

The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



April 2011

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New Interactive Tariff Page Make Tariff Searches Easier

SPP's new [Interactive Tariff](#) page is live! You can now read and search SPP Tariffs - Open Access Transmission Tariff, Service/Membership Agreements, and Bylaws - with this tool, found on the [Regulatory page](#). You can navigate directly to a section, download the document in PDF or Word, and find related filings that have been filed since July 26, 2010. When you click "Filing", links for the Transmittal Letter, Clean Tariff, Marked Tariff, and all other related documents/attachments will populate in the Document tab. The Tariffs are updated and refreshed daily to ensure you have the most current information. Please contact [Brenda Fricano](#) at 501-614-3526 or [read the manual](#) for more information.

New Transmission Atlas and 2011 Map Available to Order

The new SPP Transmission Atlas is available to order. It contains more than 60 detailed maps that include transmission and generation assets, interstate highways, waterways, and major urban areas, along with an index for each station and urban area in the SPP and Entergy footprints. The 2011 Transmission Map is also available; it is a detailed representation of assets within the SPP and Entergy footprints, and contains detailed inset maps of 12 major areas. Each individual receiving an atlas or map must submit a new [SPP Confidentiality Agreement](#), available on our [Request a Map/Model](#) page.

SPP RE Spring Workshop Materials Available

More than 165 people registered for the SPP RE spring workshop, which was held in Tulsa on March 28-29. Featured speakers were FERC Commissioner Cheryl LaFleur and NERC President and CEO Gerry Cauley, and topics included Emerging Compliance Issues, Event Analysis, Enforcement Processes, and frequently violated standards. [View presentations and closing comments](#) by SPP RE General Manager Stacy Dochoda.

NERC and NAESB Update

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) formed a stakeholder task force to develop a technical white paper on the impacts of Geomagnetic Disturbances on the bulk power system. A technical workshop on April 19-20 in Atlanta will present the team's initial findings. We encourage members to participate in the workshop to share their experiences and efforts to mitigate Geomagnetic Disturbances. The task force's end product will include recommended actions for the industry; information is available at [nerc.com](#).

The North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) is continuing efforts to improve coordination of the gas market nomination and electric energy scheduling timelines. Members of the Interstate National Gas Association of America met with ISO/RTO representatives to discuss ways to improve gas transportation and electric energy scheduling for increasing gas-fired generators' ability to schedule gas intraday to meet electric energy schedules. Key issues include a need for more coordination between ISOs/RTOs and gas pipelines, increased stress on intraday gas deliveries due to renewable resources requiring gas-fired backup facilities, and less scheduling flexibility in gas than electric markets due to fewer economic products being available. SPP continues to be engaged in this NAESB effort.

March Meeting Summaries

Business Practices Working Group: The BPWG approved Business Practice Revision Requests (BPR) 002–Third Party Transmission Service Agreement Coordination, BPR 014–Abnormal Conditions Procedures, BPR 018–Generator Interconnection Procedures, and BPR 019–Designated Transmission Owner, which will all be presented to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) at its April meeting. The group reviewed BPR 021–Authorization to Plan and suggested that the Transmission Working Group be allowed to review the proposal before the BPWG begins work on the actual Business Practice. The group rejected BPR 022–Annulment of a Reservation. BPR 020–Network Resource Interconnection Service was tabled and will be

discussed at its next meeting.

Change Working Group: The CWG updated the group on current project statuses. Work continues on the High Availability initiative, with network maintenance that resulted in an extended network outage on April 2. Assessment, design, and planning continue with the goal of providing High Availability in hardware and software applications. Recently activated, the OPS1 Replacement project is in planning for phase 1: unused or obsolete application removal. The CWG is reviewing the list of applications to be removed. The PRR131 Data API is moving forward with the later date schedule presented to the CWG, and with members that are ready to begin implementing. The solution will be initially offered on a subscription basis, with a to-be-determined required implementation date. The updated scope resulted in a later timeline to be approved by the CWG for the EIS Market release 1.0. The next standard meeting is April 24. The May meeting will be a joint session with the Market Working Group, and a Marketplace Vendor Information Session is scheduled for May 3.

Cost Allocation Working Group: The group discussed the CAWG Renewable Survey, to which stakeholders provided input and suggested changes. This feedback will be incorporated into the Integrated Transmission Planning 10-Year Assessment (ITP10) model. A primary discussion topic was FERC-related issues on cost variances for new transmission. Dr. Mike Proctor, consultant for the Regional State Committee, discussed options for controlling cost variances and shared examples of what some Independent System Operators are implementing. Also discussed were the Seams RFP, updates from other working groups, and an overview of the CAWG Survey results. Sam Loudenslager, Arkansas Public Service Commission staff and current CAWG chair, announced this was his last meeting as a member and chair. Pat Mosier will be the new Arkansas CAWG representative on the CAWG; the RSC will appoint a new chair.

Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group: The CIPWG reviewed a presentation on NERC's 2011 CIP-002 Sufficiency Review Program, discussed evidence handling with the SPP RE, heard a member present on its CIP Spot Check Experience, and received an update from local FBI agents. Key components were updates on CIP Standards development and the NERC CIP Committee.

Economic Studies Working Group: The ESWG continued developing key drivers and assumptions for the 2011 ITP10 study. A joint meeting with the Transmission Working Group was held to discuss ITP10 issues relevant to both groups. The ESWG will use its April meetings to finalize the remaining study inputs and evaluate the results of important benchmarks.

Market Working Group: The MWG met four times in March to develop position papers in response to Boston Pacific's and the SPP Market Monitoring Unit's concerns about Marketplace design, and to approve a recommendation to MOPC to move forward with Marketplace implementation with a few minor modifications. The group reviewed the differences between designs of the Marketplace and other RTO/ISO markets, and discussed the possibility of "forklifting" other markets' designs. The MWG approved MPRR 1 (Removal of Internal Reserve Zone Transfers & Minimum Clause) and PRR 234 (RCF Exception for Market Flow Priority) and received updates from SPP's Operations, Market Monitoring, and Regulatory groups. During the joint MWG/RTWG meeting, the groups reviewed the process for developing corresponding Tariff language for the Integrated Marketplace Protocols. The MWG/RTWG will meet together again to review the new Tariff language in June and August 2011.

Operating Reliability Working Group: The ORWG met an extra time on 3/31 to review PRR234 and MPRR1 at the request of the MWG. The group discussed changes to the SPP Reliability Plan to reflect the City Utilities of Springfield's change to a Balancing Authority, held the annual Black Start and Regional Restoration Review, discussed changes to Criteria 4 proposed by TWG, heard an update on the CROW outage scheduler implementation project, and made a modification to the Criteria Appendix 7 requirement for non-market Balancing Authorities regarding Resource Plan submissions.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG conducted an in-person meeting to debrief the March System Operations Conference. The group discussed training for generator operators, customer training vacancies, OTWG vacancies, and comments from the Annual Program Evaluation. The OTWG's [next meeting](#) at Lafayette Utilities System will include a strategic planning session for 2012-2014.

Regional Tariff Working Group: The RTWG passed proposed Tariff language implementing action taken by the SPP Board of Directors last July to increase the administrative fee cap and create a three-year period over which the rate would remain stable, as long as costs are not substantially over- or under-collected. The group passed proposed language to comply with FERC Order No. 741, which dealt with credit reform, and approved modifications to the Generator Interconnection Agreement Consent to Assignment Letter.

Seams Steering Committee: The SSC completed its review of current SPP Seams Activities, the Cost Allocation Principles for Seams Expansion document, and NERC/NAESB efforts with Parallel Flow Visualization.

Strategic Planning Committee: The SPC held a special meeting to consider the recommendations of an SPC task force that has been meeting regularly and working with staff to develop policy decisions in response to the Regional State Committee's motions on transmission project transparency. The task force recommended

policies for: transmission design best practices and performance criteria, transmission project tracking and estimation, transmission construction project estimates that fall outside specified bandwidths, and increasing the transparency of transmission project assignments and novations. A robust discussion highlighted matters for additional consideration by the task force.

System Protection and Control Working Group: The SPCWG and Under Frequency Load Shedding (UFLS) Standard Drafting Team reviewed results and comments received from the first voting ballot of the SPP UFLS Regional Standard. The team will revise the latest draft before sending it out for another comment period or vote.

Transmission Working Group: The TWG revised language in SPP Criteria 4 and is reviewing the Criteria to determine if other changes are needed. The group reviewed models, resource plans, and siting plans for the ITP10. The TWG also discussed reactive planning studies staff will perform this year, reviewed the Area Generation Connection Task Force proposal, and continued work on the Special Protection Scheme Policy.

Integrated Marketplace Update

- The Market Design team continued to coordinate with subject matter experts, technology leads, and business analysts to provide feedback on Delta Design Notes submitted by Alstom as eventual supporting documentation for Implementation Statements of Work.
- The CBA/Outage Scheduler team completed installation of CROW ITE at SPP.
- An Accenture Risk/Credit Management consultant with experience at several RTOs/ISOs discussed changes required to the Integrated Marketplace design to accommodate SPP's vision of Credit and Risk Management.
- The Program Management team continued driving the completion of critical path deliverables for the MWG, MOPC, and Board of Directors as well as vendor statements of work, implementation schedules, and estimates in preparation for the April Board of Directors meeting.
- The Business Process Design team received approval on 42 of 43 business process design deliverables.
- The Requirements team received approval on 13 of 25 critical vendor-impacting requirements deliverables.

April Meetings

April 4 - Oversight Committee

April 4 - Seams Steering Committee Meeting

April 5 - Finance Committee Meeting

April 6 - Consolidated Balancing Authority Emergency Operations Task Force

April 11 - Regional State Committee Teleconference

April 12/13 - Markets and Operations Policy Committee Meeting

April 14 - SPP CBA Steering Committee

April 15 - CAWG Conference Call

April 18-21 - SPP System Operations Conference

April 18-20 - Market Working Group Meeting

April 19 - Economic Studies Working Group Net Conference

April 21 - OTWG Face-to-Face Meeting

April 21 - Change Working Group Teleconference

April 21 - Business Practices Working Group Meeting

April 25 - Human Resources Committee Meeting

April 25 - RE Trustee Meeting

April 25 - Regional State Committee Meeting

April 26 - Board of Directors-Members Committee Meeting

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](#)

