



## THE ORG REPORT: JANUARY 2016

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.

### JANUARY 26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS/MEMBERS COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

---

At the Jan. 26 meeting of [the Board of Directors and Members Committee](#) in Oklahoma City:

- Members elected Graham Edwards and Bruce Scherr to the company's board of directors. The appointments are effective immediately and expand the company's board of directors to nine members. ([A press release is available on SPP.org](#) including Mr. Edwards's and Mr. Scherr's biographies.)
- SPP President and CEO Nick Brown gave a report regarding the company's goals and areas of focus in 2016; acknowledged the work done on SPP's Value of Transmission study and campaign; congratulated Dennis Reed, who retired from Westar in December 2015, on his tenure and accomplishments as chair of the Regional Tariff Working Group; and reminded the group of the expansion of the SPP Regional Entity Trustee's roster from three to four members.
- SPP Senior Vice President Mike Ross reported on the Value of Transmission study recently completed by staff and shared materials that will be used throughout 2016 to promote the study's findings across SPP's footprint.

Full minutes from the meeting are available [on SPP.org in the BOD/MC Meeting Materials folder](#).

### JANUARY MEETING SUMMARIES

---

#### **BALANCING AUTHORITY OPERATING COMMITTEE (BAOC): JAN. 21**

As outlined in the BA Operating Protocols, the members are in the process of doing an annual review of their tie line and frequency measurement data. The updated information is shared with SPP staff.

Members were requested to provide input on the approach of using geographic zone notifications during severe weather. We want the notifications to be meaningful and useful.

SPP staff and committee members are in the process of updating the Emergency Operations Plan to replace "Market Participant" with the NERC-defined entity name instead.

### *CHANGE WORKING GROUP (CWG): JAN. 21*

The CWG discussed the Z2 Credit Stacking project and upcoming Markets, Settlements and Transmission Congestion Rights releases along with the Multi-Day Tagging release planned for January 2016 and changes to address FERC Order 676-H (NITS Web OASIS Modifications), which will be effective in April 2016.

### *COST ALLOCATION WORKING GROUP (CAWG): JAN. 5*

The CAWG approved a recommendation to conduct an annual review of the combined Summer Wind Capacity and Winter Capacity Report, which will encompass the previous two seasons beginning January 2017. The group received updates on the Z2 Project and the Payment Plan and Staggered Billing Approach; the Capacity Margin Task Force's efforts including next steps in their approval cycle; and the Non-Order 1000 Interregional Cost Allocation Order. They also reviewed a draft presentation regarding the Aggregate Study Waiver Criteria Scope, to be presented to the Regional State Committee on Jan. 25. The next CAWG meeting – a web conference – is Feb. 9.

### *ECONOMIC STUDIES WORKING GROUP (ESWG): JAN. 21*

The ESWG continued review of the models to be used for the 2017 ITP10 and RCAR II assessments, and they continued work on the methodologies to be used in the development of a final transmission plan for the 2017 ITP10.

### *GENERATION WORKING GROUP (GWG)*

The GWG did not meet in January, but chairman Mitch Williams presented to the Cost Allocation Working Group and Market and Operations Policy Committee the group's report on operational data from the summer season of 2015. The next meeting will be in Denver, Colo., on Feb. 2, where the group will discuss upcoming enforceable NERC Standards, recent operational events and goals for 2016.

### *MARKET WORKING GROUP (MWG): JAN. 19-20; 28*

The MWG discussed "Why Do Market Participants Hedge?" and "Renewable Energy: Paradigm Shift in Power Markets." The group reviewed Revision Request (RR) 145 (OOME Clarification) and scheduled a Jan. 28 conference call to continue this work. They also reviewed and approved the Price Formation Task Force Charter and discussed a new revision request to clarify settlement calculations to multi-configuration combined cycle resources.

### *MARKETS AND OPERATIONS POLICY COMMITTEE (MOPC): JAN. 12-13*

The MOPC held its quarterly meeting Jan. 12-13 in Oklahoma City with 139 in attendance. The Capacity Margin Task Force held an educational session the first four hours to provide an overview of load-serving entities. The MOPC voted to approve 17 revision requests and to approve staff's recommendations on four project re-evaluations and the 2016 SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.

### *OPERATING RELIABILITY WORKING GROUP (ORWG): JAN. 6-7*

The ORWG met in Denver, Colo., on Jan. 6-7 and approved a consent agenda of five items. They recorded six action items, discussed the Capacity Deficiency Load Shed Test and provided an update to the Wind Integration Study.

The group elected a new vice chairman — Ron Gunderson with Nebraska Public Power District — and approved changes to their charter, which includes increasing the charter size to 19 members.

The ORWG approved RR141 (SOL Methodology Revisions) and an ORWG endorsement to make the Reliability Compliance Working Group the secondary reviewer for operating criteria.

The group also discussed the Nov. 26-28, 2015, extreme weather event; RR134 (Outage Scheduler Derate Threshold); RR140 (30-Minute Standardization of Ratings), Formal System Restoration Drill Invitations for 2016; the SPP Communications Protocol; RR131 (XML Reliability Clarification); Outage Coordination Metrics; 2016 ORWG goals; coordinated operating criteria review and the Dec. 18 Multi-Unit Contingency event.

### *OPERATIONS TRAINING WORKING GROUP (OTWG): JAN. 11*

The OTWG reviewed working group survey results and several new group member nominations. The group heard updates on preparations for this year's System Operations Conferences, dispatcher training simulators and Marketplace training. They also heard details on an upcoming test of the load-shed process and were reminded to submit contact information updates.

The group discussed plans to assess the impact of no-shows at instructor-led trainings. No-shows will be tracked throughout 2016, and a preliminary plan will be drafted by the end of the year that will address the need to recover catering and printing costs.

The OTWG will continue to seek nominations for a member from either the TO or TU sector for its remaining open seat.

### *PROJECT COST WORKING GROUP (PCWG): JAN. 6*

The PCWG completed a first draft of a new business practice that defines a methodology for determining when a competitive upgrade has reached the 50 percent completion milestone. Attachment Y provides that a 2 percent cash deposit required by a Designated Transmission Owner (DTO) upon accepting the responsibilities of developing a competitive upgrade be refunded to the DTO when the 50 percent completion milestone is reached. The new business practice describes the process for making this determination.

### *REGIONAL ENTITY (RE) TRUSTEES: JAN. 25*

The SPP RE Trustees met in Oklahoma City and via webinar. The trustees heard presentations on NERC Compliance and Certification Committee activities, 2015 system events, financials, critical infrastructure protection, enforcement and a 2015 year-in-review. The trustees approved staff's 2015 goals and metrics performance of 114.7 percent and approved new performance goals for 2016.

### *REGIONAL STATE COMMITTEE (RSC): JAN. 25*

The RSC held an educational session and its quarterly meeting Jan. 25. They voted unanimously to engage Thomas & Thomas to perform its 2015 audit and tax filings and to authorize RSC President Pat Lyons to execute engagement documents.

The RSC welcomed Dennis Grennan as its new member for the Nebraska Power Review Board. Updates presented to the RSC included the work of the Cost Allocation Working Group, Regional Allocation Review Task Force, Capacity Margin Task Force and Transmission Planning Improvement Task Force; FERC's order on SPP's Non-Order 1000 Seams Filing; EPA Clean Power Plan Rule 111(d); the SPP Transmission Expansion Planning Report; seams matters; the Integrated Marketplace and the 2017 ITP10 scope.

The next regular meeting of the RSC will be an in-person meeting April 25 in Santa Fe, N.M.

### *STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (SPC): JAN. 14*

At the SPC's meeting in Oklahoma City, Noman Williams reported on activity at the recent Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) meeting and their discussion of the Z2 project.

The SPC discussed the efforts of the Capacity Margin Task Force and the Transmission Planning Improvement Task Force (TPITF). Brian Gedrich noted that the MOPC will hold an educational session on the TPITF in April and that they would like SPC concurrence for recommendations to be brought to the MOPC and board in April.

The committee approved two whitepapers (Mass-based v. Rate-based Comparison and Assessment of EPA's Proposed Federal Plan) and endorsed draft comments consistent with the Assessment of the Proposed Federal Plan whitepaper to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Lanny Nickell also noted that the task force developed talking points associated with the EPA's Clean Power Plan (CPP). Mike Wise noted that the task force would remain inactive until further CPP developments.

The committee discussed staff's suggestion to create an Advanced Technology Steering Committee under the SPC. There was mixed support. Concerns expressed included that:

- It may be more appropriate for the steering committee to report to the MOPC and its working groups;
- A forum or workshop would be more appropriate; and
- SPP should not be performance research and development on behalf of its member companies.

Staff was tasked to revise the scope for reconsideration.

The committee also received a preview of staff's Value of Transmission study.

#### ***SYSTEM PROTECTION & CONTROL WORKING GROUP (SPCWG): JAN. 13-14***

The SPCWG met in Dallas on Jan. 13-14, where it reviewed the misoperations report for the third quarter of 2015 and began developing a submission form for remedial action schemes. Additional working groups will review the draft form.

The SPCWG continued revising the setting errors whitepaper, which will be updated with current misoperation graphs and made available for final review in February.

The SPCWG approved two revision requests (RR). One corrected Planning Criteria 8.3.1 to reference the current effective version of NERC PRC-006 standard. The other eliminated the conflict or duplication of specific criteria and NERC standards by removing from the Planning Criteria items covered by the various NERC standards. These RRs are now being routed per SPP's RR process.

The SPCWG's next meeting will be in Little Rock on April 13-14.

#### ***TRANSMISSION WORKING GROUP (TWG): JAN. 20***

At the TWG's Jan. 20 meeting, Travis Hyde was introduced as the TWG chair, and Nathan McNeil was named its vice chair. The TWG approved a revised version of Revision Request 141 and approved the generator outlet facilities for the 2017 ITP10 and RCAR II assessment. The group also received updates on the 2016 ITP Near-Term and 2017 ITP10 and RCAR II powerflow models.



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

---

To view the current schedule of meetings, [visit the SPP.org Calendar](#).

For more information about an SPP organizational group, [go to SPP.org's Org Groups page](#).

Please [contact Derek Wingfield](#) in the SPP Communications Department with questions or comments about *The Org Report*. Back issues of *The Org Report* are [available here](#).