

The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



October 2013

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Marketplace Update: Go-Live Team prepares for decision on TCR Market

- The Integrated Marketplace's Go-Live Team will meet October 11 and decide whether to go live as scheduled a week later with the Transmission Congestion Rights (TCR) market – the first Marketplace business function to be implemented. The [Go-Live Team](#) will review recommendations from SPP and the Change Working Group and an established set of go-live criteria before making its decision. [TCR Market Trials](#) began in January 2013 and wrapped in September, with increased participation and adequate revenue for all October auction periods.
- SPP staff is analyzing a [FERC order](#) issued September 20 accepting in part and rejecting in part a series of compliance filings in the Integrated Marketplace docket. SPP will determine the order's impacts to the Marketplace and next steps; a compliance filing is due to FERC by November 19. FERC issued its initial conditional approval of the Integrated Marketplace on Oct. 18, 2012.
- The program's Settlements team has completed a major milestone by no longer relying on "groundhog data" – sample data – to produce settlements statements. The team's system is now using 100 percent of its upstream data as of the September 25 Operating Day, improving the bid-to-bill experience for [Structured Market Trials](#) (SMT) participants.
- The Integrated Marketplace program's staff is beginning to focus attention to [Parallel Operations](#) and the Integrated Deployment Tests (IDT), which begin November 12. Whereas the ongoing SMT verifies specific business processes and system functions in a very controlled manner between SPP and MPs, Parallel Operations will test SPP's ability to engage production-like business processes supporting the Marketplace's day-ahead and real-time activities. The IDTs will verify SPP's ability to maintain Area Control Error with all MPs and Marketplace-dispatched resources.
- Extended Connectivity Testing wrapped up August 30, with 103 of 111 MPs proving their ability to connect and perform "critical operations". Two of the eight MPs who did not complete testing are still working through the process; the others will be unable to participate in the Marketplace until April 2014.

September Meeting Summaries

[Business Practices Working Group:](#) The BPWG met to evaluate improvements to the Generator Interconnection Agreement (GIA) and Aggregate Transmission Service Study (ATSS) white papers. The modified white papers will be presented to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) in October. The ATSS–Backlog Clearing Process Completion Agreement was also modified for MOPC presentation. Several Integrated Marketplace-driven Business Practice Revision requests were also approved for submission to MOPC.

[Change Working Group:](#) The CWG focused on Market Participant (MP) concerns regarding the Transmission Congestion Rights (TCR) Market's readiness to go live October 18. SPP staff summarized TCRs' end-to-end testing, validation efforts, revenue adequacy, settlements' integration, contingency options, and regulatory implications of a delay, before expressing its confidence in maintaining the go-live date. The CWG reviewed the roadmap to Parallel Operations and Integrated Deployment Tests, pending Marketplace Protocol Revision Requests (MPRRs), and discussed increasing participation in Structured Market Trials. The group also discussed providing additional information for an MP Readiness Forum, and was briefed on the Market Monitoring Data Depository and Phase II post-Go Live projects.

[Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee:](#) The CBASC is wrapping up 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 committee worked with SPP Regional Entity staff to finalize compliance waivers for Control Performance Standards during the Integrated Deployment Test (IDT). The CBASC is working with the Market Trials Review Group to review and provide input for the Parallel Operations and Deployment Test guides, and finalizing the cutover plans into and out of IDT.

[Economic Studies Working Group:](#) The ESGW continued its work developing the 2015 Integrated

Transmission Planning 10-Year Assessment's (ITP10) scope.

Finance Committee: The committee reviewed and approved SPP's 2014 operating budget and 2014-2016 capital budgets. The Finance Committee will review alternatives to the existing structure for billing network integration transmission service under the [SPP Tariff's Schedule 1A](#); the alternatives are intended to reduce the network integration transmission service billing units' variability. The committee also will re-analyze SPP's policy of recovering all of its costs under a bundled rate charged solely to transmission customers; that review is expected to be completed in April 2014.

Market Working Group: The MWG held three meetings during September, continuing its review and approval of pending MPRRs in time for review during the October MOPC meeting. The group also heard from the SPP Project Management Office on the plans and priority of the Marketplace post-go-live projects, and heard from SPP Market Design on the procedure for ARRs/TCRs related to GFA Carve Outs.

Operations Training Working Group: The 2014 Regional Emergency Operations training calendar will be posted to SPP.org November 4; registration the 2014 calendar year opens at 8 a.m. (CDT) November 13 through the [SPP Learning Center](#). Courses include: Net Conferences, REOPs (classroom), Train the Trainer Workshops and Net Conferences, Restoration Drills, Emergency Response Drills, and System Operation Conferences. eLearning topics have been identified; the design and development phases will be conducted throughout 2014. OTWG members and the Integrated Marketplace training team are identifying the on-boarding curriculum for future MPs and their staff.

Oversight Committee: The committee reviewed the 2014 Internal Audit Plan and the usual activity reports from Internal Audit, Market Monitoring, and Compliance. Staff presented a summary report of various audit and monitoring activities that occur throughout the organization. The committee also heard a Market Monitoring report on activities in other markets and potential application for SPP's Integrated Marketplace.

Project Cost Working Group: The PCWG approved a recommendation to MOPC moving all projects applicable to Business Practice (BP) 7050, and with a projected in-service date after Dec. 31, 2013, under BP 7060's cost-monitoring process. The projects' baseline cost estimates will be established as of Jan. 31, 2014. The group also reviewed a project to build a new, 33-mile, 115-kilovolt transmission line after a cost increase greater than 20 percent from its baseline was recognized during the Q4 2013 Project Tracking update cycle. The PCWG determined the cost increase was reasonable and recommended its baseline cost estimate be reset to the updated value. The group reviewed and discussed a proposed schedule for the 2014 Quarterly Project Tracking process.

Regional Tariff Working Group: The RTWG approved a number of MPRRs and Tariff Revenue Requests (TRRs). SPP legal counsel presented FERC Order 1000 regional-compliance revisions in TRRs 104 and 110; SPP staff presented tariff revisions in TRR 107—Generator Interconnection Procedures Revisions. The RTWG was also updated on the Z2 Crediting Project and loss-compensation clarification.

Seams Steering Committee: The SSC reviewed a We Energies' proposal regarding RTO-to-RTO compensation for transmission system use. Staff introduced the negotiations policy statement to the committee; feedback will be provided by members prior to the October meeting. Staff also updated the SSC on MISO South's integration and its impact on reciprocally coordinated flowgates, and the WAPA/Basin/Heartland Integration study. The SSC discussed upcoming joint seams meetings and the 2014 Coordinated System Plan study.

Transmission Working Group: The TWG developed and approved the scope and other key components of the 2015 ITP10. The group reviewed and approved FERC Order 1000 compliance language for merchant transmission developers and approved SPP Business Practice revisions. The TWG also discussed the 2013 TPL Stability Assessment, 2014 ITP Near-Term Assessment, and the WAPA/Basin/Heartland Integration study.

Other Meetings

Cost Allocation Working Group

Credit Practices Working Group

Operating Reliability Working Group

October Meetings

October 8 – Human Resources Committee

October 8 – Project Cost Working Group

October 8-9 – SPP RE Fall Compliance Workshop

October 9-10 – SPP Quarterly Compliance Forum

October 10 – Economic Studies Working Group

October 11 – Generation Working Group
October 15 – Finance Committee
October 15-16 – Markets and Operations Policy Committee
October 17 – Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee
October 17 – Strategic Planning Committee
October 21-24 – System Operations Conference
October 22-23 – Market Working Group
October 23 – Transmission Working Group
October 23-24 – Regional Tariff Working Group
October 23-25 – Change Working Group
October 23-25 -- Settlements Users Conference
October 24 – Operations Training Working Group
October 28 – Regional State Committee
October 28 – SPP RE Trustees
October 29 – Board of Directors/Members Committee Meeting

November Meetings

November 4 – Operations Training Working Group
November 5 – 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*.

[SPP Calendar](#)

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