1. **Purpose**

The purpose of the NTTG Planning Committee is to:

1. *Provide a forum where all stakeholders are encouraged to participate in the planning, coordination, and development of a more efficient and more cost effective Regional Transmission Plan.*
2. *Prepare an Regional Transmission Plan consistent with applicable NERC and WECC system reliability standards and criteria, andpublic policy needs.*
3. *Ensure the Regional Transmission Plan satisfies FERC Order 890 and 1000 compliance requirements..*

The broad stakeholder participation envisioned in this process (including transmission owners, customers and state regulators) is intended to result in a Regional Transmission Plan plan that meet a variety of needs and has a broad basis of support.

1. **Duties and Responsibilities of the Planning Committee**

The NTTG Planning Committee reports to the NTTG Steering Committee and is responsible for:

1. Developing the study plan for each biennial cycle,
2. Obtaining NTTG Steering Committee approval of the study plan,
3. Performing and documenting the assessments as defined in the study plan,
4. Conduct stakeholder economic studies requests for the NTTG,
5. Coordinating transmission planning with adjacent regional planning groups,
6. Coordinating planning with the WECC planning committees, and
7. Publishing, on a biennial basis a Steering Committee approved regional Transmission Expansion Plan.
8. **Committee Operating Structure**
	1. **Committee Membership or Participation**

Any stakeholder may participate in Planning Committee meetings. However, only those stakeholders that satisfy the criteria of a membership class listed below partyare members of the Planning Committee. Planning Committee members are the only stakeholders eligible to vote during NTTG Planning Committee meetings and submit economic congestion study requests.

There are three classes of Planning Committee members:

1. Transmission providers and transmission developers engaged in or intending to engage in the sale of electric transmission service within the NTTG footprint (one official member per entity); Class 1 members must sign and return the NTTG Funding Agreement or NTTG Planning Agreement.
2. Transmission users engaged in the purchase of electric transmission service within the NTTG footprint, or other entities which have, or have the intention of entering into, an interconnection agreement with a transmission provider within the NTTG footprint (one official member per entity); Class 2 members must sign and return the NTTG Funding Agreement or NTTG Planning Agreement, and
3. Regulators and other state agencies within the NTTG footprint that are interested in transmission development (one official member per agency). Class 3 members are not required to sign the Planning Agreement. Membership submissions or changes shall be by letter to the Planning Committee Chair, with a copy to the NTTG Project Manager

Each signatory to the NTTG Funding Agreement, subject to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission jurisdiction under the Federal Power Act, will include a form of the NTTG Planning Agreement as an exhibit to Attachment K of its respective OATT. Stakeholders seeking to join the Planning Committee as a member are not required to sign the NTTG Planning Agreement of any specific transmission provider. Rather, each stakeholder may choose and execute whichever form it desires to sign. However, a stakeholder must return the executed NTTG Planning Agreement to the transmission provider from which it obtained the form and to the NTTG Planning Committee Chair, with a copy to the NTTG Project Manager.

Upon receipt of an executed NTTG Planning Agreement, that transmission provider will notify FERC of its execution via the Electronic Quarterly Reports, and the Chair of the Planning Committee will cause NTTG to maintain a list on its website that identifies every stakeholder that has signed a NTTG Planning Agreement. Signatories to the NTTG Funding Agreement are automatically members of the Planning Committee, and will be identified on the NTTG website as a member of the Planning Committee. In addition, signatories to the NTTG Funding Agreement are the third party beneficiaries of each NTTG Planning Agreement so they can ensure compliance with its terms.

The Planning Committee therefore operates as a single body of all participating stakeholders, with the voting members being the subset composed of (1) each signatory of an NTTG Planning Agreement, (2) each signatory of the NTTG Funding Agreement and (3) the regulators and other state agencies within the NTTG footprint that are interested in transmission development and have requested admittance to the Planning Committee membership.

* 1. **Committee Membership Withdrawal**

Class 1 and Class 2 Planning Committee members wishing to withdraw from membership will be subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the Agreement originally executed when they became a Planning Committee member; either the NTTG Funding Agreement or the NTTG Planning Agreement. Class 3 members wishing to withdraw must provide a letter to the NTTG Planning Committee Chair informing him/her of their desire to terminate participation in the NTTG Planning Committee.

* 1. **Committee Member Representative; Alternates and Proxy Representatives**

Each signatory of an NTTG Planning Agreement and each signatory of the NTTG Funding Agreement shall timely appoint its representative to the Planning Committee. Each representative shall serve as a member of the Planning Committee at the pleasure of the entity that appointed such representative and may be removed or replaced by such entity at any time.

If a member of the Planning Committee is unable to attend or otherwise participate in a Planning Committee meeting, such member may designate an alternate representative for that meeting. The member not planning to attend or otherwise participate in a noticed meeting shall notice the Chair of the Planning Committee and all other Planning Committee members via electronic mail no later than one calendar day before a meeting of the Planning Committee if an alternate voting member will be designated to attend a meeting in their place. Proxy voting members shall be from the same entity as their designator. Proxy voting members, designated by a standing Planning Committee member, shall possess the same voting powers as their member at the Planning Committee meeting they are designated as an alternate to attend.

No Planning Committee representative shall receive compensation or any reimbursement of his or her expenses from the Planning Committee or any party other than from the entity appointing him or her.

1. **Committee Chair**

On or before the first meeting of the Planning Committee each year, the Planning Committee will elect a Vice-Chair from those members within the transmission providers and users membership class. The Vice-Chair shall serve in that capacity for one year, and shall then serve as the Chair the following year, as a new Vice-Chair is elected. This provides for a two-year commitment staggered across the biennial planning cycle, and allows for a continuous leadership transition for the Planning Committee.

1. **Committee Meetings**

All NTTG Planning Committee meetings are public and open to stakeholder participation. The meetings will be called by the Chair and may be in person, teleconference, or webinar as required. Meeting agendas, meeting notices and presentations will be posted on the NTTG web site in advance of the meeting. Minutes will be taken and published on the NTTG and transmission providers’ web site.

Additional meetings as required to conduct the business of the Planning Committee may be limited to working groups and study teams as necessary. Meetings shall be conducted in compliance with Standards of Conduct, antitrust, confidentiality and critical infrastructure requirements.

1. **Decision Making**

Each member of the Planning Committee, as reflected in the records of the Planning Committee Chair at the start of a meeting, is entitled to vote on decisions brought before the Planning Committee as follows:

1. A quorum of members shall not be required for the Planning Committee to vote. Those in attendance or responding by proxy when a decision is called for shall constitute the decision body for the Planning Committee.
2. Each member shall cast their single vote within their membership class.
3. Within each membership class, a two-thirds majority of voting members present shall be required for approval.
4. Approval by the transmission provider/developer class and at least one remaining member class shall be required for approval by the Planning Committee.
5. Disputes shall be subject to the dispute resolution process outlined in Attachment K of the OATT of the signatories to the NTTG Funding Agreement with an OATT.
6. **Technical Work Group**

The NTTG Planning Committee will form and over see a Technical Work Group (TWG) having the proper technical skills, experience, tools and resources to perform the detailed analysis and studies required to support the biennial study cycle and the plan development overall. The TWG will be responsible for performing the bulk of the technical studies and analysis required by the most recent approved biennial regional transmission study plan. The Planning Committee will select individuals from the Planning Committee members based on transmission planning experience, access to and ability to use power system analysis and/or production cost simulation software, power system modeling expertise, and overall knowledge of the NTTG transmission footprint and the western interconnection.

1. **Budget**

To enable and support the sub-regional planning process and requirements, the Planning Committee will develop a budget to pay for meeting facilitators, study contractors, and other expenses. The budget will be submitted to the signatories of the NTTG Funding Agreement for approval. The Planning Committee shall not incur costs other than as set forth in the budget approved by the signatories of the NTTG Funding Agreement. Costs in excess of or for items outside the budget approved by the signatories of the NTTG Funding Agreement shall be incurred only upon separate written agreement of the entities willing to be financially responsible for costs, and only upon approval of the signatories of the NTTG Funding Agreement where such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

**IV Change control procedures**

Changes to the Planning Committee structure, functions and responsibilities including its Charter will be conducted through open stakeholder processes currently in use by NTTG and any changes will subsequently be approved by the NTTG Steering Committee.

**Attachment 1**

**Principles**

The Planning Committee will operate consistent with according to the following principles:

1. **Coordination –** Coordinate between the entities developing the transmission system, including the regulatory community, and the entities that utilize and benefit from the transmission system. It will be the responsibility of the project participants to determine the specifics of a project such as the scope of the project, lead entity or entities, project participants, and funding.
2. **Openness –** Stakeholder meetings will be open to all interested parties and conducted in accordance with critical infrastructure and standard of conduct rules.
3. **Transparency –** Provide a forum for transmission owners and operators to clearly disclose the criteria, assumptions, and data that underlie their transmission system plans.
4. **Information Exchange –** Provide a forum for the exchange of information among transmission owners, regulators, and customers.
5. **Comparability –** Will develop transmission system plans that meet the needs of the region (per Order 1000 language?) and treat all customers comparably.
6. **Dispute Resolution –** Disputes will be resolved through the process defined in the Planning Agreement.
7. **Regional Participation** – This committee will coordinate its efforts with other regional (use Order 1000 language?) planning groups and WECC planning committees.
8. **Economic Planning Studies –** Economics, as well as reliability, will be considered in the transmission planning process.
9. **Cost Allocation –** Cost allocation recommendations will be addressed by the NTTG Cost Allocation Committee
10. **Collaboration with Regulators –** Transmission plans will be developed in close collaboration with regulators to facilitate the implementation of energy policy, information sharing, and enhance and streamline project permitting, financing and construction.
11. **Avoid Duplication** - NTTG will perform technical study work that is not duplicative of work done by others and will rely as much as possible on the technical studies conducted by Transmission Providers, project sponsors, and studies conducted in other forums.
12. **Share Workload -** Members of NTTG will share the study work. In general, members will study the areas where they have an interest. The results of the individual work will be shared with NTTG.

**Footprint/Coordination**

The NTTG footprint is defined by the service territories of those entities that have executed the NTTG Funding Agreement, as may be amended from time to time. Transmission plans will be coordinated with neighboring states and countries through:

1. **Interconnection Wide:** The Western Electric Coordinating Council’s Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) and the Planning Coordination Committee (PCC).
2. **Canada:** The Northwest Transmission Assessment Committee (NTAC);
3. **Washington and Oregon:** The Northwest Transmission Assessment Committee (NTAC) and Columbia Grid;
4. **California:** The California Independent System Operator and through direct contact with other California entities such as the California Department of Water Resources;
5. **Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico:** The members of WestConnect including the Colorado Coordinated Planning Group (CCPG), the Southwest Area Transmission Study (SWAT);
6. Other regional (use Order 1000 language?) planning groups in the western interconnection as may be formed.