



THE ORG REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF SOUTHWEST POWER POOL

June 2010

[May Meeting Summaries](#)

[Other Meetings](#)

[June Meetings](#)

Integrated Transmission Plan Filed with FERC

After approval by the [Markets and Operations Committee](#) and [Board of Directors](#), on May 17 SPP [submitted to FERC a filing](#) revising its Tariff to incorporate a modified transmission planning process, the Integrated Transmission Plan (ITP). SPP requested an effective date of July 17, 2010 for the Tariff revisions.

The ITP is SPP's new approach to planning what transmission is needed to maintain reliability and provide economic benefits to the SPP region in both the near- and long-term. Implementing the ITP will enable SPP and its stakeholders to better facilitate development of a robust transmission grid that will give regional customers improved access to the SPP region's diverse resources. Development of the ITP was driven by the Synergistic Planning Project Team (SPPT) and the planning principles it developed. This effort combines existing planning processes of the Base Plan, Balanced Portfolio, and EHV Study into a single process. The SPPT report provided direction on certain key areas of the new process such as a 20-year time frame with a 40-year economic assessment.

Improvements to SPP.org, Including the New SPP Learning Center

SPP now has a full-time technical webmaster who has been making updates and improvements to SPP.org. The latest addition is the ability to add SPP meetings to your personal calendar. When you register for a meeting, an ICS file will be attached to your confirmation email; just open and save to add meeting information to your calendar. Other recent enhancements include reducing document load time and eliminating programming errors; next up is adding Google search functionality. We are beginning to think about requirements for a new website; in the meantime, contact [Jon Vinson](#) if there are enhancements we need to consider more immediately.

SPP.org is now integrated with the [SPP Learning Center](#) – an exciting new online tool that allows stakeholders to easily find and register for training courses, print transcripts and certificates, track continuing education hours, add names to waiting lists, create a personal profile, and more. Contact [Jane Martin](#) for more information.

May Meeting Summaries

[Business Practices Working Group:](#) The BPWG reviewed and approved revisions to Business Practice Revision Requests (BPRs) 009 and 010 regarding long-term requests for transmission service. The group also reviewed the responses the BPWG will send to the Market Working Group regarding the proposed ramp reservation system for future markets. A possible revision to Business Practice 1.8 - Forgiveness of Transmission Service Charges - was introduced to manage a possible unintended consequence due to implementation of Market Protocol Revision Request PRR204.

[Change Working Group:](#) Project managers provided the status updates of member-impacting or facing efforts. Of note is the [Data Push](#) effort, for which SPP is delaying implementation until fall at the request of several members. [FERC Orders 729 and 676E](#) were introduced as potentially member-impacting due to changes to OASIS templates and screens; the CWG has been asked to assess the impact. Staff is planning a CWG retreat for refining the roles, responsibilities, and coordination of the working group and staff interactions in conjunction with the August face-to-face meeting in Denver.

[Economic Studies Working Group:](#) The ESWG continues to refine assumptions and data inputs to the ITP. Discussions in April and May centered on the Resource Plan for 2030, an important input into the transmission planning studies that will take place later this summer. Fuel prices, carbon tax possibilities, demand levels, and renewable targets were discussed in reference to four futures that will be part of the ITP 20-year assessment. Staff is performing a model review of the input data and will present transmission prototype designs in June. An ITP manual detailing assumptions, expectations, and processes will be presented to the Transmission Working Group in August.

Market Working Group: The MWG met three times in May, reserving four days for future markets design activities, including one day and one conference call for current business activities. The MWG received updates from SPP's Market Monitoring, Regulatory, and Operations Departments. The group reviewed outstanding Protocol Revision Requests (PRRs), and PRR 219 (RSS Outage Schedules) was approved. The MWG completed the Transmission Congestion Rights Process, Market Registration, and the Glossary sections of the Future Markets Protocols and will continue to meet twice a month through the summer to review and finalize the baseline of the protocols.

Operating Reliability Working Group: The ORWG reviewed several Business Practice and Market Protocol revision requests for impacts to reliability. Criteria Appendix 7 modifications concerning data submissions to SPP were discussed. The second day was a joint session with the Transmission Working Group, and several Criteria concerns were presented. The annual flowgate review was conducted and the list of new permanent flowgates was approved by both groups.

Regional Tariff Working Group: The RTWG continued their dialogue on deferrals, displacements, and accelerations relating to Section VII of Attachment J of the SPP Tariff. The impact of the ITP process needs further investigation, and discussions will continue at future RTWG meetings. SPP staff presented information on the billing process and a 10-year Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement projection.

System Protection and Control Working Group: The SPCWG and the Under Frequency Load Shedding (UFLS) standard drafting team met to discuss the comments received from the [third draft](#) of SPP's UFLS Regional Standard, which was posted on March 29 for a 30-day comment period which ended April 28. The SPCWG and UFLS team will meet June 16-17 in Dallas to begin working on the fourth draft.

Transmission Working Group: The TWG discussed and approved the 2010 Near-Term TPL Compliance Report. The group also reviewed and accepted staff's proposal to reduce the number of models used in the Aggregate Transmission Service Studies process. The group continued discussing the Wind Integration Task Force action items and making improvements to the quarterly project tracking process. In conjunction with the ORWG, the TWG discussed the prospect of SPP Criteria revisions on several issues, including Transmission Relief Margin calculations, having a Capacity Benefit Margin methodology, and creating a "critical facilities" definition for the NERC PRC-023-1 standard.

Other Meetings

Cost Allocation Working Group

June Meetings

- June 3 - Generation Working Group
- June 4 - Finance Committee
- June 7/8 - Board of Directors Educational Meeting
- June 7 - Operations Training Working Group
- June 7-9 - Market Working Group
- June 8 - Oversight Committee
- June 10 - SPP Consolidated Balancing Authority
- June 15 - Seams Steering Committee
- June 16-17 - System Protection and Control Working Group
- June 17 - Operating Reliability Working Group
- June 21-23 - Market Working Group
- June 23 - Cost Allocation Working Group
- June 24 - Regional Tariff Working Group
- June 24 - Regional Entity Trustee
- June 28 - Economic Studies Working Group
- June 30 - Change Working Group

This is a summary of recent SPP organizational group meetings. For more information about a group, please visit SPP.org and select that committee on the [Org Groups](#) page. Documents are located in the left column.

Please contact [Emily Pennel](#) in the Communications Department with questions or comments about *The Org Report*.

[SPP Calendar](#)

[The Org Report Back Issues](#)

[SPP Governing Documents](#)