

The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



December 2011

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November Meeting Summaries

Business Practices Working Group: The BPWG reviewed Business Practice Revision Request (BPR) 018 (Generation Interconnection Procedures), BPR 024 (Revision to Delayed Offering Process), and discussed possible improvements to the Aggregate Transmission Service and Generation Interconnection study processes. Both BPRs were approved, with BPR 024 recommended to the Market and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) with a start date of Feb. 1, 2012. The BPWG also discussed the process to request waivers during the Aggregate Study.

Change Working Group: The CWG marked its fourth anniversary as a working group with a November meeting in Dallas that included updates on the Integrated Marketplace: program and tower status, the Consolidated Balancing Authority workstream, Readiness activities, communications approach, and the Test plan (testing has been designed so there is traceability to the business process designs, requirements, and Marketplace protocols). Readiness metrics are scheduled to be reviewed with the CWG in early 2012.

Economic Studies Working Group: The ESWG finalized topics for the 2012 Integrated Transmission Planning 10-Year Assessment (ITP10), including the methodology used in the 40-year financial analysis, the measurement of the value provided by reliability projects in the ITP10 portfolio, and the staging of economic projects. In addition, the group discussed futures that may be used in the 2013 ITP 20-Year Assessment; prepared for joint efforts with the Midwest ISO (MISO) Planning Advisory Committee on RTO study processes; and drafted concerns regarding forthcoming Environmental Protection Agency impacts on economic studies.

Market Working Group: The MWG reviewed a Protocol Traceability Report, in response to a MOPC action item asking the group to validate that the system design meets the Integrated Marketplace protocols. Up-to-date protocol language can be found in the [Marketplace Protocols version 5.1](#). Ten additional Marketplace Protocol Revision Requests (MPRRs) currently remain in various stages of review, and the MWG is working diligently through them. The MWG also reviewed SPP's planned responses to FERC Orders 719, 741, and 755.

Model Development Working Group: The MDWG discussed Uniform Generation Modeling and a proposal to change the 2012 series schedule; both topics were tabled until December. The group scheduled its 2012 face-to-face meetings for May and December. A 2033 load-forecast request will be sent to members in preparation for ITP20.

Operating Reliability Working Group: The ORWG reviewed MPRRs for the MWG and discussed activities to take during the January MOPC meeting. The group had approved a change to Criteria Appendix 7 in May, preserving all the existing data requirements, but changed the format to include additional detail and clarify the data requested. However, since May, significant work had been made to bring the new CROW outage scheduler online. The ORWG decided to hold the new Appendix 7 back from MOPC submission until the CROW scheduler is live, and include changes to reference the submission of outages through CROW, instead of the old OPS1 outage scheduler. The new Appendix 7 version should be submitted for MOPC approval in January 2012.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG did not vote on any issues during its November meeting. Two voting members' terms expire in December, and the OTWG is soliciting nominations for its December 5 meeting.

Project Cost Working Group: The PCWG continued its development of the Business Practice for Conditional Notifications to Construct, reviewing a high-level schedule for the ITP processes and discussing how the PCWG process may be designed to mesh with the schedule. The group also agreed to develop a list of larger environmental and other sensitive areas to be used as a resource when developing conceptual plans, and began review of potential tariff changes that may be needed to accommodate the review of project costs and recovery of cost-estimate development costs. The group is readying potential tariff revisions for approval during the April Board of Directors and MOPC meetings. The PCWG elected Jeff Stebbins (Southwestern Public Service Company) as its vice chairman.

Regional Tariff Working Group: The RTWG approved the Integrated Marketplace's required tariff language,

which will be voted on during a [special MOPC meeting December 6](#).

[Seams Steering Committee](#): The Seams Cost Allocation Task Force reported to the SSC it is on schedule to present its final report to the Regional State Committee in January. The committee discussed the joint-planning requirements under existing Joint Operating Agreements (JOA) and whether those requirements are being adequately met. The committee and task force also discussed the additional work necessary as a result of FERC Order 1000. SPP staff will bring a work plan back to the SSC explaining the what gaps exist in the current JOA relative to Order 1000, how the requirements will be met, and which working groups will be involved. A Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) representative proposed to the SSC a re-dispatch agreement to be included in a JOA, similar to the one it currently has with MISO. Based on feedback, SPP staff and the WAPA will continue to consider the re-dispatch agreement as part of ongoing JOA negotiations. The SSC also heard updates on the MISO JOA dispute and activities between MISO and SPP members who intervened in Entergy's Arkansas docket, requesting permission to join MISO.

[System Protection and Control Working Group](#): The SPCWG and the Under Frequency Load Shedding (UFLS) Standard Drafting Team discussed the results of a second open vote of the SPP UFLS Regional Standard; the SPP UFLS Regional Standard passed with 77 percent of the votes. The MOPC and the SPP Board of Directors will provide advisory votes during their January meetings. The Regional Entity Trustees will meet in February to determine the regional standard's next step.

[Transmission Working Group](#): The TWG discussed a new process for approving permanent flowgates inside SPP on a quarterly basis, additional annual stability studies, and the SPP Criteria evaluation project. The group approved revisions to references in SPP Criteria 12 and the 2011 TPL Steady-State report to address the TPL compliance needs for 2011. The TWG will continue its review of the 2012 Integrated Transmission Planning Near-Term (ITPNT) and ITP10 studies and recommended plans, and appropriate 2013 ITP studies.

Integrated Marketplace Update

- The Integrated Marketplace program completed a critical milestone in the real-time balancing market systems with the successful development of a basic, five-minute dispatch model using a realistic set of SPP-specific data. Called "RTBM Basic," the tool uses state-of-the-art technology to track work and performance, while also running parallel analysis of six different scenarios every five minutes. RTBM Basic provides a bare-bones running system to begin to building out, debugging, and verifying functionality in several different areas related to the real-time market systems.
- The [draft Open Access Transmission Tariff revisions](#) will be up for approval during a special meeting of the Market and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) December 6. If approved by the MOPC, the tariff language will go before the SPP Board of Directors January 31.
- The Integrated Marketplace protocols have been updated to [version 5.1](#), and is currently out for review before the [Market Working Group](#). Ten additional MPRRs currently remain in various stages of the review process.
- The Transmission Congestion Rights workstream has registered 53 of 142 Market Participants – with 42 of those deemed high priority – for Mock Auction Phase 1. The first phase runs January 16-April 13, with a required phase running April 2-August 31.
- The Registration workstream published and reviewed an updated [Member-Impacting Project Overview](#) November 29.
- The second of three surveys has been issued to potential Marketplace participants to gauge the steps they are taking to mobilize their organizations. The survey follows an initial September survey, and will help illustrate trends over time. A third survey is scheduled for February 2012.
- The Integrated Marketplace has received SPP Finance Committee approval on credit-exposure calculations for Operating Day + 4.

Other Meetings

[Cost Allocation Working Group](#)

[Credit Practices Working Group](#)

[Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee](#)

[Finance Committee](#)

[Generation Working Group](#)

December Meetings

- December 2 – Transmission Working Group
- December 5 – Operations Training Working Group
- December 6 – Markets and Operations Policy Committee
- December 6-8 – Model Development Working Group
- December 7 – Change Working Group
- December 7 – Corporate Governance Committee
- December 7 – Cost Allocation Working Group
- December 8-9 – Regional Tariff Working Group
- December 9 – Transmission Working Group/Economic Studies Working Group
- December 12 – Oversight Committee
- December 12 – Finance Committee
- December 13 – Board of Directors-Members Committee
- December 13-14 – Market Working Group
- December 14 – Business Practices Working Group
- December 19 – Transmission Working Group
- December 20 – Critical Infrastructure Protection 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 [Tom Kleckner](#) in the Communications Department with questions or comments about *The Org Report*.

[SPP Calendar](#)

[The Org Report Back Issues](#)

[SPP Governing Documents](#)