

**SOUTHWEST POWER POOL**  
Future Grid Strategy Advisory Group Meeting

March 30, 2022  
Webex / Teleconference Meeting

## **SUMMARY OF MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS**

1. FGSAG members will notify Sam Ellis which topics are needed for further education.
2. SPP Staff will reach out to FGSAG members about availability for upcoming virtual meetings.

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FUTURE GRID STRATEGY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING**

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## MINUTES

### AGENDA ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

Mark Ahlstrom (NextEra), chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. CT.

### AGENDA ITEM 2 – STATEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE

Michael Daly (SPP) reminded attendees that this meeting was public and read the anti-trust notice. The following members were in attendance:

Mark Ahlstrom, NextEra, Chair  
Kamran Ali, AEP  
Scott Benson, LES  
Aaron Doll, Liberty Utilities  
Brian Drumm, ITC Trans Co  
Steve Gaw, APA  
Evan Kinney, NPPD  
Joe Lang, OPPD  
Corey Linville, Sunflower  
Gayle Nansel, WAPA  
Jerrod Nelson, Xcel  
James Okenfuss, Savion  
Dave Sonntag, WFEC  
Terry Wolf, MRES

A quorum was present for the meeting, and the following absences were noted:

- Denise Buffington (Evergy) was absent from the meeting and was not represented by proxy.
- Dmitri Jarocki (Google) was absent from the meeting and was not represented by proxy.

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- Usha Turner (OG&E) was absent from the meeting and represented by Bradley Cochran (OG&E).

A comprehensive attendance list is provided in Attachment 1.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3 – ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

Mark Ahlstrom presented the administrative items to the group. The items included the meeting minutes from March 16, 2022, and the meeting agenda for March 30, 2022. Steve Gaw (APA) motioned to approve the items as presented. Brian Drumm (ITC TransCo) seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition or abstentions.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4 – ACTION ITEM REVIEW**

Michael Daly reviewed the action items from the previous meeting and noted that all were complete. The complete report is located [here](#).

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5 – FOCUS AREA TRENDS BEYOND ROADMAP HORIZON**

Casey Cathey (SPP) reported to the group which items from the topic survey were not captured in the SPP Roadmap. He noted there were some definite gray areas for some items in the survey that were also included in the five-year outlook of the roadmap.

For the Transmission Possibilities focus area, Casey noted that inverter-based resources and the use of artificial intelligence in planning and forecasting would be in the 10-15 year timeframe that the FGSAG will be assessing with its ultimate report to the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC). Other items of note included advanced seams optimization and grid-enhancing technologies, such as topology control and FACTS devices. Ambient Line Ratings will not be within the scope of the FGSAG's assessment, but there will need to be work for Dynamic Line Ratings as we prepare for the future grid.

For the Resource Impacts focus area, Casey reported that the increase of inverter-based resources as well as storage and distributed energy resources will need further study by this team. He noted that new requirements for generator interconnection and system planning will also need further study by this team. New resource technologies, specifically hydrogen, mobile storage resources, and next generation nuclear resources, will warrant investigation by this group.

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For the Consumer Trends focus area, all behind-the-meter technologies will need consideration by this team. These new technologies will affect the demand profiles of the future grid. Other items of importance for this team include thinking about how microgrids, smart metering, and advanced hybrid optimization will influence the future grid.

For the Policy Implications focus area, resource adequacy and cost allocation will be important topics to explore. Cyber security, tax credits, and other environmental, social, and governance initiatives will also need to be considered by this team.

The generator interconnection process is one item from the survey data that will be improved in the next five years; however, the FGSAG may consider what further improvements will be needed to help the future grid.

### **AGENDA ITEM 6 – FOCUS AREA TOPIC REVIEW**

Sam Ellis (SPP) presented the focus area topics. He noted that this presentation represents staff efforts to group the topics from the survey into focus area teams. Previous presentations had listed a team dedicated to information technology needs, and due to a lack of interest from FGSAG members, this team is no longer being proposed. Instead, Sam will make sure the other focus area teams address IT concerns as related to their topics. He noted that staff support will be provided to aid that effort.

There was some discussion about the names of each focus area. Steve Gaw pointed out that the names of each focus area are not walls, which means there will be some overlap in consideration and discussion of issues. Scott Benson (LES) noted that the titles of each focus area are not set in stone and may be modified once each team begins its work.

### **AGENDA ITEM 7 – FOCUS AREA TEAM ASSIGNMENTS**

Sam Ellis reviewed the team assignments for each focus area. He noted that first and second choices from FGSAG members were honored to the extent possible. Stakeholders interested in being a part of the focus area team meetings were encouraged to reach out to Sam and let him know of their interest. As each team meets, meeting information can be forwarded to interested parties.

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#### **AGENDA ITEM 8 – FOCUS AREA TASK/RESPONSIBILITIES**

Sam Ellis explained the timeline and responsibilities for each focus area team. Starting with the end in mind, Sam noted that the final report would be presented to the Strategic Planning Committee and the Board of Directors/Members Committee in April 2023. Each focus area team would be asked to develop a white paper by October 2022. The FGSAG will review each team's report in November 2022 and begin gathering feedback on the findings. Finalizing each team's topics and carrying out research will take place from April 2022 to September 2022.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 9 – MEETING FEEDBACK**

Michael Daly provided the QR code and link for attendees to assess the effectiveness of the meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10 – SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS**

1. FGSAG members will notify Sam Ellis which topics are needed for further education.
2. SPP Staff will reach out to FGSAG members about availability for upcoming virtual meetings.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11 – DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Mark Ahlstrom noted that the next meeting will be held virtually on April 18, 2022. An in-person meeting was planned for May 17-18, but members instead decided to meet virtually and hear education presentations over multiple days. FGSAG members will send Sam Ellis the topics for which education is needed, and SPP staff will then reach out to FGSAG members to inquire about availability for meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 12 – ADJOURNMENT**

Mark Ahlstrom adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m. CT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Daly on behalf of Sam Ellis

Secretary

Attachments: Attendance Record

Attachment 1—Meeting Attendance Record

First Name	Last Name	Company
Mark	Ahlstrom	NextEra Energy Resources
Malcolm	Ainspan	NRG Power Marketing, LLC
Kamran	Ali	American Electric Power
Kelsey	Allen	Southwest Power Pool
Matthew	Alvarado	Iowa Utilities Board
Eric	Bassingthwaighte	Omaha Public Power District
Scott	Benson	Lincoln Electric System
John	Boshears	City Utilities of Springfield
Bert	Bressers	Southwest Power Pool
Charles	Cates	Southwest Power Pool
Casey	Cathey	Southwest Power Pool
Erin	Cathey	Southwest Power Pool
Bradley	Cochran	Oklahoma Gas & Electric
Keith	Collins	Southwest Power Pool Market Monitoring Unit
Michael	Daly	Southwest Power Pool
Calvin	Daniels	Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
Suman	Debnath	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Daria	Diaz	Stone Pigman
Loren	Ditsch	Omaha Public Power District
Aaron	Doll	Liberty Utilities/Empire District
Brian	Drumm	ITC Transmission
Sam	Ellis	Southwest Power Pool
Pius	Fischer	Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Steve	Gaw	Advanced Power Alliance
Jared	Greenwalt	Southwest Power Pool Market Monitoring Unit
Amber	Joyce	MDU Resources Group, Inc.
Bakhtawar	Khan	Gable Associates
Evan	Kinney	Nebraska Public Power District
Margaret	Kristian	National Grid Renewables
Joe	Lang	Omaha Public Power District
Corey	Linville	Sunflower Electric Power Cooperative
Talina	Mathews	Southwest Power Pool
Jason	Mazigian	Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Kylah	McNabb	Vesta Strategic Solutions, LLC
Gayle	Nansel	Western Area Power Administration
Jerrod	Nelson	Xcel Energy
James	Okenfuss	Savion, LLC

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Company</b>
Robert	Pick	Nebraska Public Power District
Adam	Schieffer	Omaha Public Power District
Jeremy	Severson	Basin Electric Power Cooperative
David	Sonntag	Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
Heather	Starnes	Healy Law Offices/MJMEUC
Jon	Sunneberg	Nebraska Public Power District
Conner	Sweet	City Utilities of Springfield
John	Turner	Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
Vince	Vandaveer	City Utilities of Springfield
John	Varnell	Tenaska Power Services
Terry	Wolf	Missouri River Energy Services
Jodi	Woods	Southwest Power Pool Market Monitoring Unit