

Notes of
WestConnect Planning Webinar with FERC Staff

January 28, 2009

12:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Mountain
9:00 – 12:00 AM Pacific

Call In Number (866) 844-0636 Participant Code 2501110

Attached is a list of participants on the subject teleconference call.

Sedina Eric of FERC Staff and Jerry Smith of WestConnect co-hosted the call.

The purpose of the teleconference was for WestConnect to respond to a series of nineteen questions posed by FERC's Division of Electric reliability. The list of questions FERC Staff posed in advance of the call is attached. The advance questions make inquiry of the WestConnect Planning process, how specific system modeling assumptions have been managed in technical studies and the level of system reliability emerging from the subregional planning efforts. WestConnect responded with a series of presentations that are linked to the attached agenda.

FERC Staff complimented WestConnect achievements in its planning and assessment products and processes, including access to information and interactive transmission system map, indicating it exceeds what is being accomplished by other regional organizations. Time for clarifying questions and discussion of ancillary planning topics was limited due to the length of time required to cover the presentation material. FERC Staff concluded the meeting by requesting the opportunity to follow up with additional questions once they had the opportunity to digest the details of the material presented.

Jerry D. Smith,
WestConnect Planning Manager

Attachments:

- List of Call Participants
- Advance FERC questions
- Agenda with hyperlinked presentations

FERC-WestConnect Conference Call: January 28th 2009

Attendance:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Charlie Reinhold | WC |
| 2. Bob Easton | WAPA-RM |
| 3. Rob Kondziolka | SRP |
| 4. Laurel Whisler | SRP |
| 5. Chuck Russell | SRP |
| 6. Mark Graham | Tri-State |
| 7. Tom Duane | PNM |
| 8. Tom Green | XCELL Energy |
| 9. Brian Whalen | NVE |
| 10. Alex Fratkin | NVE |
| 11. Joe Tarantino | Sierra |
| 12. Bruce Evans | SWTC |
| 13. Gary Romero | KRSA |
| 14. Jerry Smith | KRSA |
| 15. John Lucas | APS |
| 16. Peter Krzykos | APS |
| 17. Cindy Bailey | Southwest Power Group |
| 18. Vickie Sandler | AZ |
| 19. Eric Egge | Black Hills Power |
| 20. Wes Wingen | Black Hills Power |
| 21. David Barajas | IID |
| 22. Matthew Stoltz | BEPC |
| 23. Sedina Eric | FERC |
| 24. Cleveland Richard | FERC |
| 25. Eddy Lim | FERC |
| 26. Gabriel Aguilera | FERC |
| 27. Alireza Ghassemian | FERC |
| 28. Ted Franks | FERC |

Outline for the WestConnect Presentation on Dec 17, 08:

1. What is the transmission planning process within the WestConnect footprint, and what governs the WestConnect role and authority?
2. What type of reliability studies does WestConnect perform independently or in consultation with its members, and what are the most recent studies? What is the time frame these studies cover, and what is the frequency of conducting such studies?
3. What is the scope of the latest WestConnect reliability adequacy study, the study results and how they can be used?
4. Describe the WestConnect Annual Planning Workshop, its scope and outcome.
5. Based on the WestConnect Annual Planning Workshop and other information available to WestConnect, do the WestConnect members' proposed transmission system plans meet the load serving requirements during the 2008-2018 time period?
6. How are the members' transmission plans aligned with the NERC's mandatory transmission planning and other related standards? What steps are taken in the transmission planning studies to effectively address the adequacy of the transmission system within the WestConnect footprint to reliably support the competitive wholesale market emerging in the region?
7. What are the load forecast principles within the WestConnect footprint? What is the load forecast for the next few years for the WestConnect footprint? Is there any assessment on the potential load growth slowdown due to the current economic crisis?
8. Are there areas considered a "load pocket?" How is a load pocket identified? Where are the load pockets located, and what are their load requirements? What projects are considered to mitigate the load pocket constraints? Is there any load pocket for which a transmission and generation system cannot provide power supply for category A and B contingencies identified in the NERC TPL standards? What are the load pockets that have local reliability must-run units?
9. Do the generation interconnection practices in WestConnect footprint reflect technical aspects of the generation interconnection policies as defined in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") Orders 2003 and 2003-A? Are generation interconnection queues maintained by each transmission provider? If yes, is merging of different queues at the OASIS is considered?
10. What is the existing and future generation used in the WestConnect adequacy study? What is the projection on new generation additions (by projects) used in

the adequacy study? What is the current and future generation mix used in the WestConnect adequacy study by fuel?

11. What is the existing renewable capacity in the WestConnect (by type: wind, solar, geothermal,...), and what is the projection on the potential renewable capacity. How much of renewable generation is in the generation queue (in MW)? Show the in-service years and locations. What is the operational experience with the existing wind generation, and what are the issues related to the new renewable resources' interconnection?
12. Is there any new nuclear project within WestConnect, for which an interconnection application has been submitted?
13. What new generation additions and those potentially scheduled for retirement are modeled in the WestConnect members' load flow data basis used for the transmission planning studies?
14. Is Demand Response taken into account in the transmission planning process?
15. How energy-only, uncommitted resources, QF, and transmission-limited resources are considered in the WestConnect members' transmission planning assumptions, knowing that power may not be deliverable from these projects at all times?
16. What bulk-power transmission projects are under construction? What are the proposed major bulk-power transmission projects to address reliability issues? If some of the projects will be deferred due to the credit crisis, what are the mitigation measures that will be implemented during the in-service date delay?
17. What are the major bulk-power transmission projects proposed to address congestion relief issues? What are the major bulk-power transmission projects proposed to interconnect and deliver the power from the proposed renewable resources?
18. Are there any bulk-power transmission projects under consideration to increase transfer capability on major WECC paths? What are the known obstacles to such projects?
19. Do the WestConnect transmission owners consider new technologies and the Smart Grid concept while designing new projects?

Agenda

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1. Introductions and Opening Remarks
2. [WestConnect Planning Overview](#) Bob Easton
 - a. Who We Are, Our Governance and Authority
 - b. WestConnect Planning Process – Coordination and Participation
3. [2008 WestConnect Annual Planning Meeting Scope and Outcome](#) Jerry Smith
4. [DOE NIETC & Congestion Area Designations / WECC Rated Paths](#) Rob Kondziolka
 - a. Reliance on TEPPC Study Plan for Congestion Assessments
 - b. Related WestConnect Planned Transmission Improvements
5. [Reliability and Transmission Adequacy Assessments](#)
 - a. SMUD Ten Year Plan Study Joe Tarantino
 - b. SWAT Studies for ACC Biennial Transmission Assessment Jerry Smith
 - c. CCPG NERC Compliance Study Tom Green
 - d. WestConnect Annual Transmission Assessment Gary Romero
6. [Managing Existing and Future Generation in Subregional Studies](#)
 - a. CATS HV 2018 Study Rob Kondziolka
 - b. CLRP Study Andrew Leoni
 - c. Consideration of Interconnection Queues Within WestConnect John Lucas
7. [Renewable Generation Studies](#)
 - a. Colorado SB 100 Tom Green
 - b. PNM Collector System Study Tom Duane
 - c. NVE Renewable Study Brian Whalen
 - d. SWAT Renewable Transmission Task Force Peter Krzykos
8. Load Assumptions and Demand Response Modeling Assumptions
9. Extemporaneous Questions and Discussion