

SWAT Meeting – Meeting Notes

Date and Time: August 16, 2011, 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm (MST)

Location: Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association
1100 W. 116th Avenue, Westminster, CO

1. Introductions, Agenda Review & Opening Comments – LeeAnn Torkelson

Ms. LeeAnn Torkelson began the meeting by welcoming everyone, explaining the meeting logistics, and reviewing the agenda. The meeting attendees in the room and on the phone introduced themselves. The SWAT meeting attendee list is attached at the end of the notes.

2. Brief Project Reports & Updates, Projects Map – LeeAnn Torkelson

Ms. LeeAnn Torkelson reviewed the updates made to the SWAT Transmission Projects Spreadsheet and associated map with the SWAT meeting attendees. Ms. Torkelson reviewed and explained the color-coded changes to the spreadsheet that included project sponsor changes; changes made by Ms. Torkelson; new projects added, and ratings updated. Ms. Torkelson thanked those that have made changes to the spreadsheet. Ms. Torkelson also reviewed the SWAT Transmission Projects Map. Project 41 – the Lucky Corridor transmission project has been added to the map.

The SWAT Transmission Projects under Development spreadsheet is posted at: [Project Spreadsheet](#)

The SWAT Transmission Projects under Development spreadsheet map is posted at: [Project Spreadsheet Map](#)

Ms. Julia Souder, Clean Line Energy Partners, gave an update on the Centennial West project.

3. SWAT Technical Committee Activities: Status of 2011 Study Work or Activities

a. Colorado River Transmission Subcommittee (CRT) – Josh Johnston

Mr. Josh Johnston presented the status update for the CRT. The CRT has not had a full subcommittee meeting since the last SWAT meeting. The last subcommittee meeting was on February 9 in Phoenix. The Mohave and Yuma technical subcommittees are continuing to work on their studies and hope to have the studies completed by the November timeframe. After the studies are complete, there will be a full CRT meeting where the study reports will be presented.

Mr. Johnston's full presentation is located at: [CRT Presentation](#)

b. Central Arizona Transmission System Subcommittee (CATS) – Jason Spitzkoff

Mr. Jason Spitzkoff provided the status update for the CATS by phone. The CATS had a July 19th conference call where 2 main studies updates were discussed. The Phoenix RMR study and Extreme Corridor Study are being worked on by APS and the CATS hope to have them completed by December. SRP is performing the Tenth-year snapshot study and expect results by December. Ms. Julia Souder added that the PCRG sent out the Centennial West transmission line report for public comment.

c. Eldorado Valley Study Group – Mark Etherton

Mr. Mark Etherton presented a status update for the Eldorado Valley Study Group (EVSG). The presentation included information on the EVSG background, map of the EVSG area projects, EVSG existing facilities, EVSG Conceptual Plan. Included in the EVSG tasks are 3 items:

1. Inventory of facilities and projects.
 - a. Google earth used to trace footprint of transmission facilities during the inventory process.
 - b. Need to figure out which substations have room to add more facilities.
2. Create a conceptual plan.
3. Complete technical analysis.

Six options have been prepared for the EVSG Conceptual Plan. The options include 3 options west of the interstates and 3 options east of the interstates. The options are with and without a proposed new “Agora” DC/AC hub (superstation). No decisions were made on preferred or optimal solutions.

The EVSG goal is to have the study completed by Q4 2011. The next steps will depend on EVSG interests to continue.

There was a question asked about the coordination with the CTPG (California Transmission Planning Group) study and how that study can mesh with EVSG studies. The response was the EVSG is requesting more coordination from the CTPG and its members to participate with this EVSG study.

Mr. Etherton’s full presentation is located at: [Eldorado Valley Study Group Presentation](#)

d. New Mexico Subcommittee - Tom Duane

Mr. Tom Duane presented a status update for the New Mexico Subcommittee. Mr. Duane reported that there was a conference call on the Collector Study initial results on August 12. There were 17 participants on the call. The scope for the study includes: 500 MW renewable, 2021 timeframe, performance under various export options based on proposed projects. Export options include the SunZia project as 2-500 kV AC lines, Centennial West project – DC line to CA, South Line Project – 2-345 kV lines in SNM, Tres Amigas – DC

interconnection to East/ERCOT. More than one option is likely required for exporting 5000 MW. Mr. Duane informed the group that no lines have been precluded in the analysis at this time.

Mr. Duane's full presentation is located at: [New Mexico Subcommittee Update Presentation](#)

e. Short Circuit Study Work Group – Kevin Salsbury

Mr. Kevin Salsbury provided the status update for the Short Circuit Study Work Group by phone. The next meeting of the Short Circuit Study Work Group is set for Thursday, Sept 1, in Las Vegas from 8:30am – 12:30pm. Case finalization will be discussed for the short circuit models. Commonwealth will provide the case information. Case conversion issues are being reviewed. The Short Circuit Study Work Group hopes to have an in-person vote with 3 cases finalized on Sept. 1 at their meeting. There was discussion about sharing the short circuit model with all SWAT Members. Mr. Salsbury stated that currently they are not sharing short models with third parties. The decision was to send all requests for the short circuit models to Mr. Kevin Salsbury.

f. Transmission Corridor Work Group – Julia Souder

Ms. Julia Souder provided the status update on the Transmission Corridor Work Group. Letters of introduction to land managers in Arizona and New Mexico (BLM and Forest Service) have been sent. The intro letters to share about the SWAT TCWG activities have resulted in two meetings with the land managers: an Aug 22 with the Arizona BLM and a September 12 call with the New Mexico BLM. Ms. Souder reported that the Agencies are interested in working together and to help contact field offices for projects in the southwest. One of the goals of the Work Group is reviewing projects and sharing lessons learned with the Agencies. There is a blog on the WestConnect website under the Transmission Corridor Work Group under SWAT. Information is posted on the WestConnect blog.

g. Advisory Work Group – Amanda Ormond

Ms. Amanda Ormond presented the status update on the Advisory Work Group (AWG). The AWG formed at the time Renewable Energy Transmission subcommittee disbanded (May 2011). SWAT approved the formation of a policy/educational committee. AWG will advise SWAT membership on a number of activities including Seams issues and Policy issues. This group will meet four times a year by phone.

Some of the AWG action items include: CTPG coordination – post CTPG meeting announcements on the SWAT website; create webpage for AWG with blog for issues and to post important documents; develop an activities list and ID person to monitor each issue; provide briefings on NOPR's on AWG calls and SWAT meetings; assist SWAT members, as needed, with implementation of FERC Order 1000; and engage tribes and ensure state policy reps participate in SWAT.

The AWG will have a report at each SWAT meeting.

Ms. Ormond stressed the importance of building relationships with CA and WECC. One way is to participate in each other's SWAT and CTPG calls. Also, CAISO participation in AWG is encouraged.

It was also suggested that the AWG needs to be engaged in CPUC resource scenario development process of CA. The AWG could work with CPUC to feed into and learn the CPUC process and the CAISO transmission planning process.

Ms. Ormond's full presentation is located at: [AWG Update Presentation](#)

4. NV Energy's Renewable Transmission Initiative – Edi Von Engeln

Mr. Edi Von Engeln presented the NV Energy Renewable Transmission Initiative (RTI). The RTI is a new, customer driven approach to renewable business development offered by NV Energy. The goal of RTI is to use the customer driven process to develop the renewable markets. Mr. Von Engeln provided a background of NV Energy and the transmission experience of NV Energy. NV energy's ON-Line Transmission project is its' largest transmission project and electrically joins the North and South Utilities of Nevada for the first time. This project is a \$600 million transmission project projected for completion in December 2012.

The presentation also included the RTI evolution overview and the stakeholder processes. Mr. Von Engeln also reviewed the NV Energy RTI corridor development and selection process. NV Energy has fulfilled most RPS mandates. NV Energy will conduct a solicitation of interest to assess market interest in development of Renewable Energy Zones. NV Energy will then develop appropriate transmission plans to deliver from those zones.

Mr. Von Engeln's full presentation is located at: [NV Energy's Renewable Transmission Initiative Presentation](#)

5. How does SWAT process study or base case requests? – LeeAnn Torkelson

Ms. LeeAnn Torkelson provided the Requesting SWAT Base Cases and Study Work presentation. Ms Torkelson described the current process where all requests for SWAT power flow cases will result in a referral to WECC. Also, the requester will receive the seed case information and be directed to WECC to obtain the case. SWAT does not prepare a joint base case.

The presentation also reviewed the current process for requesting Study Work from SWAT. Currently there is no formal SWAT process or timeframe. Each Utility's OATT outlines when requests should be made. Determine what is to be studied and why it should be studied by SWAT or a SWAT subcommittee. Submit requests to the SWAT Chairman.

The requests for study work should include: Purpose and need for study; Objectives; Assumptions – year, season of study; Development of base case and other data – what should

be monitored, what outages should be run, what dynamics or economic s data is needed; Methodology -Reliability (power flow or transient stability, post transient), economic, or policy study requests; Schedule; Assignment/allocation of study work.

Ms. Torkelson discussed whether SWAT should start with a study request window? Questions for this included when and how long should the request window be? Some of the SWAT members raised concerns about how long the length of time was that was suggested for the request window. Also concerns were raised about coordinating the study request window schedule with the long term planning tool schedules that WECC and CTPG have in place. There is a desire to avoid duplication so therefore planning schedule efforts need to be coordinated with CTPG. It was stated that other SPGs do have study windows in place including Northern Tier and Columbia Grid. SWAT Members agreed there is value in having a window request timeframe and based on the discussion Ms. Torkelson will modify the timeframe for the study request window.

Ms. Torkelson also discussed how the study requests will be evaluated. The SWAT Steering Committee will evaluate the requests, assess and coordinate resources, and determine if the study is foot-print wide or should be managed by a subcommittee. The SWAT Oversight Committee approves the plan. The SWAT decided that the study requests should go thru the SWAT Chair (LeeAnn Torkelson) and then the Chair forwards to appropriate smaller subcommittees.

Ms. Torkelson's full presentation is located at: [Requesting SWAT Base Cases and Study Work Presentation](#)

6. Update on Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation Order 1000 – all

Ms. Torkelson presented the FERC Order No. 1000 WECC Subregional Coordination Group (SCG) Common Thoughts that were discussed on 8/16:

1. Planning and cost allocation need to be closely coordinate
2. Order may lead to changes in the geographic scope of regions
3. Regional requirements could likely be handled within existing regions
4. Interregional requirements could be handled in an interconnection wide forum
5. 2 Tier approach – a. covers as much as possible interconnection wide.
6. Current SCG not adequate forum
7. Requires planners, policy, legal, state/provincial
8. Need a very open process that could have a large number of stakeholders
9. West-wide task force may be best – how to launch?
10. Should SCG be coordination forum?

Mr. Reinhold stated that the WestConnect Steering Committee has scheduled a meeting next week to discuss the FERC Order 1000. There was also discussion about the 3 parts of the FERC

Order 1000: Planning portion, Cost Allocation (troublesome to non-jurisdictional), ROFR (right of first refusal) issue.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting is November 15, 2011 at SRP's PERA club. Cindy Bailey of SWPG was volunteered to take notes at the November meeting.

8. Dates/locations for future SWAT Oversight Meetings

- November 15, 2011 (Phoenix, Arizona) 10 am-4 pm
- February 15, 2012 (Las Vegas, Nevada) 10 am-4 pm
- May xxx – (Albuquerque, New Mexico) 10 am-4 pm (date yet to be determined)
- August 14, 2012 (Westminster, Colorado) 1-5pm

Attachment:

August 16th, 2011 SWAT Meeting Attendees:

Anderson	Tami	MAPPCOR
Bahl	Prem	Arizona Corporation Commission
Bantu	Ravi	RES-America
Belval	Ron	Tucson Electric Power
Carter	Jim	Logan Simpson Design
Charters	Jim	Western States Energy Solutions
Chen	Kaicheng	Western Area Power Administration
Churchill	Susannah	Vote Solar
Corathers	Amy	Logan Simpson Design
Duane	Tom	PNM
Etherton	Mark	PDS Consulting
Franklin	David	Southern California Edison
Gonzales	Angela	RETA
Hodges-Copple	Daniel	Clean Line Energy
James-King	Suzanne	3-M
Johnston	Joshua	Western Area Power Administration
Kansier	Thomas P.	MAPPCOR
Keene	Stephen	Imperial Irrigation District
Koenig	Paul	Smith Roberts Land Services
Malone	Dennis	El Paso Electric
Olson	Mike	Western Area Power Administration
Ormond	Amanda	Western Grid Group/Interwest
Patterson	Doug	Black Forest Partners
Pierson	Brad	TRC Engineers
Reinhold	Charles	WestConnect
Rietz	DeAnne	SWCA Environmental Consultant
Ruiz	Reuben	Central Arizona Project (CAP)
Salsbury	Kevin	Nevada Energy
Sandler	Vicki	AZ Independent Scheduling Administrator
Souder	Julia	Clean Line Energy Partners
Spitzkoff	Jason	Arizona Public Service
Tang	Jim	PDS Consulting
Torkelson	LeeAnn	Salt River Project
Turner	Jeremy	RETA
Underwood	Chris	Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc.
Vaninetti	Jerry	RES Americas Inc.
Von Engeln	Edi	NV Energy
Waldron	Matt	MAPPCOR
Whitaker	Jim	TRC Engineers
Wilgus	Van	SunZia Southwest Transmission Project
Winkeljohn	David	Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc.
Wray	Tom	Southwestern Power/SunZia