
The Org Report

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.



February 2015

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Former SPP President John Marschewski dies

John J. Marschewski, who led SPP for 15 years and oversaw the company's significant growth, died Feb. 5. He was 73 years old. During his time as president, SPP was incorporated as an Arkansas not-profit organization. Marschewski grew SPP from a company with a tiny staff of four people to a prominent industry player with 115 professionals. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved SPP as a Regional Transmission Organization in 2004, the year Marschewski retired.

"John worked full time in service to others and his face ALWAYS portrayed an internal happiness that I rarely see," said SPP President and CEO Nick Brown, who called Marschewski his mentor and friend. "I'm thankful for the happiness that John brought to my life and I pray in this Lenten season that I can mimic John's focus on giving to others."

A Helena, Ark., native, John worked for Arkansas Power & Light (now Entergy Arkansas) for 10 years before joining SPP in 1972 as a staff engineer. He later became manager of System Studies and eventually assistant to SPP's executive director, "Mac" M. Riggs. Marschewski succeeded Riggs as executive director when the latter retired in 1989. He was appointed president of SPP in 1994, and also served as staff secretary to SPP's Board of Directors.

Ross, See elected as SPP officers

SPP's Board of Directors elected former Arkansas U.S. Representative Mike Ross as senior vice president of Government Affairs and Malinda See (SPP's longest-serving employee) as vice president of Corporate Services during its January board meeting. SPP President and CEO Nick Brown said, "I am so pleased to welcome Mike and Malinda to the officer team. They bring unique perspectives and leadership experiences that will immediately add to our already strong executive group." [Read the full press release.](#)

Project Pinnacle: Long-Term Congestion Rights goes live

- [Project Pinnacle's](#) Long-Term Congestion Rights (LTCRs) project went live as scheduled Feb. 2 with the verification of candidates for LTCR entitlements; the verification period ends Feb. 13. SPP's Board of Directors earlier approved an LTCR-related Marketplace Protocol Revision Request, and SPP made a necessary compliance filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- Project Pinnacle's final two projects – Regulation Compensation (Reg Comp) and Market-to-Market (M2M) – are both on schedule for their March 1 implementation, which will conclude the Integrated Marketplace's Phase II program. Market testing has been completed for Reg Comp, while M2M "day-in-the-life" workshops are being conducted with the Midcontinent ISO. M2M systems are scheduled to be migrated into production by Feb. 27.

January Meeting Summaries

[Balancing Authority Operating Committee:](#) The BAOC discussed developing a methodology to endorse changes to the Emergency Operating Plan. A draft has been sent out for member review; the BAOC will vote on the measure during February's meeting.

[Board of Directors/Members Committee:](#) The Board of Directors/Members Committee approved the 2015 Integrated Transmission Planning (ITP) 10-Year Assessment and the ITP Near-Term Assessment reports, which recommended \$743 million in upgrades and new construction. The board and committee voted to accept the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan Report, various Notices to Construct (NTCs) from the High Profile Incremental Load Study, but also voted to withdraw or re-evaluate 11 other NTCs, including SWEPCO's Shippe Road-Kings River project in Northwest Arkansas. The board also approved Marketplace Protocol Revision

Request (MPRR) 227 (Long Term Congestion Rights Compliance) and Tariff Revision Request (TRR) 131 (Potential Regional Cost Allocation Review Remedies).

Change Working Group: SPP staff briefed the CWG on Project Pinnacle's go-live plans for its March 1 implementation, an initial cost-benefit analysis of the Integrated Marketplace's performance, available Marketplace training, and pending system releases. Staff also briefed the group on the Integrated Systems project, noting the go-live date remains Oct. 1. The CWG reviewed its processes and the annual stakeholder survey results.

Generation Working Group: The GWG discussed Criteria Revision Request (CRR) 14 and completed a draft to be reviewed by other applicable working groups. The group continues to follow the [Capacity Margin Task Force's](#) direction and how any recommendations will impact the GWG.

Human Resources Committee: The HR Committee reviewed and recommended to SPP's Board of Directors funding for the 2014 employee compensation plan. SPP staff presented the group 2015 Human Resource departmental plans and initiatives. The committee met in executive session to discuss compensation issues.

Market Working Group: The MWG approved five MPRRs and discussed a Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) directive to develop revision requests and a corresponding impact-analysis for the Mitigated Offer Strike Team's interim and long-term approaches to re-design components of the Marketplace-mitigation process. The group defined and approved a stakeholder schedule to push revision requests and impact analyses through the SPP stakeholder process for final MOPC approval in April.

Markets and Operations Policy Committee: The MOPC endorsed further development of the design approach and revision requests for interim and long-term solutions dealing with mitigated offers' variable operations and maintenance expense; an impact study will be prepared for final approval in April. The committee endorsed and approved the 2015 ITP10 and 2015 ITPNT assessments, and endorsed the 2015 SPP Transmission Expansion Plan (STEP) report, recommending the Board of Directors approve all projects and changes. MOPC also approved numerous other protocol and tariff revisions.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG discussed the January launch of the 2015 Reliability Training course offerings. The Restoration Principles Self-Study is now released. Integrated Marketplace Training has scheduled its first 2015 Reliability Unit Commitment (RUC) net conference.

Regional Compliance Working Group: The RCWG discussed the Coordination of Tie-Line Flowgate additions, its assigned Strategic Plan initiatives, and CRR 14, making one language revision. The group re-elected Jennifer Flandermeyer (Kansas City Power & Light) and John Allen (City Utilities of Springfield) to two-year terms as chair and vice-chair, respectively.

Regional Entity Trustees: SPP RE staff presented the 2014 Year-End Report, which found staff achieved about 122 percent of its 2014 goals and metrics. The SPP RE Enforcement group received the lowest number of incoming violations in 2014 it has received since 2009. The regional relay operations success rate reversed a declining trend noticed in 2013, and now stands near its highest performance level in four years of tracking. The Facility Ratings Alert program is coming to an end; approximately 6,800 ratings discrepancies were found in the SPP RE region. Registered entities' remediation of ratings discrepancies is well underway and expected to be completed by the end of 2016. The Trustees also heard updates on recent system events, the Bulk Electric System Definition activity, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation's Compliance and Certification Committee, Inherent Risk Assessment /Internal Controls Evaluation, Critical Infrastructure Protection, and 2015 staff performance goals and metrics.

Regional State Committee: The RSC approved hiring an auditor for its 2014 expenses and tax-form preparation. The committee approved the proposed cost allocation for non-Order 1000 seams projects and changes to the Integrated Marketplace's Long-Term Congestion Rights, and provided requested feedback to the [Strategic Planning Committee's task force](#) on new members. The RSC was updated on a number of topics, including the ITPNT and STEP, seams issues, the [Regional Allocation Review Task Force](#), the Integrated Marketplace, and the Environmental Protection Agency's [Clean Power Plan](#).

Regional Tariff Working Group: SPP staff presented TRR 150 (Firm Service Re-dispatch) and updated the RTWG on the Z2 Crediting project. The group reviewed and discussed its charter and its stakeholder survey results.

Seams Steering Committee: SPP staff updated the SSC on procedures being developed to improve coordination on flowgates with a tie-line. The committee reviewed analysis regarding distribution of potential benefits from seams projects to evaluate the likelihood a seams project will benefit primarily just one SPP zone. The SSC reviewed its 2014 work plan and discussed how it should be updated for 2015. SPP legal staff updated the committee on recent FERC orders regarding interregional Order 1000 filings from various entities. SPP has not yet received an order, but these may be indicative of what it can expect. The SCC will focus on market-to-market issues in February.

Transmission Working Group: The TWG approved two Notice To Construct re-evaluations.

Other Meetings

[Cost Allocation Working Group](#)

[Credit Practices Working Group](#)

[Economic Studies Working Group](#)

[Model Development Working Group](#)

[Project Cost Working Group](#)

[Strategic Planning Committee](#)

February Meetings

Feb. 6 – Generation Working Group

Feb. 9 – Business Practices Working Group

Feb. 10-11 – Market Working Group

Feb. 11 – Economic Studies Working Group

Feb. 11-12 – System Protection and Control Working Group

Feb. 12 – Change Working Group

Feb. 12 – Cost Allocation Working Group

Feb. 12 – Settlement User Group

Feb. 17 – Balancing Authority Operating Committee

Feb. 17 – Regional Entity Trustees

Feb. 17-18 – Transmission Working Group

Feb. 18-19 – Economic Studies Working Group

Feb. 19 – Credit Practices Working Group

Feb. 26 – Corporate Governance Committee

Feb. 26 – Regional Tariff Working Group

Feb. 18-19 – Economic Studies Working Group

March Meetings

March 2 – Operations Training Working Group

March 3 – Cost Allocation Working Group

March 4 – Project Cost Working Group

March 5 – Seams Steering Committee

March 4-5 – Operating Reliability 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*.

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