Balanced Portfolio approved by the SPP Board of Directors.
  - ii) Based on input from the Transmission Owners and other pertinent information, the Transmission Provider shall estimate the construction costs of each upgrade in the potential Balanced Portfolio.
  - iii) For each upgrade in the potential Balanced Portfolio, the Transmission Provider shall use the transmission fixed charge rate(s) for the appropriate Transmission Owner(s) to estimate the revenue requirements. In each annual planning cycle, the Transmission Owner shall supply its fixed charge rate to the Transmission Provider.
  - iv) The fixed charge rate(s) shall take account of all costs necessary to support the upgrade in the potential Balanced Portfolio, including but not limited to, operation and maintenance expenses, depreciation, property and payroll taxes, income taxes, if applicable, return on investment and any other factors affecting the revenue requirement associated with the upgrade.

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- v) The revenue requirements also shall include any specific costs that are projected to be incurred by the Transmission Provider or a Zone(s) as a result of third-party impacts (*net of any reimbursements resulting from such third-party impacts*) due to one or more upgrades within a proposed Balanced Portfolio.
  - vi) The revenue requirements for the potential Balanced Portfolio shall equal the sum of the revenue requirements of the upgrades that comprise the potential Balanced Portfolio.
  - vii) The Transmission Provider shall estimate the cost for each Zone by allocating the revenue requirements for the potential Balanced Portfolio to each Zone based on its Region-wide Load Ratio Share forecasted over the ten year period analyzed.
  - viii) If any costs of an upgrade in the potential Balanced Portfolio will be borne by other funding mechanisms, such costs shall not be included in the determination of the net present value of the revenue requirements for the potential Balanced Portfolio.
- d) The Transmission Provider shall determine for each Zone the net present value of the benefits of each potential Balanced Portfolio as follows:
- i) The benefits from each potential Balanced Portfolio shall be calculated as if all of the upgrades associated with the potential Balanced Portfolio are simultaneously available to the power system.
  - ii) The Transmission Provider shall use an adjusted production cost metric to analyze the benefits of the potential Balanced Portfolio, where adjusted production cost is the production cost minus revenues from sales plus cost of purchases. As described in Section IV.8 of this Attachment O, the Transmission Provider shall continue to evaluate and explore with the stakeholders any additional metrics and criteria which have quantifiable economic effects.
  - iii) The adjusted production cost benefit for each Zone shall equal the difference between the adjusted production cost with the potential Balanced Portfolio modeled and without the potential Balanced Portfolio modeled.
  - iv) The Transmission Provider shall estimate the annual benefits for each Zone over the same ten-year period as used to determine the costs by calculating the annual benefits for at least three specific years in the ten-year time period and interpolating the annual benefits for the remaining years.
- e) A potential Balanced Portfolio shall meet the following conditions:
- i) **Cost Beneficial:** The sum of the benefits of the potential Balanced Portfolio determined in Section IV.6.d must equal or exceed the sum of the costs determined in Section IV.6.c; and

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- ii) **Balanced:** For each Zone, the sum of the benefits of the potential Balanced Portfolio determined in Section IV.6.d must equal or exceed the sum of the costs determined in Section IV.6.c. Additionally, the balance may be achieved through the provisions set forth in Section IV.7.
  - f) In developing a potential Balanced Portfolio, the Transmission Provider shall timely publish a report, including but not limited to, the study input assumptions, the estimated costs included in the potential Balanced Portfolio, and the expected economic benefits of the potential Balanced Portfolio. With regard to such report, the Transmission Provider shall comply with the information sharing and reporting requirements in Part IX (Information Exchange) and Section IV(3) (High Priority Studies) of this Attachment O, including the requirements for treatment of confidential information.
- 7) Options for Achieving a Balanced Portfolio
- a) Section IV.7 of this Attachment O sets forth provisions to achieve a Balanced Portfolio when there are deficient Zones. A deficient Zone is a Zone where the costs allocated to the Zone in Section IV.6.c exceed the benefits allocated to the Zone in Section IV.6.d, including any additional costs or benefits derived from the application of the provisions in this Section IV.7.

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- b) In order to achieve a Balanced Portfolio, the Transmission Provider may include transmission upgrades that do not adhere to the voltage requirements of Sections IV.6.b.i and ii of this Attachment O.
  - c) If including the lower voltage transmission facilities does not achieve a Balanced Portfolio, the Transmission Provider may balance the portfolio by transferring a portion of the Base Plan Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement and/or the Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement from the deficient Zone(s) to the Balanced Portfolio Region-wide Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement. Transmission Provider shall include the following constraints in this assessment:
    - i) Limit the amount to be transferred from the Base Plan Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement and/or the Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement to the Balanced Portfolio Region-wide Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement to the minimum amount that will balance the portfolio over the ten-year period analyzed;
    - ii) Transfer from the Base Plan Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement first, then, if necessary, transfer from the Zonal Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement; and
    - iii) For each Zone, meet the conditions specified in Section IV.6.e.ii of this Attachment O.
- 8) Development of Additional Benefit Metrics
- a) Transmission Provider shall continue to evaluate and explore with the stakeholders via the transmission planning process any additional metrics and criteria which have quantifiable economic effects, such as:
    - i) Reduction in system losses;
    - ii) Differing environmental impacts;
    - iii) Improvement to capacity margin and operating reserve requirements;
    - iv) Energy, capacity and ancillary service market facilitation;
    - v) Increased competition in wholesale markets;
    - vi) Reliability enhancement, including storm hardening and black start capability; and
    - vii) Critical infrastructure and homeland security.
  - b) Any subsequent adjustment to the metrics and criteria for evaluating potential Balanced Portfolios developed by the Transmission Provider, with input from the stakeholders, shall be proposed through Tariff amendments.

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5) Study of High Priority Potential Economic Upgrades

- a) Using the results of the screening analysis as an input, the Transmission Provider, in consultation with the stakeholders, shall identify at least three high priority potential Economic Upgrades to be studied annually. *The stakeholders may request high priority studies, including a request for the Transmission Provider to study potential upgrades or other investments necessary to integrate any combination of resources, whether demand resources, transmission, or generation, identified by the stakeholders.*
- b) The Transmission Provider shall post the high priority potential Economic Upgrades to be studied on the SPP website.
- c) The Transmission Provider shall perform the planning studies of the high priority potential Economic Upgrades in accordance with the Transmission Network Economic Modeling & Methods manual which shall be posted on the SPP website.
- d) Each study shall include:
  - i) Quantification of benefit to cost in accordance with the Transmission Network Economic Modeling and Methods manual; and
  - ii) An analysis of the sensitivity of the economics of the project to changes in assumptions.
- e) The Transmission Provider shall solicit input from the stakeholders and the Regional State Committee regarding the appropriate sensitivity analyses to be performed.
- f) For each study the Transmission Provider shall publish a report, including but not limited to, the study input assumptions, the estimated cost of the project, the expected economic benefits of the project, and identify reliability impacts, if any, of the upgrade. The report and related studies and the criteria, assumptions and data underlying the report shall be posted on the SPP website, with password protected access if required to preserve the confidentiality of information in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and the SPP Membership Agreement and to address Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII) requirements. The CEII compliant redacted version of the report shall be posted on the SPP website. The redacted version shall include instructions for acquiring the complete version of the report.

**V. Requested Transmission Upgrades**

Any entity may request that a Requested Upgrade be built. SPP will evaluate the impact of any Requested Upgrade on Transmission System reliability and identify any necessary mitigation of these impacts. Such entity must be willing to assume the cost of such Requested Upgrade, study costs, and any cost associated with such necessary mitigation. The proposed Requested Upgrade will be submitted to the proper stakeholder working group for their review as a part of the transmission planning process.

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**VI. The Annual Planning Process**

1) Overview of the Process

Following is a flow chart of the process to develop the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan, the annual planning cycle, and milestones in the cycle.

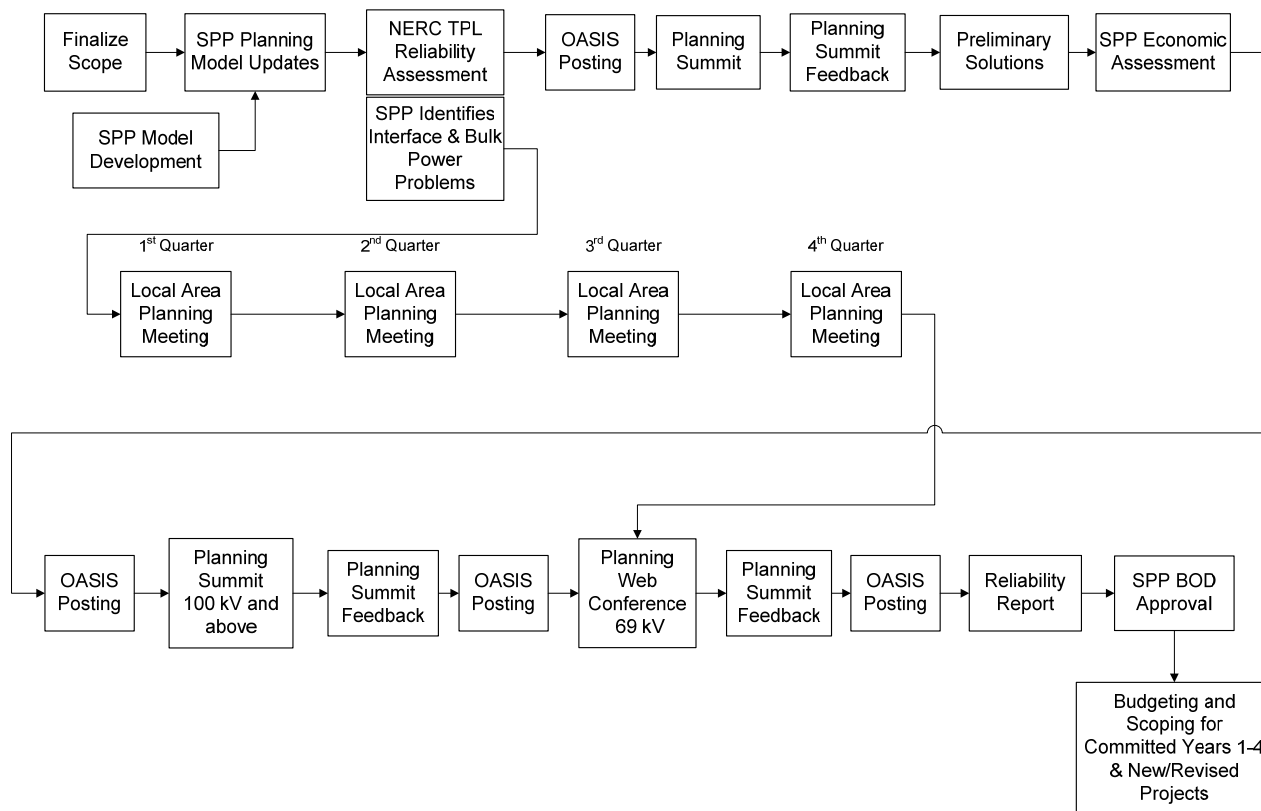
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### SPP Reliability and Economic Planning Process (12 months)



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2) Commencement of the Process

At the beginning of each annual planning cycle, the Transmission Provider shall initiate the stakeholder process to develop the annual SPP Transmission Expansion Plan. Notice of commencement of the process shall be posted on the SPP website and distributed via email distribution lists.

3) Preparation of the Reliability Assessment

- a) For each annual planning cycle, the Transmission Provider shall develop the assessment study scope with input from the stakeholders.
- b) The assessment study scope shall specify the methodology, criteria, assumptions, and data to be used to develop the list of proposed reliability upgrades.
- c) The Transmission Provider, in consultation with the stakeholder working groups, shall finalize the assessment study scope.
- d) The assessment study scope shall be posted on the SPP website and will be included in the published annual SPP Transmission Expansion Plan report.
- e) In accordance with the assessment study scope, the Transmission Provider shall prepare an assessment of the Transmission System on the basis of maintaining the reliability of the SPP Region and identifying economic opportunities to reduce congestion.
- f) The Transmission Provider shall present the reliability assessment to the stakeholder working groups and the planning summit.
- g) The Transmission Provider shall solicit feedback on the reliability assessment, including potential alternatives for improvements to the Transmission System, from the stakeholder working groups and through the stakeholders attending the various planning summits. The Transmission Provider will also include feedback from stakeholders through other meetings, teleconferences, web conferences and via email or secure web-based workspace. *Stakeholders may propose any combination of demand resources, transmission, or generation as alternative solutions to identified reliability and economic needs.*

4) Analysis of Transmission Alternatives to Address Identified Needs

- a) The Transmission Provider shall perform the required studies to analyze the potential alternatives for improvements to the Transmission System, provided by the Transmission Provider and by the stakeholders, in order to address the reliability and economics identified in the assessment.
- b) For all potential alternatives provided by the stakeholders, including reliability upgrades that Transmission Owners, including those Transmission Owners that have their own FERC approved local planning process, propose to address violations of company-specific planning criteria pursuant to Section III.5.b of this Attachment O, the Transmission Provider shall determine if there is a more comprehensive regional solution to address the reliability and economic needs identified in the assessment.

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- c) In addition to recommended upgrades, the Transmission Provider will consider, on a comparable basis, any alternative proposals which could include, but would not be limited to, generation options, demand response programs, “smart grid” technologies, and energy efficiency programs. Solutions will be evaluated against each other based on a comparison of their relative effectiveness of performance and economics.*

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- d) The Transmission Provider shall make a comprehensive presentation of the viable potential solutions to the stakeholder working groups and at a planning summit meeting or web conference. The presentation shall include a discussion of the Transmission Provider and stakeholder alternatives considered and reasons for choosing the particular solutions.
  - e) The Transmission Provider shall solicit feedback on the solutions from the stakeholder working groups and through the stakeholders attending the various planning summits. The Transmission Provider will also include feedback from stakeholders through other meetings, teleconferences, web conferences and via email or secure web-based workspace.
  - f) In addition, the Transmission Provider shall review proposed *solutions* that reduce congestion or provide other economic benefits to the region. The screening analysis and inclusion of these *solutions* shall be performed in accordance with Section IV of this Attachment O.
- 5) Development of the Recommended SPP Reliability Projects and Balanced Portfolios
- a) Upon completion of the analysis, studies and stakeholder review and comment on the results in accordance with Sections III and IV of this Attachment O, the Transmission Provider shall prepare a draft list of all projects for review by the stakeholders. The Transmission Provider shall post the draft project list on the SPP website.
  - b) Upon posting of the draft project list, the Transmission Provider shall invite written comments to be submitted to the Transmission Provider.
  - c) The Transmission Provider shall review the draft project list with the stakeholder working groups and the Regional State Committee.
  - d) Considering the input from the stakeholders through this review process, the Transmission Provider shall prepare a recommended list of upgrades within proposed Balanced Portfolios and proposed reliability upgrades for review and approval.
- 6) Disclosure of the Proposed List of Upgrades in Proposed Balanced Portfolios and Proposed Reliability Upgrades
- a) The Transmission Provider shall disclose planning information, which includes the proposed list of upgrades and the underlying studies, by providing:
    - i) All stakeholders equal access, notice and opportunity to participate in planning summits, the stakeholder working group meetings and the sub-regional planning meetings as well as any associated web conferences or teleconferences as set forth in Section III of this Attachment O; and
    - ii) For the contemporaneous availability of such meeting handouts on the SPP website.

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- b) The related study results, criteria, assumptions and data underlying the studies used to develop the list of upgrades within proposed Balanced Portfolios and proposed reliability upgrades shall be posted on the SPP website, with password protected access if required to preserve the confidentiality of information in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and the SPP Membership Agreement and to address CEII requirements. Additionally, Transmission Owner specific local plans and criteria shall be accessible via an electronic link on the SPP website in accordance with Section IX of this Attachment O. The CEII compliant redacted version of the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan and individual Transmission Owner specific local plans shall be posted on the SPP website. Redacted versions shall include instructions for acquiring the complete version of the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan and individual Transmission Owner specific local plans. An electronic link shall be provided on the SPP website by which stakeholders may send written comments on the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan and Transmission Owner specific local plans and criteria.

## **VII. The SPP Transmission Expansion Plan**

The SPP Transmission Expansion Plan shall be a comprehensive listing of all transmission projects in the SPP for the ten year planning horizon. Projects included in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan are: 1) upgrades required to satisfy requests for transmission service; 2) upgrades required to satisfy requests for generation interconnection; 3) approved reliability projects; 4) upgrades within an approved Balanced Portfolios; and 5) endorsed Sponsored Upgrades. A specific endorsed Sponsored Upgrade will be included in the Transmission System planning model upon execution of a contract that financially commits a Project Sponsor to such upgrade or when such upgrade is otherwise funded pursuant to the Tariff. To be included in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan, each project must have been endorsed or approved through its proper process.

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1) Approval and Endorsement Process

- a) The Markets and Operations Policy Committee shall make a recommendation regarding the approval of reliability upgrades. Approval by the SPP Board of Directors is required for the inclusion of reliability upgrades in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.
- b) The Markets and Operations Policy Committee shall make a recommendation regarding the inclusion of a proposed Balanced Portfolio in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan. Approval by the SPP Board of Directors is required for inclusion of a Balanced Portfolio in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan. SPP is not required to have a Balanced Portfolio each year.
- c) The Markets and Operations Policy Committee shall make a recommendation regarding endorsement of a proposed Sponsored Upgrade. Endorsement by the SPP Board of Directors is required for the inclusion of a Sponsored Upgrade in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.
- d) The list of projects shall be posted on the SPP website by the Transmission Provider. The Transmission Provider shall, in addition to the posting, e-mail notice of such posting to the stakeholders at least ten days prior to a meeting at which the SPP Board of Directors is expected to take action on accepting or modifying the list.
- e) The list of approved reliability upgrades, upgrades within approved Balanced Portfolios, and endorsed Sponsored Upgrades may be modified throughout the year by the SPP Board of Directors provided that such action shall be posted and noticed pursuant to this section.

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- f) The SPP Transmission Expansion Plan shall be presented to the SPP Board of Directors at least once a year. Approval of the Balanced Portfolios and reliability upgrades and the endorsement of the other projects contained in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan by the SPP Board of Directors shall certify a regional plan for meeting the transmission needs of the SPP Region.

2) Updates to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan

- a) Modifications to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan may be made between the annual approvals as required to maintain system reliability and to meet new business opportunities as they are identified.
- b) The Transmission Provider shall work with the stakeholders on an on-going basis throughout the year analyzing any newly identified issues and incorporating any necessary adjustments to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan on an out of cycle basis.
- c) On a quarterly basis, the Transmission Provider shall post any modifications to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan on the SPP website.
- d) The modifications shall be reviewed by the stakeholders and the Regional State Committee, endorsed by the stakeholder working groups, and approved or endorsed by the SPP Board of Directors, in accordance with Sections VI.5 and VII of this Attachment O, respectively.

3) Removal of an Upgrade from the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.

The Transmission Provider, in consultation with the stakeholders in accordance with Sections VI.5 and VII of this Attachment O, may remove an upgrade from an approved SPP Transmission Expansion Plan. A Transmission Owner that has incurred costs related to the removed upgrade shall be reimbursed for any expenditure pursuant to Section VIII of Attachment J to the Tariff.

4) Status of Upgrades Identified in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan

- a) The Transmission Provider shall track the status of planned system upgrades to ensure that the projects are built in time or that acceptable mitigation plans are in place to meet customer and system needs.
- b) On a quarterly basis, at a minimum, the Transmission Provider shall:
  - i) Report to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee, the Regional State Committee and the SPP Board of Directors on the status of the upgrades identified in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan; and
  - ii) Post the status of the upgrades on the SPP website.

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Transmission and Regulatory Policy

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### **VIII. Construction of Transmission Facilities**

- 1) The Transmission Provider shall not build or own transmission facilities. The Transmission Provider, with input from the Transmission Owners and other stakeholders, shall designate in a timely manner within the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan (“STEP”) one or more Transmission Owners to construct, own, and/or finance each project in the plan.
- 2) Any owner of Transmission Facilities, as defined in Attachment AI of this Tariff, which are or *are capable of being* used by the Transmission Provider to provide transmission service pursuant to Part II and Part III of this Tariff, shall have the right to sign the SPP Membership Agreement as a Transmission Owner and thereby acquire all of the rights and obligations of a Transmission Owner described therein, including all of the rights and obligations of a Transmission Owner described in this Tariff and specifically this Section VIII. Each Transmission Owner and every other entity designated to construct a project by the Transmission Provider pursuant to this Section VIII shall use due diligence to construct transmission facilities as directed by the SPP Board of Directors subject to such siting, permitting, and environmental constraints as may be imposed by state, local and federal laws and regulations, and subject to the receipt of any necessary federal or state regulatory approvals. Such construction shall be performed in accordance with Good Utility Practice, applicable SPP Criteria, industry standards, the applicable Transmission Owner’s specific reliability requirements and operating guidelines (to the extent these are not inconsistent with other requirements), and in accordance with all applicable requirements of federal or state regulatory authorities. Each Transmission Owner shall be fully compensated to the greatest extent permitted by the Commission for the costs of construction undertaken by such Transmission Owner in accordance with this Tariff.
- 3) A specific endorsed Sponsored Upgrade in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan will be deemed approved for construction upon execution of a contract that financially commits a Project Sponsor to such upgrade.
- 4) After a new transmission project is (i) approved for construction under the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan, or (ii) required pursuant to a Service Agreement, the Transmission Provider shall direct the appropriate Transmission Owner(s) to begin implementation of the project for which financial commitment is required prior to the approval of the next update of the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan. Such direction shall be provided in writing to the Transmission Owner(s) designated to construct the project (“Designated Transmission Owner(s)”). The written notification to the Designated Transmission Owner(s) shall include but not be limited to: (1) the specifications of the project required by the Transmission Provider and (2) a reasonable project schedule, including a project completion date (“Notification to

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**VIII. Construction of Transmission Facilities**

- 1) The Transmission Provider shall not build or own transmission facilities. The Transmission Provider, with input from the Transmission Owners and other stakeholders, shall designate in a timely manner within the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan (“STEP”) one or more Transmission Owners to construct, own, and/or finance each project in the plan.
- 2) Any owner of Transmission Facilities, as defined in Attachment AI of this Tariff, which are or *are capable of being* used by the Transmission Provider to provide transmission service pursuant to Part II and Part III of this Tariff, shall have the right to sign the SPP Membership Agreement as a Transmission Owner and thereby acquire all of the rights and obligations of a Transmission Owner described therein, including all of the rights and obligations of a Transmission Owner described in this Tariff and specifically this Section VIII. Each Transmission Owner and every other entity designated to construct a project by the Transmission Provider pursuant to this Section VIII shall use due diligence to construct transmission facilities as directed by the SPP Board of Directors subject to such siting, permitting, and environmental constraints as may be imposed by state, local and federal laws and regulations, and subject to the receipt of any necessary federal or state regulatory approvals. Such construction shall be performed in accordance with Good Utility Practice, applicable SPP Criteria, industry standards, the applicable Transmission Owner’s specific reliability requirements and operating guidelines (to the extent these are not inconsistent with other requirements), and in accordance with all applicable requirements of federal or state regulatory authorities. Each Transmission Owner shall be fully compensated to the greatest extent permitted by the Commission for the costs of construction undertaken by such Transmission Owner in accordance with this Tariff.
- 3) A specific endorsed Sponsored Upgrade in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan will be deemed approved for construction upon execution of a contract that financially commits a Project Sponsor to such upgrade.

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Italicized language reflects a change ordered by the Commission in Docket No. OA08-61-001, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*, 127 FERC ¶ 61,171 (2009), that will be submitted, as directed, in a subsequent compliance filing.

- 4) After a new transmission project is (i) approved for construction under the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan or (ii) required pursuant to a Service Agreement or (iii) required by a generation interconnection agreement to be constructed by a Transmission Owner(s) other than the Transmission Owner that is a party to the generation interconnection agreement, the Transmission Provider shall direct the appropriate Transmission Owner(s) to begin implementation of the project for which financial commitment is required prior to the approval of the next update of the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan. Such direction shall be provided in writing to the Transmission Owner(s) designated to construct the project (“Designated Transmission Owner(s)”). The written notification to the Designated Transmission Owner(s) (“Notification to Construct”) shall include but not be limited to: (1) the specifications of the project required by the Transmission Provider; ~~and~~ (2) a reasonable project schedule, including a project completion date; and (3) a requirement that the Designated Transmission Owner execute the Membership Agreement as a Transmission Owner and undertake all obligations of a Transmission Owner under the SPP Membership Agreement and Tariff, if it has not already done so (~~“Notification to Construct”~~). If the project forms a connection with facilities of a single Transmission Owner, that Transmission Owner shall be designated to construct the project. If the project forms a connection with facilities owned by multiple Transmission Owners, the applicable Transmission Owners will be designated to provide their respective new facilities. If there is more than one Transmission Owner designated to construct a project, the Designated Transmission Owners will agree among themselves which part of the project will be provided by each entity. If the Designated Transmission Owners cannot come to a mutual agreement regarding the assignment and ownership of the project the Transmission Provider will facilitate their discussion. Each project or segment of a project being built by a single Designated Transmission Owner shall be considered a separate project for purposes of Section VIII.6 and each Designated Transmission Owner will receive a separate Notification to Construct for each project or segment of a project they are responsible to construct.
- 5) Network Upgrade(s) and Distribution Upgrades (as defined in Attachment V to the Tariff) identified in a generation interconnection agreement will be constructed pursuant to the generation interconnection agreement or pursuant to Section VIII.4 of this Attachment O. Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades (as defined in Attachment V to the Tariff) identified in a generation interconnection agreement required to be constructed by the Transmission Owner who is a party to the generation interconnection agreement shall be constructed pursuant to the generation interconnection agreement. All other Network Upgrades and Distribution Upgrades (as defined in Attachment V to the Tariff) identified in a generation interconnection agreement to be constructed by Transmission Owners not a party to the generation

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interconnection agreement shall be constructed pursuant to Section VIII.4 of this  
Attachment O.

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- 6) In order to maintain its right to construct the project, the Designated Transmission Owner shall respond within ninety (90) days after the receipt of the Notification to Construct with a written commitment to construct the project as specified in the Notification to *Construct* or a proposal for a different project schedule and/or alternative specifications in its written commitment to *construct* (“*Designated Transmission Owner’s proposal*”). *The Transmission Provider shall respond to the Designated Transmission Owner’s proposal within ten (10) days of its receipt of the proposal. If the Transmission Provider accepts the Designated Transmission Owner’s proposal, the NTC will be modified according to the accepted proposal and the Designated Transmission Owner shall construct the project in accordance with the modified NTC. If the Transmission Provider rejects the Designated Transmission Owner’s proposal, the Designated Transmission Owner’s proposal shall not be deemed an acceptable written commitment to construct the project. However, the Transmission Provider’s rejection of such proposal shall not preclude a Designated Transmission Owner from providing a written commitment to construct the project after such rejection, provided the subsequent written commitment to construct the project is made within the ninety day time period after the issuance of the NTC.*

If a Designated Transmission Owner does not provide an acceptable written commitment to construct within *the* ninety (90) day period, the Transmission Provider shall solicit and evaluate proposals for the project from other entities and select a replacement designated provider. The Transmission Provider shall solicit proposals from entities that meet certain specified legal, regulatory, technical, financial and managerial qualifications, specifically including the following:

- i) Entities that have obtained all state regulatory authority necessary to construct, own and operate transmission facilities within the state(s) where the project is located,
- ii) Entities that meet the creditworthiness requirements of the Transmission Provider,
- iii) Entities that have signed or are capable and willing to sign the SPP Membership Agreement as a Transmission Owner upon the selection of its proposal to construct and own the project, and
- iv) Entities that meet such other technical, financial and managerial qualifications as are specified in the Transmission Provider’s business practices.

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The Transmission Provider shall evaluate each proposal with regard to the cost, reliability and timeliness of the proposed construction of the project and shall make a recommendation to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall thereafter select an entity making a proposal and arrange for that entity to construct the project *and become the Designated Transmission Owner*. The Designated Transmission Owner, if it has not already done so, shall execute the Membership Agreement as a Transmission Owner and undertake all obligations of a Transmission Owner under the SPP Membership Agreement and Tariff.

*At any time, a Designated Transmission Owner may elect to arrange for another entity or another existing Transmission Owner to build and own all or part of the project in its place (“Replacement Builder”) subject to the qualifications in Subsections i, ii, iii, and iv above.* If the Transmission Provider agrees that the Replacement Builder is qualified to build and own the part(s) of the project that the Designated Transmission Owner elects to have built and owned by the Replacement Builder and, then the Replacement Builder shall, if it has not already done so, execute the Membership Agreement as a Transmission Owner and undertake all obligations of a Transmission Owner under the SPP Membership Agreement and Tariff.

Nothing in this Section VIII.6 shall relieve a Transmission Owner of its obligation to construct an upgrade as specified in Section VIII.2 of this Attachment O and Section 3.3(a) of the SPP Membership Agreement in the event that no other qualified entity can be found to construct the project.

## **IX. Information Exchange**

- 1) Data Requirements
  - a) Any entity that is subject to the NERC Reliability Standards is required to provide data to the Transmission Provider in accordance the NERC Reliability Standards for Modeling, Data and Analysis (the “NERC MOD Standards”).
  - b) When an entity has developed a preliminary engineering concept for new facilities that impact the interconnected operation of the Transmission System, it shall contact the Transmission Provider so that the optimal integration of any new facilities and potentially benefiting parties can be identified.
  - c) In preparation for the annual update of transmission planning models for each annual planning cycle, Members, Transmission Customers, Transmission Owners, Generation Interconnection Customers and all other stakeholders must provide to the Transmission Provider the data specified in this Section IX.
  - d) During the course of the annual planning cycle, if material changes to the data occur, the data owners must provide timely written notice to the Transmission Provider.
  - e) The format required to submit modeling data shall be posted on the SPP website.

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- f) The modeling data shall be posted on the SPP website with password protected access.
- 2) Owners of transmission facilities shall provide to the Transmission Provider:
- a) Modeling data for power flow, short-circuit and stability analysis;
  - b) Detailed power system models of their transmission systems and provide updates to their models via a password protected web based application;
  - c) Data regarding the design and operation of their transmission facilities;
  - d) Their FERC Form 715;
  - e) Their individual company-specific planning criteria;

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- f) Planning grade cost estimates and schedules for upgrades in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan in a timely manner;
  - g) Their five-year transmission construction plans; and
  - h) Their transmission fixed charge rate.
- 3) Generator owners shall provide to the Transmission Provider:
- a) Modeling data for power flow, short-circuit and stability analysis;

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- b) Data for planned additions or upgrades, including status and expected in-service dates, planned retirements and environmental restrictions; and
  - c) Modeling data to perform economic planning studies in accordance with Section IV of this Attachment O. Data required to model generating units for the economic planning studies is documented in the Transmission Network Economic Modeling and Methods manual which shall be posted on the SPP website.
- 4) Transmission Customers
- a) Network Customers shall provide the Transmission Provider an update of the information on its Network Integration Transmission Service application with a ten year forecast of summer and winter load at each delivery point and ten year projection of network resources and with any other information that has changed from the original application.
  - b) Point-to-point Transmission Customers shall provide to the Transmission Provider their good faith projections on their need for service including transmission capacity, duration and points of delivery and receipt over the ten year planning horizon.
  - c) Transmission Customers with existing and planned demand response resources, including demand response resources, shall provide information on such resources
- 5) Neighboring Transmission Providers and RTOs

In accordance with applicable agreements and Section X of this Attachment O, the Transmission Provider shall exchange with neighboring Transmission Providers and RTOs the data required for the development of power flow cases, short-circuit cases and stability cases over the ten year planning horizon.

- 6) Stakeholder Access to Transmission Planning Information
- a) The planning information, data, and models provided pursuant to this Section IX shall be sufficient to allow parties to replicate results of the planning studies.
  - b) The Transmission Provider shall provide a secure web-based workspace for hosting and sharing planning information, data, and models.
  - c) The secure web-based workspace shall be password protected and require CEII clearance in accordance with Section IX.8 of this Attachment O.
  - d) Instructions to obtain access to the Transmission Provider's power flow models shall be posted on the SPP website.
  - e) Instructions to obtain copies of the Transmission Provider's transmission planning maps shall be posted on the SPP website.

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7) Confidentiality Requirements

- a) The Transmission Provider shall make all reasonable efforts to preserve the confidentiality of information in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and the SPP Membership Agreement.
- b) For those entities that have executed a confidentiality agreement, the Transmission Provider shall provide password protected access to confidential information related to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan and the underlying studies and models via the SPP website.
- c) The form of confidentiality agreement shall be posted on the SPP website.
- d) *The confidentiality agreement shall allow access to applicable system design software results needed to participate in the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan process, replicate the results of specified transmission planning studies, or to confirm assumptions used in creating adjusted production cost-benefits metrics used to analyze a specified Balanced Portfolio; provided however, if the results include resource specific data (including input data), access will be limited to individuals that are not Competitive Duty Personnel. In no event shall Transmission Provider or any other entity that has executed a confidentiality agreement and has been provided resource specific data disclose such data to Competitive Duty Personnel. For the purposes of this section: i) “Competitive Duty Personnel” are any individuals directly engaged in Competitive Duties. Counsel or outside consultants that do not provide consulting services in connection with the direct marketing, purchase, or sale of electric power at wholesale in the SPP Region are not Competitive Duty Personnel.*
  - ii) *“Competitive Duties” include: (1) the marketing, sale, or purchase of electric power at wholesale in the SPP Region; (2) the direct supervision of any employee with such responsibilities; or (3) the provision of consulting services in connection with the marketing, purchase, or sale of electric power at wholesale in the SPP Region.*
- e) Other transmission planning information shall be posted on the SPP website and may be password protected, as appropriate.
- f) Confidentiality agreements shall be required for Members and Market Participants to receive data where the owner of the data has given permission to the Transmission Provider to release the data.

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8) Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII) Requirements

- a) The Transmission Provider shall take appropriate steps to protect CEII information.
- b) The Transmission Provider shall screen Members and Market Participants prior to providing access to CEII information. Individuals that do not belong to a confirmed pre-screened Member or Market Participant shall be directed to the Commission's website for instructions for access to CEII information.
- c) For those entities that have met the CEII requirements in Section IX.8.b of this Attachment O, the Transmission Provider shall provide password protected access to CEII information related to the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan and the underlying studies and models via the SPP website.
- d) The Transmission Provider shall follow the guidelines set forth by the Commission to flag data which shall be treated as CEII sensitive.

**X. Inter-regional Coordination**

- 1) The Transmission Provider shall undertake to coordinate any studies required to assure the reliable, efficient, and effective operation of the Transmission System with, at a minimum, first-tier adjacent interconnected systems. Such coordination shall include:

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- a) Sharing system plans to ensure that such plans are simultaneously feasible and otherwise use consistent assumptions and data; and
  - b) Identifying system enhancements that could relieve inter-regional congestion or integrate new resources on an aggregate basis.
- 2) The Transmission Provider shall undertake to coordinate any studies with other transmission providers primarily through participation in the agreements listed in Addendum 1 to this Attachment O.
  - 3) On an annual basis, the Transmission Provider shall review the ongoing planning activities under the agreements specified in Addendum 1 to this Attachment O to determine the need for any additional inter-regional studies. The Transmission Provider shall share this review with the stakeholders at a planning summit and solicit input regarding additional inter-regional studies that should be initiated by the Transmission Provider.

**XI. Recovering Costs Associated with the Planning Process**

- 1) The Transmission Provider's costs associated with the planning process and associated studies set forth in this Attachment O shall be recovered pursuant to Schedule 1-A of the Tariff.
- 2) The Transmission Provider's costs associated with studies for potential Sponsored Upgrades, shall be the responsibility of the entities requesting such studies.
- 3) The Transmission Provider's costs for studies associated with requests for long-term firm transmission service shall be recovered pursuant to Sections 19 and 32 of the Tariff.
- 4) The Transmission Provider's costs for studies associated with requests for interconnection service shall be recovered pursuant to Attachment V of the Tariff.

**XII. Cost Allocation**

The costs associated with new or upgraded transmission facilities shall be allocated in accordance with Attachment J to the Tariff.

**XIII. Dispute Resolution**

Any dispute regarding the planning process shall be resolved utilizing the procedures identical to those set forth in Section 12 of the Tariff.

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**ADDENDUM 1 TO ATTACHMENT O  
INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION AGREEMENTS**

In accordance with Section X of Attachment O, the Transmission Provider shall undertake to coordinate any studies with other transmission providers primarily through participation in the agreements listed below:

- 1) The Joint Operating Agreement between the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (MISO) and Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP);
- 2) The Transmission Coordination Agreement between the Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AECI) and the Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP);
- 3) The United States Department of Energy Southwestern Power Administration Agreement Between United States of America and Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (the "SPA Agreement");
- 4) The Eastern Interconnection Reliability Assessment Group; and
- 5) Bilateral agreements between the Transmission Provider and transmission systems to which the SPP Region is interconnected.

SPP shall continue its efforts to formalize and improve seams agreements with its neighbors and affected systems to facilitate inter-regional and interconnection wide transmission planning and expansion.

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