



THE ORG REPORT: MARCH 2016

A monthly summary of organizational group activities.

MARCH MEETING SUMMARIES

[BALANCING AUTHORITY OPERATING COMMITTEE \(BAOC\)](#)

The BAOC did not meet in February. Its members are reviewing the Balancing Authority Operating Protocols and will discuss revisions at their April meeting.

[BUSINESS PRACTICES WORKING GROUP \(BPWG\): MARCH 18](#)

The BPWG met via teleconference to review RR 158 (Determination of Network Load) and RR 88 (Release of Unscheduled Firm Timing Modification).

Review of RR 158 was a courtesy review, as it will need to pass through the Regional Tariff Working Group (RTWG) prior to approval by the BPWG. The RTWG will review RR 158 at their April meeting, and if approved it will return to the BPWG in May.

RR 88 will be reviewed again at the BPWG face-to-face meeting in Dallas on April 21.

[COST ALLOCATION WORKING GROUP \(CAWG\): MARCH 1](#)

The CAWG reviewed the most recent changes to the current draft of the New Member Cost Allocation Review Process and were to submit edits by March 15.

The group reviewed a draft of the Aggregate Study Waiver Scope presentation that will be given to the Regional State Committee on April 25 and were to submit suggested changes by March 25.

The CAWG heard an update on the Capacity Margin Task Force policy proposal and were scheduled to vote on the proposed package April 5.

Lastly, the group discussed each state with regard to the Supreme Court's recent stay of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION WORKING GROUP (CIPWG): MARCH 14

The CIPWG received a briefing on the North American Electric Reliability Corporation's (NERC) Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee's (CIPC) programs and heard a presentation regarding the University of Arkansas's Secure Evolvable Energy Delivery Systems (SEEDS) program. The group sought a delegate and alternates to represent the region on the CIPC representation and discussed recent security threats, notably the December incident in the Ukraine, and information-sharing options.

GAS ELECTRIC COORDINATION TASK FORCE (GECTF)

The GECTC did not meet in March. However, SPP staff modified the Multi-Day Assessment research results as requested at their February meeting and discussed the results with the group's chairwoman. Staff and the GECTF chairwoman continue to work on the analysis, which they plan to present to the group at their next meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (FC): MARCH 11

The Finance Committee met with the investment manager responsible for managing the SPP Retirement Plan's assets and reviewed prior year performance and expectations for the future, in doing so satisfying its fiduciary requirements.

The Committee also reviewed SPP's project management practices in light of escalating costs and potential delays in the development and implementation of the Z2 project.

Finally, the Committee heard a detailed report on SPP's settlements functions, the issues facing the Settlements department and strategies planned to overcome those issues.

MARKET WORKING GROUP (MWG): MARCH 22

The MWG reviewed a recommendation from the SPP Market Monitoring Unit's 2014 Annual State of the Market Report to remove bilateral settlement schedules from over-collected loss rebates. The MWG discussed the multi-configuration-based, combined-cycle resource settlement design enhancements and reviewed recommended changes to the enhanced combined cycle project.

MODEL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP (MDWG): MARCH 14

The group finalized the 2016 series MDWG powerflow models.

OPERATING RELIABILITY WORKING GROUP (ORWG): MARCH 2-3

The ORWG approved a consent agenda, RRs 156 and 147, the SPP Operations Communications Protocol, the SPP RC Restoration Plan, the Wind Integration Study and Recommendations, the Operating Criteria Review Task Force Charter and the Voltage Task Force Charter.

Additionally, the group discussed the following:

- RR 134 (Outage Scheduler Derate Threshold)
- RR 131 (XML Reliability Clarification)
- RR 140 (30-Minute Standardization of Ratings)
- EOP 006 (Annual Restoration Drill Invitations from the SPP RC)
- SPP's approach to model review of real-time voltage
- Temporary/permanent flowgates and notifications
- Posting of TOP next-day studies
- Public and secure reliability-related documents

OPERATIONS TRAINING WORKING GROUP (OTWG): MARCH 7 & 24

The OTWG met twice this month to discuss reliability and Marketplace training.

SPP held the first System Operations Conference (SOC) of 2016 on March 21-24 with more than 40 attendees. The conference was a success and is scheduled next at Lafayette Utility System (LUS) in April.

Preparations for the first Partial System Restoration Drill are underway. The drill will take place June 7 and will be coordinated with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

Members were reminded about:

- The upcoming timeline change to the Day-Ahead Market
- Submitting topics for the Marketplace Symposium
- Upcoming Reliability training sessions
- Registering for upcoming Marketplace training sessions

The group received a briefing on a proposed PER 006-1 standard, and members are encouraged to review the proposed standard and attend a question-and-answer session hosted by the reliability standards group April 11 from 1-4 p.m. CDT.

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

PROJECT COST WORKING GROUP (PCWG): MARCH 2

The PCWG reviewed the Nebraska City – Mullin Creek – Sibley 345 kV project due to a cost variance recognized during the project tracking update cycle for the quarter.

The PCWG will review any project with an estimated cost greater than \$20 million and a nominal operating voltage greater than 100 kV if an update to the cost estimate for the project exceeds a ± 20 percent bandwidth from the established baseline estimate. The latest estimate for the Nebraska City – Mullin Creek – Sibley 345 kV project was found to be 21.5 percent lower than the established baseline.

The PCWG approved a recommendation to the SPP board of directors that the cost-estimate deviation be considered acceptable and the baseline estimate for the project be reset to the updated value.

RELIABILITY COMPLIANCE WORKING GROUP (RCWG): MARCH 17

The RCWG approved the facilitation of an ORWG task force and looks forward to participation on the Operating Criteria Review Task Force (OCRTF). The RCWG chairwoman and vice chairman, along with two other voting members, were to submit nominations for the new group by March 29.

The group unanimously passed RR 141 (SOL Methodology Revisions) and RR 146 (Remove Revision Request Process from SPP Operating Criteria).

The group agreed to endorse structure changes to the standards subcommittee, which will assume a more formal role as an RE stakeholder group serving as an approved entity for submission of implementation guidance related to proposed electric reliability organization (ERO) endorsement.

In addition, the RCWG endorsed a joint effort with the System Protection and Control Working Group (SPCWG) to host a misoperations summit with ERO participation to build a collaborative environment to discuss issues and brainstorm options for performance improvements. The collaboration, an example of excellence and leadership in our footprint, is intended to identify potential changes in performance and achieve positive results.

REGIONAL TARIFF WORKING GROUP (RTWG): MARCH 24

SPP staff presented an update on the Z2 project, noting the member onsite verification meeting has been rescheduled to the end of May.

The RTWG approved RR 156 (Modification to BP 7650 DPP Clarification); RR 147 (50 percent Project Completion Milestone Determination for Competitive Upgrades); Business Practice RRs 148, 149 and 150 (all updates and corrections); RR 142 (Quick-Start Multi-Configuration Ineligibility); RR154 (Repricing Timelines and Requirements) and RR160 (Generation and Transmission Service in the ITP).

John Allen, vice chairman of the RCWG, presented the RCWG Revision Request Task Force Recommendation Report. John added the newly formed task force would review and provide expertise to other working groups on regional compliance matters, focusing on reliability standards and SPP criteria.

SYSTEM PROTECTION AND CONTROL WORKING GROUP (SPCWG)

The misoperation subgroup of the SPCWG met with the SPP Regional Entity and reviewed 2015 Q4 misoperations. There continues to be questions on determination of misoperations, especially when the operation involves multiple events or abnormal conditions. The SPCWG will discuss at the April meeting a joint effort between the RCWG and SPCWG to facilitate a misoperation summit in the fall.

TRANSMISSION WORKING GROUP (TWG): MARCH 16 & 29

On their March 16 meeting, the TWG discussed Revision Requests 156, 141 and 140. They approved Revision Requests 156 and 141 as presented but did not approve 140.

The group discussed inclusion of TPL-001-4 planning events into the 2017 ITP10. Staff asked the TWG for additional ideas to speed up analysis and reduce impacts to the schedule and resources and agreed to review the group's suggestions. The TWG also approved a recommendation to accelerate certain notifications to construct (NTC) in the SPP Wind Integration Study.

During the March 29 meeting, the TWG approved the 2016 ITPNT as completion of the requirements identified in Attachment O and recommended NTC be issued based upon whether the included projects meet the designated criteria.

The group reviewed results of a study evaluating the Integrating TO's against SPP Criteria. They approved a recommendation to request the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) remove the additional TPL-001-4 analysis from the 2017 ITP10 Scope.

The TWG also approved the consolidation methodology for the 2017 ITP10 reliability projects.

Finally, the group approved the 2017 ITPNT Scope and recommended it for approval at the MOPC's April meeting.



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](#).

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