

The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



September 2013

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Marketplace Update: Program evaluating impact of potential TCR delay

- The Integrated Marketplace program is evaluating the impacts of delaying the Transmission Congestion Rights (TCR) Market's Go-Live, following a request by the [Change Working Group \(CWG\)](#) during its August meeting. The CWG request relates only to the October 18 start of the TCR Market, not the Marketplace's March 1, 2014 Go-Live.
- The Settlements Structured Market Trials (SMT) calendar is tracking as scheduled after the team met its first target date by posting settlement statements August 12. [SMT](#) concludes in November, setting the stage for the [Parallel Operations Test](#), which is scheduled to begin November 12. The Marketplace program has completed 28 official Operating Days during SMT, and will begin supporting five Operating Days a week in September.
- The Integrated Marketplace's [online Q&A document](#) contains 1,143 questions and their answers, providing a treasure trove of Marketplace how-tos, whys, and other information for market participants. The Q&A document – updated monthly on SPP.org – includes Q&As produced through the Request Management System (635 total), Customer Training's Marketplace Clinics (483), and the Settlements kickoff session (25).

August Meeting Summaries

[Business Practices Working Group:](#) The BPWG evaluated improvements to the Generator Interconnection Agreement (GIA) and Aggregate Transmission Service Study-Backlog Clearing Process (ATSS-BCP), and began discussion on the new Aggregate Transmission Service Study mechanics. The group plans to present the GIA-improvement process and the ATSS-BCP, complete with tariff revisions, at the October [Market and Operations Policy Committee \(MOPC\)](#) meeting. The BPWG also reviewed various Integrated Marketplace-related Business Practice Revisions; those approved within sufficient timelines will be presented to MOPC in October.

[Change Working Group:](#) The CWG focused much of its discussion on the Transmission Congestion Rights (TCR) Market Go-Live. The group agreed to discuss in September the impact of possible TCR Market delays to the Integrated Marketplace's overall schedule. SPP staff updated the CWG on the Regulatory and Market System workstreams, Testing tower, Settlements, Participant Readiness, Member Outreach, and Parallel Operations.

[Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee:](#) The CBASC continued development of the Consolidated Balancing Authority (BA) Operating Protocols, providing guidance and instruction on support needed from current BAs as SPP becomes the sole BA registrant. The CBASC is also working with SPP staff to finalize compliance waivers after receiving the SERC Reliability Corporation's recommended approval; the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)'s final approval has yet to be received.

[Corporate Governance Committee:](#) The committee finalized candidates for the Board of Directors (Phyllis Bernard and Julian Brix), Regional Entity Trustees (John Meyer), and Members Committee (Kelly Harrison, Stuart Solomon, Noman Williams, Jeff Knottek, and Rob Janssen). Elections will take place during the [Annual Meeting of Members](#) in October. The committee is also recommending Dave Osburn for election to fill the Municipals' seat vacated by Cindy Holman's retirement. Finally, the committee is recommending Venita McCellon-Allen to fill a pending vacancy on the Strategic Planning Committee. The Governance Committee set addition of an investor-owned utility and a new seat for independent transmission companies on the Members Committee as future agenda items. A recommendation to file for recovery of a FERC penalty through Schedule 1-A will be provided to the Board in October.

[Cost Allocation Working Group:](#) The CAWG heard presentations on the Long-Term Congestion Rights Task Force principles; FERC guidelines and design; benefits metrics; Energy Renewables Survey responses; and third-party impact on cost allocation. The group also reviewed the 2015 ITP10 (Integrated Transmission Plan 10-Year Assessment) Futures.

Credit Practices Working Group: The CPWG voted unanimously to make minimal but important changes to the Open Access Transmission Tariff Credit Policy's (Attachment X) Sections 5A.2 and 5A.2.1 for the Integrated Marketplace. This change will correct a signage issue within these sections.

Market Working Group: The MWG held three meetings during August to continue its review and approval of pending Marketplace Protocol Revision Requests (MPRRs) that need to make it through the SPP stakeholder process before the October MOPC meeting. The approved MPRRs included several for the Integrated Marketplace's Go-Live and others associated with critical post-Go-Live changes, such as MPRR138-Long Term Congestion Rights and MPRR101-Enhanced Combined Cycle.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG is in the final stages of planning the 2014 Regional Operations course offerings; the deliverables will be voted upon in September, so they can be published in the fall. The OTWG and SPP Customer Training have researched recent satisfaction surveys and course evaluations to ensure all recommendations are considered, and will also thoroughly analyze the offerings so they are timely, relevant, and foster a culture of reliability and compliance. The two groups are evaluating the 2014 pre- and post-implementation Integrated Marketplace deliverables to ensure training is preparing Market Participants for a successful Go-Live on March 1, 2014, and beyond.

Project Cost Working Group: The PCWG reviewed FERC's response to SPP's compliance filing for FERC Order 1000 and discussed its impact to the cost-estimation process. The group discussed the MOPC's action item to review the current monitoring process of Legacy Projects – projects issued Notifications to Construct prior to Jan. 1, 2012 – for costs that change beyond the current quarter's timeframe. SPP staff briefed the PCWG on the Aggregate Study process' current cost-estimation timeline, and how the proposed process changes would impact those timeframes. The group also discussed the Notification to Construct with Conditions (NTC-C) process' exclusion from both the Aggregate Study and Delivery Point Addition Study processes. The PCWG identified September agenda items, including the continuation of discussions on Legacy Project monitoring, cost-estimation timelines, and the exclusion of the NTC-C process for non-ITP study processes.

Regional Compliance Working Group: The RCWG was updated on the NERC Reliability Assurance Initiative (RAI); an RAI Impacts and Benefit document will be posted in September. Two surveys will be available in coming months for responses from Registered Entities: one related to RAI on RSAWs (Reliability Standard Audit Worksheets) and data retention, the second a NERC Compliance and Certification Committee stakeholder survey. The RCWG was also updated on the CBASC and activities leading up to the SPP Balancing Authority SERC certification in November. Staff updated the group on the circuit list's status for PRC-023-2 R6; the SPP RTO Engineering department will make the list available in January 2014. Staff also presented the SPP Operations Quality Assurance Process, currently being used by SPP Operations.

Regional Tariff Working Group: The RTWG approved tariff revisions to MPRR 138-Long Term Congestion Rights (LTCR), as presented by the LTCR Task Force. The group reviewed and approved tariff revisions in TRR 097M-Order No. 760 Compliance for Marketplace, and MPRR 132-Reserve Sharing Group Registration and Settlements. Staff presented a brief update on the Z2 Crediting Project. The RTWG scheduled additional meetings in September to review the FERC Order 1000 Regional Compliance tariff language.

Seams Steering Committee: The SSC reviewed topics in the SPP-MISO JOA Market Flow discussions, including MISO's market-flow calculation methodology and changes to the calculation. Staff updated the committee on the most recent Congestion Management Process Working Group activities. Staff also presented the concepts and details of Firm Flow Entitlements and their implementation. The SSC discussed FERC Order 1000, with staff providing updates on regional activities and interregional filings. The committee was also updated on the Operations Reliability Coordination Agreement, and discussed next steps for reviewing third-party impacts from the ATSS and GI Process improvements project. Finally, the SSC reviewed the Seams Activity Report and procedural items related to post-Entergy-ITC orders.

Other Meetings

Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group

Economic Studies Working Group

Generation Working Group

Operating Reliability Working Group

System Protection and Control Working Group

Transmission Working Group

September Meetings

September 6 – Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee

September 6 – Transmission Working Group

September 9 – Project Cost Working Group
September 11 – Change Working Group
September 11-12 – Operating Reliability Working Group
September 11-12 – Regional Tariff Working Group
September 12 – Business Practices Working Group
September 12 – Settlement User Group
September 13 – Finance Committee
September 16 – Operations Training Working Group
September 17-18 – Market Working Group
September 18 – Transmission Working Group
September 18-20 – Change Working Group
September 23-26 – System Operations Conference
September 24 – Finance Committee
September 25-26 – Regional Tariff Working Group
September 26 – Operations Training Working Group
September 26 – Oversight Committee

October Meetings

October 2 – Cost Allocation Working Group
October 3 – Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group
October 3 – 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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