

WESTCONNECT PROCESS
DETERMINATION OF TRANSFER CAPABILITIES AND COMMITTED USES

1. Introduction

An accurate determination of the Total Transfer Capability (TTC) and Available Transfer Capability (ATC) of all paths posted by WestConnect Transmission Providers (TPs) on the OASIS is critical to ensuring the open and non-discriminatory access to the transmission system that is envisioned and embodied in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order No. 888. WestConnect TPs adhere to the policies and procedures for determining transfer capabilities set forth in “Determination of Available Transfer Capability Within the Western Interconnection”, approved in June 2001 by the Western Systems Coordinating Council (which later merged into the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC)), and utilized in connection with each TP’s Open Access Transmission Tariff. In addition, the TPs adhere to all applicable WECC and NERC approved criteria.

As part of their Wholesale Market Phased Approach, WestConnect participants adopt this process for stakeholder input to each WestConnect TP’s determination of Transfer Capability for its posted paths.

2. Purpose

This procedure promotes stakeholder understanding and general consensus for the Transfer Capabilities and Committed Uses developed by WestConnect TPs for transmission paths posted on OASIS. WestConnect will hold an initial informational meeting in conjunction with the Southwest Area Transmission Planning (SWAT) Meeting in the first quarter 2005 to explain to stakeholders how individual path ratings are established and the calculations that are used to determine ATC. Thereafter each spring, the WestConnect participants will invite stakeholders to review and comment on assumptions, criteria and methodology used to determine TTC, Committed Uses, and ATC for the TPs’ posted paths.

Paths with established transfer capabilities will not be evaluated unless there is a valid reason for doing so, such as a component change or new configuration, which could affect the transfer capability. Should a change in a WECC rated path warrant restudying; the required studies for the path will be through the WECC Path Rating Process.

3. Definitions

3.1 Available Transfer Capability (ATC): a measure of the transfer capability remaining in the physical transmission network for further commercial activity, over and above already-committed uses. *WECC Determination of Available Transfer Capability within the Western Interconnection June 2001*

Note; Mathematically, ATC is defined as the Total Transfer Capability (TTC) allocated less Committed Uses.

- 3.2 Capacity Benefit Margin (CBM): that amount of transmission transfer capability reserved by load-serving entities with generation on the system up to the purchased/owned amount of transmission to ensure access to generation from interconnected systems to meet generation reliability requirements. *WECC Determination of Available Transfer Capability within the Western Interconnection June 2001*

Note: CBM is a uni-directional quantity with identifiable beneficiaries, and its use is intended only for the time of emergency generation deficiencies (one hour).

- 3.3 Committed Uses: Five committed uses described in the RTG Governing Agreements as described in the *WECC Determination of Available Transfer Capability within the Western Interconnection. WECC Determination of Available Transfer Capability within the Western Interconnection June 2001*

Note: The five committed uses are: (1) native load uses, (2) deliveries of Federal hydropower to preference and project use customers, (3) prudent reserves, (4) existing commitments for purchase/exchange/deliveries/sales, (5) existing commitments for transmission service, and (6) other pending potential uses of transfer capability.

- 3.4 NERC: The North American Electric Reliability Council.

- 3.5 Total Transfer Capability (TTC): the amount of electric power that can be transferred over the interconnected transmission network in a reliable manner while meeting all of a specific set of defined pre- and post- contingency system conditions. *WECC Determination of Available Transfer Capability within the Western Interconnection June 2001*

Note: TTC is a variable quantity, dependent upon operating conditions in the near term and forecasted conditions in the long term. TTC shall be calculated consistent with the requirements of FERC, NERC and WECC as needed to represent system conditions, but no less frequently than seasonally. TTC cannot exceed the path rating.

- 3.6 Transmission Reliability Margin (TRM): that amount of transmission transfer capability necessary to ensure that the interconnected transmission network is secure under a reasonable range of uncertainties in system conditions. *WECC Determination of Available Transfer Capability within the Western Interconnection June 2001*

TRM accounts for the inherent uncertainty in system conditions and system modeling, and the need for operating flexibility to ensure reliable system operation as system conditions change.

4. Stakeholder Group

The WestConnect participants will establish a Stakeholder Group made up of the WestConnect TPs and stakeholders, including transmission customers and local, state and federal regulatory personnel. The Stakeholder Group shall typically meet twice each spring: first to review and provide input to each TP's upcoming transmission study plan; and second to review the results of each TP's transmission studies.

5. Responsibilities

5.1. Transmission Providers

- 5.1.1. Present TTC, Committed Uses, TRM and CBM assumptions to the Stakeholder Group for comments and questions
- 5.1.2. Develop and present assumptions that will be used in the studies
- 5.1.3. Present the proposed system conditions to be studied
- 5.1.4. Define the years and seasons to be studied
- 5.1.5. Prepare the model to be studied
- 5.1.6. Run the studies
- 5.1.7. Present the studies to the Stakeholder Group
- 5.1.8. Finalize the studies after review by the Stakeholder Group
- 5.1.9. Document the studies.
- 5.1.10. Update OASIS postings.
- 5.2. Stakeholders
 - 5.2.1. Review TPs' TTC, Committed Uses, TRM and CBM assumptions and provide feedback to the TPs.
 - 5.2.2. Review a TP's assumptions, time frames and system conditions and provide feedback to the TP as required.
 - 5.2.3. Provide comments and recommendations for changes or additional studies.
6. Disputes

Disputes between a stakeholder and a TP may be addressed through the Dispute Resolution Procedures contained within the TP's Open Access Transmission Tariff.