



Attachment K – Transmission Planning Technical Conference

Proposed “Strawman”

As of September 2, 2008

**“To ensure efficient, effective, coordinated use & expansion
of the members’ transmission systems
in the Western Interconnection
to best meet the needs of customers & stakeholders.”**



Proposed Attachment K Changes

- This document contains proposed language and process changes pertaining to the NTTG subregional and WECC regional portions of the NTTG member Transmission Providers' to their Open Access Transmission Tariffs. This will be discussed during the previously noticed meeting.
 - The meeting will be on held on September 9, 2008 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (MDT) at the Marriott University Park Hotel, 480 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108. The meeting is open to all stakeholders, who may attend in person or via teleconference and web conference, as follows:
 - To attend via teleconference, dial (503) 813-5600 or (800) 503-3360 and use **Meeting ID 987654 and password 123456**.
 - To attend via web conference, navigate to <https://meetusat.pacificorp.com>, enter Meeting ID 987654, click attend meeting and follow instructions.
- To promote broader participation and reduce travel expenses, your attendance via teleconference is encouraged.



Proposed Attachment K Changes

- Specific proposed language changes contained within broader text have been highlighted to assist the reader. Other changes to address the issues raised may be included in their entirety.
- These proposed changes are “draft” in nature, and as such may be updated leading up to the technical conference and thereafter.

A blue swoosh graphic that curves from the left towards the right, ending in a cluster of seven small blue circles.

1. Coordination

- No compliance filing requirements



2. Openness

- No compliance filing requirements



3. Transparency

- No compliance filing requirements



4. Information Exchange

- No compliance filing requirements



5. Comparability

- Issue : Demand resource comparability
- Proposal: May be considered part of the local planning process. Additionally, NTTG provides input and data submittals during Q1 for all stakeholders and resources to be considered in the planning process and development of the study plan.



6. Dispute Resolution

- Issue: Address retention of rights to file complaints with the Commission, and to address situations in which the WECC dispute resolution process is not available.
- Proposal: Subregional and Regional language additions



6. Dispute Resolution

If any party to a dispute is unable, rather than unwilling, to avail itself of the NTTG planning agreement dispute resolution process in its entirety, the affected parties may utilize any alternative dispute resolution process available through the FERC.

Nothing contained in this Section shall limit the rights of a prevailing or a non-prevailing party to a dispute pursuant to the process set forth herein to invoke any rights it may have to enforce or challenge, respectively, the outcome of the dispute resolution process through a filing pursuant to Section 206 of the Federal Power Act.



7. Regional Participation

- Issue: Insufficient detail describing opportunities for input, coordination, and timelines between local, NTTG, and WECC TEPPC studies, and web page links.
- Proposal: Link to Business Practice document on Transmission Provider OASIS containing details and links to NTTG and WECC documents



7. Regional Participation

- Example of Attachment K language:

Eligible Customers and stakeholders may participate in the regional planning process through NTTG's public planning meetings, other sub-regional planning groups, and WECC at their discretion pursuant to NTTG and WECC's processes as described in the Transmission Planning Business Practice posted on the Transmission Provider's OASIS website.



7. Regional Participation

- Example of Business Practice:

21.5 Links to NTTG and WECC Web Sites

Additional sub-regional and regional transmission planning information is maintained by Northern Tier and WECC.

Northern Tier Transmission Group - <http://www.nttg.biz>

Planning Committee Page - Contains members, process documents and meeting information, data submittals, reports and other general information, in addition to the links to specific documents described below:

http://nttg.biz/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=13&Itemid=85

Planning Committee Charter (Process) – Contains the biennial study process, timelines, data submittal process, participation, and decision processes for the Northern Tier sub-regional planning process.

http://nttg.biz/site/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=256&Itemid=3



8. Economic Planning Studies

- Issue: Describe clustering and prioritization
- Proposal: Business Practice links to WECC TEPPC processes and documents as described previously, and additional process details contained in NTTG documents.



8. Economic Planning Studies - Definitions

Definitions

- POR – Open Access Same-time Information System Point of Receipt as identified on the form submitted by customer to transmission provider.
- POD – Open Access Same-time Information System Point of Delivery as identified on the form submitted by customer to transmission provider.
- WECC – Western Electricity Coordinating Council.
- NTTG – Northern Tier Transmission Group.
- TP – Transmission Provider with an Attachment K of their respective Open Access Transmission Tariff and who have agreed to fund economic congestion studies as outlined in the current funding agreement on file with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- OATT – Open Access Transmission Tariff currently on file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.



8. Economic Planning Studies – Categorization Methods

Categorization method

- (1) If both POR/PODs are in any one TP's balancing authority footprint and uses only that same TP's scheduling paths, the study will be considered local.
- (2) If both POR/PODs are in the WECC's and NTTG's TPs' scheduling system footprint, and uses only NTTG TPs' scheduling paths, the study will be considered sub-regional.
- (3) If one POR/POD is in NTTG TPs' balancing authority footprint, both POR/PODs are in the WECC footprint, and uses only WECC TPs' scheduling paths, the study will be considered regional.
- (4) If no POR/POD is specified in any NTTG TPs' balancing authority footprint and both POR/PODs are in the WECC footprint, and uses only WECC TPs' scheduling paths, the study will be considered regional.



8. Economic Planning Studies Clustering Methods

Clustering method

- Recognizing the complexity of determining impacts on the overall transmission system in the applicable study area, requests for economic congestion studies will be clustered together additively only if their PORs and PODs are exactly identical to one another. Studies with differing PORs or PODs from one another will be considered separate studies and prioritized according to the obligations set forth in the NTTG obligation documents and the OATT Attachment Ks of the respective TPs.



8. Economic Planning Studies Obligations to Complete Studies

Obligation to complete economic congestion studies

- NTTG shall not complete economic congestion studies as outlined in any economic congestion study unless submitted by a TP that is a party to the NTTG Funding Agreement. NTTG will not complete any subregional economic congestion study provided by a customer (through its requested TP) that is not a member of the NTTG Planning Agreement.



9. Cost Allocation

- Issue: Refine specific methodology
- Proposal: In addition to NTTG's existing cost allocation process, proposed language additions in the subregional section of Attachment K utilizing much of El Paso's language are outlined below.



9. Cost Allocation

16. Cost Allocation for New Projects

- A. A case-by-case approach will be utilized to allocate costs for new projects. This approach will be based on the following principles:
1. Open Season Solicitation of Interest. For any project identified in an NTTG planning study (for reliability and/or economic projects) in which 1 or more of the NTTG Transmission Provider members is the project sponsor, NTTG, or any NTTG Transmission Provider who is sponsoring the project, may elect to provide an "open season" solicitation of interest to secure additional project participants. Upon a determination to hold an open season solicitation of interest for a project, any NTTG Transmission Provider who is sponsoring the project will:
 - a. Announce and solicit interest in the project through informational meetings, its website and/or other means of dissemination as appropriate.
 - b. Schedule meetings with interested parties and meetings with public utility staffs from potentially affected states.
 - c. Post information *via* WECC's planning project review reports.



9. Cost Allocation - continued

- d. Guide negotiations and assist interested parties to determine cost responsibility for initial studies; guide the project through the applicable line siting processes; develop final project specifications and costs; obtain commitments from participants for final project cost shares; and secure execution of construction and operating agreements.
2. Projects without a Solicitation of Interest. NTTG or any NTTG Transmission Provider member may elect to proceed with projects without an open season solicitation of interest, in which case such affected Transmission Provider will proceed with the project pursuant to its rights and obligations as a Transmission Provider.
3. Coordination within NTTG. Each NTTG Transmission Provider member, whether as a project sponsor or a participant, will support NTTG by preparing and submitting recommendations for cost allocation associated with the NTTG sub-regional plan projects to the NTTG Cost Allocation Committee and process, and ultimately the NTTG Steering Committee for approval. This Steering Committee approval will represent a non-binding sub-regional consensus of cost allocation formed with direct state regulatory commission involvement and support. In addition, each NTTG Transmission Provider member will coordinate as necessary with any other participant or sponsor, as the case may be, to integrate into its local transmission Plan any planned project on or interconnected with its own system.



9. Cost Allocation - continued

4 Allocation of Costs

- a. Proportional Allocation. For any project entered into, project costs and associated transmission rights would generally be allocated proportionally, unless otherwise agreed to and not in violation of any other cost allocation principle in this section, to any project participant(s) subject to approval of the participation agreement by FERC.
- b. Economic Benefits or Congestion Relief. For a project that is undertaken for economic reasons or congestion relief at the request of a Requester, the project costs will be allocated to the Requester.
- c. Exclusions. The cost for projects undertaken in connection with requests for interconnection or transmission service on the transmission systems of any of the NTTG Transmission Provider members, each of which are governed by existing cost allocation methods within each Transmission Provider's OATT, will continue to be so governed and will not be covered by the principles above.



10. Cost Recovery

- No compliance filing requirements