

The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



June 2013

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Marketplace Update: Structured Market Trials begin on schedule

- The Integrated Marketplace Market Trials began in earnest June 3 with the start of the [Structured/Unstructured Test](#). The Structured Market Trials (SMT) run through November 3, and will verify specific business processes and system functions between SPP and market participants (MPs) in a controlled manner. The Go-Live team gave its final approval for the SMT to proceed, following recommendations from the Marketplace program and Change Working Group. SPP will provide updated testing metrics every two weeks throughout SMT to show progress towards integration, in addition to releasing additional functionality not available on June 3.
- The Integrated Marketplace has attracted 112 registered participants, with a June 1 deadline for transactional MPs (those submitting Virtual Energy Offers and Virtual Energy Bids and/or planning to participate in the TCR Markets). MPs who missed this and earlier deadlines will have to wait until April 1, 2014 to participate in the Marketplace – providing they register by Oct. 1, 2013.
- SPP has extended Connectivity Testing into June, giving new MPs and those who have not yet completed the test an opportunity to verify their systems can “talk” with SPP’s Marketplace systems. As many as 52 MPs are eligible to take part in the June 3-28 testing. Forty-nine MPs executed their connectivity tests during the original Connectivity Test, with 45 of those passing.

May Meeting Summaries

[Change Working Group:](#) The CWG discussed whether to start [Structured Market Trials](#) (SMT) June 3 as outlined in the Market Trials Roadmap, before voting to recommend a conditional “go” vote to the Integrated Marketplace Go-Live Team. SPP staff presented its regular updates on the Marketplace – focusing on the primary areas of concern (Market Systems, Settlements, and Market Trials) – Market Systems, Market Participant Readiness, and Towers. SPP staff also updated the group on the Market Monitoring Data Repository, which will soon begin development.

[Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee:](#) The CBASC has reviewed the preliminary findings of the April 29-May 2 SPP Balancing Authority (BA) Readiness Evaluation exercise (11 BAs participated in the evaluation exercise). The participants met with SPP staff from five key areas impacting the CBA: Balancing Operations, Interchange Operations, Compliance, Performance Support and Training, and Management. The exercise team found “SPP Operations has sufficient plans to be able to reliably operate a Balancing Area by March 1, 2014”, while recognizing final readiness will ultimately depend on completion and delivery of further processes, tools, and training to system operators. The CBASC continues to work with SPP staff to develop the BA Operating Protocols document that will provide guidance to the legacy BAs in areas where SPP support is needed to perform the BA function.

[Cost Allocation Working Group:](#) The CAWG heard presentations on the Long-Term Congestion Rights Design Proposal and Aggregate Study Improvement Policy. CAWG members and SPP staff revised the Energy Policy Renewables Survey and Mandate definitions that will be presented to the Economic Studies Working Group in June, and will proceed to the Regional State Committee in July for approval.

[Economic Studies Working Group:](#) SPP staff updated the ESWG on the 2013 Integrated Transmission Planning (ITP) 20-Year Assessment, explaining the benefit metrics and sensitivity analysis, and presenting the Consolidated Portfolio. The group started the discussion about the 2015 ITP10 scope, futures, policy survey, and load/generation review. SPP staff is finalizing the 2013 ITP20 Study and starting the 2015 ITP10 Study; the ESWG intends to approve the 2013 ITP20 report and the 2015 ITP10 draft scope in June.

[Market Working Group:](#) The MWG approved eight Marketplace Protocol Revision Requests (MPRRs). This included finalizing language in MPRR 120 associated with the Mitigated Offer Development Guidelines, which were officially released as Attachment G of the [Marketplace Protocols](#) (version 15.0a). The MWG also continued its review and discussion of the Must Offer Penalty Calculations (MPRR130) and the Enhanced Combined Cycle Design (MPRR101), which is scheduled for post-Go Live implementation.

Model Development Working Group: The MDWG reviewed its stakeholder survey, summarized the 2013 Series Power model build, and reviewed the 2013 Series Dynamic model build. The group approved a revised schedule for the Dynamic build, and approved the 2014 Series Powerflow, Dynamic, and Short Circuit model set. The MDWG also discussed generation tolerances and station load, and modeling-generation retirement practices.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG continued its work on the 2014-2016 strategic plan; the plan is scheduled to be published on SPP.org by July 1. The next **System Operations Conference** is in Springfield, Mo., June 17-20.

Project Cost Working Group: The PCWG discussed potential changes to SPP Business Practices that might be needed to implement FERC Order 1000. The group reviewed draft changes and agreed to continue discussions in June. The PCWG also reviewed an SPP staff recommendation to handle escalation for inflation in cost-estimate reviews; members will review internally and vote during the June meeting. Finally, the group approved changes to the Transmission Working Group's Business Practice Revision (BPR)-035, including a "Legacy Project" definition in the BPR and approving the new document.

Regional Compliance Working Group: The RCWG discussed the efficiency of using certain working group members for monitoring areas of risk, gathering additional information, and formulating quick responses to requests for assistance. SPP staff presented NERC Standard PRC-006-2, which becomes effective on October 1, and discussed with the group ceasing submission of load cap data. The Market Operations and Policy Committee asked the RCWG to provide an endorsement of the SPP Underfrequency Load Shedding plan in July. The group also discussed and reviewed the CBASC Operating Protocols' current status, waivers during deployment testing, restoration plans required by NERC Standard EOP-005-2, Planning Coordinator updates for member companies related to PRC-023, and identification of critical assets by the CIP-002-4 planning coordinator. SPP's Compliance staff will take the lead in compiling an entity evidence work product that will identify the compliance-evidence resources required between SPP and Member Entities.

Regional Tariff Working Group: The MWG presented five MPRRs to the RTWG, which approved four and recommended the Operating Reliability Working Group review the fifth (MPRR 117 – SPP Congestion Management) before the RTWG reviews the tariff revisions. Staff presented MPRR 121 (Removal of NERC's Administration of Reliability and Grid Management Tools), and RTWG Chair Dennis Reed updated the new AG Study and GI Improvements status. Settlements presented the 2011 Loss Matrix Settlement; staff requested direction from the group for 2009 and 2010 loss-matrix resettlement periods. The MWG is working on tariff revisions to implement the Grandfather Agreements Carve Out process, which will be presented to the RTWG in June. SPP staff also updated the group on the Credit Stack Analysis Project.

Seams Steering Committee: The SSC discussed interregional project qualifications that would allow for highway-cost allocation related to FERC Order 1000; reviewed FERC responses to Order 1000 compliance filings from multiple planning regions and interregional compliance updates; and proposed changes to Joint Operating Agreements. The committee created a task force to develop a recommendation for addressing third-party pacts when identified in either a Generation Interconnection Study or an Aggregate Study. SPP Staff presented proposed edits to the Congestion Management Process' Appendix G, providing clarity in making flowgate allocation adjustments.

Transmission Working Group: The TWG discussed and approved how SPP will define a reliability need in the 2014 Integrated Transmission Planning Near-Term Assessment's (ITPNT) consolidated balancing authority scenario. The group also approved other modifications to the 2014 ITPNT scope, discussed the upcoming 2015 ITP 10-Year Assessment's scope, approved the 2013 annual flowgate candidates and TRM values, and approved a transient voltage-recovery requirement in preparation of the new TPL-001-4 Standard. The TWG formed a new task force – High Priority Incremental Load Study Task Force – to develop a scope for the Board of Directors' high-priority study that will analyze the SPP footprint's high-load potential.

Other Meetings

Business Practices Working Group

Credit Practices Working Group

Generation Working Group

System Protection and Control Working Group

June Meetings

June 6 – Economic Studies Working Group

June 10 – Oversight Committee

June 10-11 – Board of Directors Educational Workshop

June 11 – Market Working Group
June 11 – Project Cost Working Group
June 12 – Cost Allocation Working Group
June 13 – Settlement Users Conference
June 14 – Generation Working Group
June 17 – Business Practices Working Group
June 17-20 – System Operations Conference
June 18 – SPP Regional Entity Trustees
June 18-19 – Market Working Group
June 19-20 – Change Working Group
June 19-20 – Operating Reliability Working Group
June 20 – Operations Training Working Group
June 21 – Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee
June 21 – Regional Tariff Working Group
June 26 – Transmission Working Group
June 26-27 – Regional Tariff Working Group

July Meeting

July 1 – Seams Steering Committee

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*.

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