

The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



July 2014

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SPP Board approves changes to facilitate Integrated System membership

The SPP Board of Directors approved changes June 9 to the [Open Access Transmission Tariff](#) to accommodate the Integrated System's (IS) SPP membership. The IS is comprised of Western Area Power Administration-Upper Great Plains (Western), Basin Electric Power Cooperative, and Heartland Consumers Power District. The three entities have been discussing the possibility of joining an RTO since late 2011, and each of the IS members have determined SPP is their best option. [Read the full press release.](#)

June Meeting Summaries

[Board of Directors/Members Committee:](#) Special meetings were held for members and the Board of Directors/Members Committee to address proposed revisions to SPP's governing documents facilitating the Integrated Systems entities' (Western-Upper Great Plains, Basin, and Heartland) inclusion. The proposals passed. Staff will continue working with the entities to finalize their membership.

[Business Practices Working Group:](#) The BPWG reviewed updates to Business Practice Revisions (BPRs) 052 (Notification to Construct and Project Cost Estimating) and BPR 053 (Schedule Denial Criteria); both will be presented to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee in July. The BPWG reviewed BPR 051 (Waiver Process in the new Aggregate Transmission Service Study Process) and BPR 054 (FERC Order 1000 Request for Proposal) for action at a later date.

[Change Working Group:](#) The CWG discussed options for revising the notification timing for routine system changes, requesting SPP consider a 36-hour notification; staff will determine how much additional time it can support, and respond. The group is reviewing [Marketplace Protocol Revision Request](#) (MPRR) 182 (Offer Mitigation Transparency) and providing feedback to SPP's Market Design team. Staff also updated the CWG on interface-prices losses and congestion and their impacts, and on the status of the six [Project Pinnacle](#) initiatives.

[Cost Allocation Working Group:](#) The CAWG reviewed the benefits metrics for the Integrated Transmission Planning (ITP) 10-Year Assessment and the Regional Cost Allocation Review 2. The group proposed changes to SPP's wind and solar accreditation and SPP's capacity margin, unanimously approving the latter. The CAWG voted to maintain the original conclusions it reached in April on the wind and solar accreditation.

[Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group:](#) The CIPWG was briefed on the Electric Sector Information Sharing and Analysis Center's programs and the NERC CIPC Security Training Working Group-sponsored security training programs. The group was also updated on the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Version 5 Revisions Standard Drafting Team, the CIP-014 Physical Security Standard Drafting Team, and SPP's Incident Response Planning.

[Economic Studies Working Group:](#) The ESG continued its discussion of benefit metrics.

[Human Resources Committee:](#) The HR Committee welcomed SPP board member Julian Brix as its new chair and Josh Martin (SPP Board of Directors) and Kelly Walters (Empire District Electric) as new members. The committee reviewed the 2013 Performance Compensation distribution process to SPP staff. The SPP HR department explained how it aligns programs, policies, and procedures with SPP's corporate strategy and goals. The committee also reviewed the SPP employee-engagement survey process and current survey questions; the annual survey will be conducted in September.

[Market Working Group:](#) SPP staff updated the MWG on specific areas of the Integrated Marketplace's design and activity, including repricing, turn-around ramp rate factor, and the first full Transmission Congestion Right annual auction. The group discussed the Project Pinnacle's Enhanced Combined Cycle project and several MPRRs; three MPRRs were approved and two rejected.

[Markets and Operations Policy Committee:](#) MOPC considered changes to the SPP tariff for integrating the IS' members. MOPC approved the changes without making a decision on the policies incorporated in those tariff changes.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG has begun preparing its 2015 training calendar, evaluating the courses to ensure quality and timely training is being offered. The group will continue its evaluation over the next few months, while also continuing to develop Project Pinnacle training initiatives.

Oversight Committee: The committee heard reports from Compliance, Internal Audit, and Market Monitoring staff. The committee spent considerable time on the **FERC Order 1000** processes it has been assigned; it expects to complete these on schedule.

Regional Entity Trustees: The Trustees approved the SPP RE's 2015 operating budget of \$11.8 million during a special meeting. The budget reflects an approximate \$16,000 decrease, or -0.1% from the 2014 budget. The Trustees also heard brief staff updates. The revised Bulk Electric System definition effective date is July 1, 2014. NERC's software tool, BESnet, is open for user registration; entities began submitting exceptions July 1. The CIP V3 to V5 pilot project is wrapped up and the **North American Electric Reliability Corporation** (NERC) is finalizing a transition guidance document. Through May 31, SPP RE had 46 incoming violations through May 31, compared to 90 at this time last year.

Regional Tariff Working Group: The RTWG was presented with revisions to BPR 053 (Notification to Construct and Project Cost Estimating Processes) and BPR 052 (Schedule Denial Criteria). The group reviewed and approved tariff revisions in Tariff Revision Request (TRR) 126 (Order 1000 Aggregate Study Revisions), TRR 125 (Order 791 Attachment V Revisions), and TRR 133 (Interest Requirements). Staff also updated the RTWG on the Z2 Crediting Project.

Seams Steering Committee: The SSC was updated on the SPP-MISO Market-to-Market process' implementation. The committee is working on a criteria proposal for a seams project outside of the FERC Order 1000 process. The SSC was also updated on SPP-MISO Joint Operating Agreement revisions accounting for changes to the Emergency Energy Assistance agreement. The committee discussed the Congestion Management Process Working Group's lack of progress allocating excess capacity on reciprocally coordinated flowgates.

Other Meetings

Credit Practices Working Group

Generation Working Group

Operating Reliability Working Group

Project Cost Working Group

Transmission Working Group

July Meetings

July 10 – Economic Studies Working Group

July 10 – Finance Committee

July 10 – Settlement User Group

July 15-16 – Markets and Operations Policy Committee

July 17 – Strategic Planning Committee

July 18 – Generation Working Group

July 22-23 – Market Working Group

July 23-24 – Change Working Group

July 24 – Credit Practices Working Group

July 24 – Regional Tariff Working Group

July 25 – Transmission Working Group

July 28 – Regional Entity Trustees

July 28 – Regional State Committee

July 29 – Board of Directors/Members Committee

August Meetings

August 4 – Operations Training Working Group

August 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*.

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