

The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



February 2014

[Integrated Marketplace Update](#)
[January Meeting Summaries](#)
[Other Meetings](#)
[February Meetings](#)

SPP stakeholders vote to proceed with Integrated Marketplace March 1

SPP will proceed with implementing the [Integrated Marketplace](#) on schedule March 1, following a unanimous favorable vote by the stakeholder-driven Go-Live Team. This will make SPP the first RTO to design, build, and deliver a Day 2 market on time. [Read the full press release.](#)

SPP files FERC complaint over lack of compensation from MISO

SPP filed a complaint with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission January 28 alleging that Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) is violating the Joint Operating Agreement between SPP and MISO and SPP's Open Access Transmission Tariff. [Read the full press release.](#)

Marketplace Update: FERC conditional approval, deployment tests

- The [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission](#) issued two orders January 29 that will allow SPP to go live with the Integrated Marketplace on March 1, as scheduled. The first order [conditionally accepted SPP's Marketplace compliance filing](#), subject to SPP filing additional revisions and explanations. The second order conditionally accepted SPP's November 15 "supplemental" filing, and asks SPP to submit an additional filing to make one minor correction. SPP will make the final compliance filing no later than February 28, with an effective date of March 1.
- SPP and market participants have now successfully completed 13 of 15 Integrated Deployment Tests (IDTs), including two key seven-hour tests. Functionality tests improved with each successive IDT, and SPP verified it could act as the Integrated Marketplace's Balancing Authority (Balancing Authority). Two IDTs are still planned. A February 25 post-maintenance window IDT will test functionality following the system freeze, and a February 28 test will serve as the Marketplace's transition cutover.
- A 30-day reversion period will begin once SPP cuts over to the Integrated Marketplace. During the first 10 days, market participants (MPs) will continue business as usual, submitting to both the Energy Imbalance Service (EIS) Market and Marketplace, as during Parallel Operations (the Marketplace will be the primary system). MPs' EIS systems and processes will be required to go on standby for reversion March 11-30.
- SPP has requested it participate as the SPP BA in the [NERC's Balancing Authority ACE Limit \(BAAL\) field trial](#). This would allow the SPP BA to operate under the more flexible BAAL criteria, rather than control its generation in response to ACE (Area Control Error) under current NERC Control Performance Standards (CPS).

January Meeting Summaries

[Board of Directors/Members Committee:](#) The SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee had a short agenda of action items during its regular quarterly meeting, but did approve the SPP organizational group rosters and several recommendations from the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC). In executive session, the group provided direction to SPP staff on the current legal matters with [Midcontinent ISO \(MISO\)](#). It also considered several recommendations related to performance compensation funding for staff, and adjustments associated with a recent salary survey. The group also re-elected SPP's current officer team.

[Change Working Group:](#) The CWG voted unanimously to move forward with the Integrated Marketplace's implementation as scheduled March 1, contingent on completing certain outstanding critical items. The vote came following updates on the Marketplace's extended maintenance window, remaining system patches, and expectations of market participants during February before Go Live. The CWG was also briefed on Parallel Operations, CROW outage-submission requirements, Marketplace regulatory activities, and the program's

progress with Phase II planning.

Economic Studies Working Group: The ESWG discussed the 2015 [Integrated Transmission Plan's \(ITP\)](#) 10-year assessment's metrics, benchmarking, and incorporating the [Integrated System \(IS\)](#) – nearly 10,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines (IS) belonging to the Western Area Power Administration's [Upper Great Plains Region, Basin Electric Power Cooperative](#), and [Heartland Consumers Power District](#). The ESWG also discussed new interconnections' local and regional impacts.

Finance Committee: The committee reviewed and approved Marketplace Protocol Revision Request (MPRR) 161, which addresses credit requirements preceding the Transmission Congestion Rights (TCR) auction awards.

Generation Working Group: The GWG continued reviewing SPP criteria and incorporating the language into the protocols. The group approved new language impacting Criteria 12.1.5.3.g for accreditation of wind and solar resources capability, provided feedback on SPP's Strategic Plan, and discussed demand-side management's effect on SPP's reserve margin and Loss of Load Expectation study.

Markets and Operations Policy Committee: The MOPC conducted much of its business through the consent agenda, including three criteria changes, five tariff changes, 22 Integrated Marketplace protocol changes, and four Business Practice Revisions (BPRs). The committee had extended debate before approving an MPRR change on out-of-merit energy dispatch instructions. The MOPC approved the 2014 ITP Near-Term (ITPNT) report and \$450 million in its projects, and recommended suspension of one Notice to Construct. A number of other MPRRs and BPRs were debated and approved.

Market Working Group: Chair Richard Ross summarized the January MOPC meeting's key discussions and decisions on items for the Integrated Marketplace's March 1 Go Live. The group was also updated by SPP Congestion Hedging on December's interim TCR auction, and provided input on future TCR data postings. The MWG discussed post-Go Live Marketplace actions, including continued approval and prioritization of MPRRs, and discussed Marketplace Phase 2 projects.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG is preparing for the 2014 training year by offering over 600 continuing education hours, and preparing for the Integrated Marketplace with Go Live and Phase 2 training.

Project Cost Working Group: The PCWG was updated on the two revisions – approved by the group in November – to SPP Business Practice 7060. The group approved a quarterly report to the MOPC; no recommendations were made because no transmission projects subject to PCWG review were out of the cost-estimate variance bandwidth. The group also discussed SPP's 2014 Strategic Plan.

Regional Entity Trustees: General Manager Ron Ciesiel reviewed SPP RE's 2013 activities. Read the [2013 SPP RE Year-End Report](#) for more information. SPP RE staff's 2013 goals/metrics achievement was 104.36 percent. The trustees approved staff performance goals and metrics for 2014; heard updates on the 2013 [NERC Grid Security Exercise](#) and the CIP Version Transition, including FERC Order 791 and the CIP Version 5 Study; and heard updates from the NERC Planning Committee and SPP RE's Compliance, Enforcement, and Event Analysis groups. The SPP RE had 22 events in 2013; 13 were analyzed via NERC's Event Analysis process. Work is underway on the Reliability Assurance Initiative's Auditor Handbook, pilot programs, self-reporting improvements, and enforcement enhancements.

Regional State Committee: The RSC approved hiring an auditor for its 2013 expenses. The committee was updated on a number of topics, including the ITPNT, [High Priority Incremental Load Study](#), integrating IS into SPP, and the conception of cost-allocation for interregional, non-FERC Order 1000 interregional projects.

Regional Tariff Working Group: SPP staff updated the RTWG on the Cost Allocation Forecast and the Z2 Crediting Project, and presented tariff revisions removing transitional language in the [Open Access Transmission Tariff's](#) Attachment F and Section 2.2. Tariff Revision Request (TRR) 117 (Attachment AQ) was presented to the group, which then discussed when Attachment AQ revisions would be applicable.

Seams Steering Committee: The SSC reviewed a TRR regarding a seams transmission project's regional cost allocation; the committee is waiting for RSC feedback. SPP staff updated the SSC on MISO's integration of its South region and the resulting dispatch flow between MISO Midwest and MISO South. MISO and SPP are currently working to incorporate Joint Operating Agreement language agreed to in a Memorandum of Understanding; the language ensures the consistency of calculations for market flow, Firm Flow Limits/Firm Flow Entitlements, and tag impacts. Finally, the SPP-MISO Coordinated System Plan study began when the SPP-MISO Interregional Planning Stakeholder Advisory Committee met in Dallas; SSC members participated, discussing the study's scope.

System Protection & Control Working Group: The SPCWG analyzed misoperations data to reduce reoccurrences. The group is working with SPP staff to determine whether to perform an under-frequency loadshed study in 2014, a year ahead of the normal schedule. The SPCWG is also evaluating current practices of updating short-circuit cases in the [Model Development Working Group's](#) model-building process.

Transmission Working Group: The TWG discussed 2015 ITP 10-Year Assessment-related issues. The group discussed generation and Load Outlet Facilities and Consolidation Methodology for Future 1 and Future 2, and the latest schedule, next steps, and milestones. The TWG was also updated on how the IS will be integrated in

the 2015 ITP10.

Other Meetings

[Business Practices Working Group](#)

[Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee](#)

[Cost Allocation Working Group](#)

[Human Resources Committee](#)

[Operating Reliability Working Group](#)

[Strategic Planning Committee](#)

February Meetings

February 11 – Project Cost Working Group

February 11 – Settlements User Group

February 11-12 – Market Working Group

February 11-12 – Transmission Working Group

February 12 – Cost Allocation Working Group

February 12-13 – Change Working Group

February 12-13 – Operating Reliability Working Group

February 13 – Business Practices Working Group

February 13 – Economic Studies Working Group

February 18 – Settlements User Group

February 20 – Consolidated Balancing Authority Steering Committee

February 20 – Credit Practices Working Group

February 20 – Regional Tariff Working Group

February 21 – Generation Working Group

February 25-26 – SPP RE Spring Workshop

February 26-27 – SPP Quarterly Compliance Forum

February 27 – Corporate Governance Committee

February 27 – Regional Compliance Working Group

March Meetings

March 3 – Operations Training Working Group

March 4 – Seams Steering Committee

March 5 – Cost Allocation 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](#)