

# The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



January 2015

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## Project Pinnacle: Long-Term Congestion Rights eyes February implementation

- One of [Project Pinnacle's](#) three remaining projects – Long-Term Congestion Rights — remains on track for its Feb. 1 implementation. Required operating tariff changes to comply with an Oct. 28 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) order are to be filed by Jan. 30.
- Project Pinnacle's Market-to-Market (M2M) and Regulation Compensation projects also remain on schedule to meet their March 1 implementation deadlines. Required tariff changes for both projects were filed by year's end, while M2M testing with MISO is underway, and market participant testing concludes Jan. 23.

## December Meeting Summaries

**Balancing Authority Operating Committee:** The BAOC held its kickoff Dec. 2, electing Paul Johnson (AEP) as chair and Greg McAuley (OG&E) as vice chair (the Operating Reliability Working Group approved the nominations). The committee's charter and its members' roles and responsibilities were also approved.

**Board of Directors/Members Committee:** The Board of Directors instructed the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) to readdress mitigated offers, voting down a modified Marketplace Protocol Revision Request (MPRR) 197 (Variable Operations and Maintenance Cost Clarification). The board reviewed SPP's organizational group assessments and stakeholder-satisfaction surveys, and approved the groups' current rosters. Staff briefed the board and Members Committee on SPP's business-continuity efforts, compliance outreach, and corporate metrics.

**Business Practices Working Group:** The BPWG reviewed and approved Business Practice Revisions 051 (Aggregate Study Procedures) and 056 (Notice to Construct Close-Out and Validation Process); both will be presented in January to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC). The group gave Tariff Revision Request (TRR) 145 (Attachment P Revision for Implementation of the Simultaneous Submission Window module) a courtesy review before its presentation to the Regional Tariff Working Group (RTWG). The RTWG approved TRR 145, which will now be presented to MOPC in January. The BPWG explored options for requiring a 20-minute ramp on certain transactions; additional research will be reviewed in upcoming meetings.

**Change Working Group:** SPP staff updated the CWG on Project Pinnacle's remaining projects and their remaining regulatory approvals.

**Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group:** The CIPWG was briefed on the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee's programs and was updated on the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Version 5 Revisions Standard Drafting Team and the CIP Version 5 Transition Users Group's work. The group was also briefed on the planned regional-response exercise's (SPPEX) results.

**Finance Committee:** The committee reviewed a report from auditor KPMG covering the controls around SPP's market and settlement processes. KPMG issued the report with an unqualified opinion and no noted exception conditions.

**Market Working Group:** The MWG approved three MPRRs, two of which received expedited treatment so they could be recommended to the MOPC for approval in January. MPRR 227 is related to the Long-Term Congestion Rights' (LCTRs) compliance filing, and MPRR 226 is related to settlement-area model change definitions. The MWG also discussed the resource hubs request process and approved three related recommendations to MOPC.

**Markets and Operations Policy Committee:** The MOPC held a teleconference to consider tariff and market-protocol changes by further defining variable operations and maintenance costs in mitigated offers. The committee approved the changes by a 78-percent vote, and recommended the Board of Directors approve the changes in January.

**Operations Training Working Group:** The OTWG is designing and developing its 2015 reliability training courses. The Project Pinnacle Market-to-Market self-study has been released, as 2015 training initiatives

continue to be developed. SPP Customer Training launched its annual NERC-required, year-end evaluation of its training program Dec. 29.

**Project Cost Working Group:** The PCWG reviewed and approved its quarterly report to the MOPC. The report did not include any recommendations, as no updated cost estimates for applicable projects exceeded any of the quarter's established bandwidth thresholds. The PCWG also reviewed and approved the Minimum Design Standard Task Force (MDSTF)'s latest Minimum Design Standards for Competitive Upgrades (MDS) draft. The MDSTF will present the MDS to MOPC in January.

**Regional State Committee:** The RSC discussed non-Order 1000 seams projects cost allocation, LCTRs related to FERC Order 681, the **Strategic Planning Committee's task force** on new members, and possible revisions to the RSC bylaws. The committee also voted on a policy related to non-Order 1000 seams cost allocation.

**Seams Steering Committee:** SPP staff gave the SSC an overview of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) facilities that SPP will assume tariff services for the Integrated System, once it is integrated into SPP's footprints (the WAPA facilities will not be in the SPP Balancing Authority). WAPA's Steve Sanders discussed the facilities and their interconnections with Western Interconnection entities. The SSC held significant discussion regarding procedures to coordinate the development of tie-line flowgates with MISO. Regional Tariff Working Group chair Dennis Reed reviewed his group's development of operating tariff language that incorporates the policies outlined in the SSC's Seams Projects policy paper. The committee asked SPP staff to evaluate the Regional State Committee's regional cost-allocation proposal; specifically whether SPP's previously evaluated seams projects result in one zone receiving more than 60 percent of the benefits.

**System Protection and Control Working Group:** The SPCWG reviewed the results of SPP's latest Under-Frequency Load Shed study, which is performed at least once every five years to determine whether relay schemes that trip for this condition will perform adequately, based on SPP's current system configuration. The group submitted a request to MOPC for approval of changes to the SPCWG charter.

## Other Meetings

**Cost Allocation Working Group**

**Economic Studies Working Group**

**Generation Working Group**

**Operating Reliability Working Group**

**Oversight Committee**

**Regional Tariff Working Group**

**Transmission Working Group**

## January Meetings

Jan. 6 – Cost Allocation Working Groups

Jan. 7 – Balancing Authority Operating Committee

Jan. 7 – Project Cost Working Group

Jan. 8 – Operating Reliability Working Group

Jan. 9 – Generation Working Group

Jan. 9 – Seams Steering Committee

Jan. 13-14 – Markets and Operations Policy Committee

Jan. 15 – Credit Practices Working Group

Jan. 15 – Settlement User Group

Jan. 15 – Strategic Planning Committee

Jan. 20 – Human Resources Committee

Jan. 20-21 – Market Working Group

Jan. 21 – Transmission Working Group

Jan. 21-22 – Change Working Group

Jan. 22 – Regional Tariff Working Group

Jan. 26 – SPP RE Trustees

Jan. 26 – Regional State Committee

Jan. 27 – Board of Directors-Members/Committee Meeting

Jan. 29 – Economic Studies Working Group

**February Meetings**

Feb. 2 – Operations Training Working Group

Feb. 4 – Project Cost Working Group

Feb. 5 – Seams Steering Committee

Feb. 5 – Operating Reliability Working Group

Feb. 6 – Generation Working Group

This is a summary of recent SPP organizational group meetings. For more information about a group, please visit [SPP.org](http://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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