

Information Notice for RFP000002 Sooner-Wekiwa 345kV

Clarification on Communication Systems Redundancy Requirement

April 16, 2020

On March 17, 2020, SPP published a question and answer log¹ (Q&A) that responded to questions seeking clarification on how to interpret the redundant communication system path from the Minimum Transmission Design Standards Rev2² (MTDS) when responding to the RFP-0000002 Sooner-Wekiwa 345kV (Sooner-Wekiwa) Request for Proposal (RFP). SPP directed that one communication path will need to be fiber and that the redundant path could be a separate fiber cable or high-speed PLC or microwave. The Q&A also directed that multiple fibers within a single OPGW are not considered a redundant communication path. At this time, the direction required two separate cable paths but did not require the redundant path to be fiber.

Since publishing the March 17th Q&A, SPP received additional information and clarification regarding what is required for the redundant path. The additional information required that in order to meet the redundancy requirement, a separate fiber path by means of a separate conductor shall be utilized. This is consistent with the March 17 requirement to use a separate cable, but does direct that the redundant path be a fiber communication path.

¹Sooner-Wekiwa RFP Q&A Log - <https://spp.org/spp-documents-filings/?id=222892>

²Minimum Transmission Design Standards Rev2_012617
https://spp.org/documents/47424/minimumtransmissiondesignstandards%20rev2_012617.pdf

Reference:

Minimum Transmission Design Standard rev2_012617
Section, Transmission Protection and Control Design
Subsection, Communication Systems:

“Communication Systems Power Line Carrier (PLC) equipment, microwave, or fiber may be used on existing transmission lines consistent with existing in-service technology. PLC shall not be used for lines less than 5 miles due to there liability characteristics of the equipment. Fiber protection schemes shall be used for all new transmission lines.”