

## SWAT Meeting Notes

February 16, 2011

10:00 am to 4:15 pm

NV Energy Offices

1. SWAT members identified themselves. Chair re-ordered agenda item 3.f. “Renewable Energy Transmission Subcommittee” to item 3.g.
2. DeAnne Reitz of SWCA developed a “Projects Map” that includes most of the planned transmission projects in the SWAT footprint. DeAnne will continue to accept transmission plans to add to this map.

The “SWAT Projects” excel spreadsheet was reviewed and approved by the committee, without changes.

A member inquired if the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors were considered a viable transmission path considering the recent 9<sup>th</sup> circuit decision. Julia Souder commented that these corridors may be regarded as “dead”.

Mark Etherton provided updates on the North Gila –Imperial Valley #2, NVG2, WECC-Eastern Interconnection DC Tie Upgrade, and SunZia projects .

Doug Patterson provided an update on the Southline transmission project.

Julia Souder provided an update on the Centennial West transmission project.

Evan Estes provided an update on the SWIP project.

3. SWAT Technical Committee Activities:
  - a. Josh Johnston provided an update on the activities of the Colorado River Transmission (CRT) subcommittee. CRT held a meeting on 2/9/2011 and a meeting will be scheduled during March to finalize their report. RMR studies for Yuma and Mohave counties will be conducted as directed by the ACC BTA.
  - b. Jason Spitzkoff provided an update of the Central Arizona Transmission System (CATS) Subcommittee. The footprint of CATS has been expanded to cover the state of Arizona, excluding the area covered by the Southern Arizona Transmission (SATS) Subcommittee. CATS is coordinating base case development of the 2014 and 2021 cases. Jason encouraged all members with transmission plans within the CATS area to send him their modeling data, if they already have not done so.

- c. LeeAnn Torkelson covered Chuck Russell's update for the Eldorado Valley Study Group. There are approximately 18 projects under evaluation. A conceptual map of these projects was developed using Google Earth software. This group is requesting more coordination from California planning groups (CAISO/CTPG) and its members.
- d. Gary Trent projected an update on progress of the SATS report. The SATS report was internally approved on 2/10/2011. Following a brief review of the report, SWAT approved the SATS report, without changes. Gary will file the approved SATS report at the ACC.
- e. Tom Duane provided an overview of the New Mexico Area Subcommittee. Data has been acquired to start power flow modeling and preliminary results will be reviewed by the subcommittee during May 2011. Tom expects a final report by August 2011.
- f. Kevin Salisbury overviewed the activities of the Short Circuit Study Work Group. Fourteen utility companies participate in this effort. Three softwares are being used in this evaluation. The chairmanship has been transferred to Gabby Gaspar of the Imperial Irrigation District, but Kevin will continue to act as a consultant to the group while the coordinated base case is still being completed.
- g. Julia Souder provided an overview of the Transmission Corridor Work Group. A meeting was held in November to develop the activities for this work group during 2011. A primary function of this group is to conduct meetings with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and US Forest Service to teach these agencies the transmission planning activities performed by SWAT, as well as get information from these agencies that will make transmission planning more effective for developers. BLM and US Forest Service resource and land management plans will be evaluated by this work group. A meeting is tentatively set for March 11, 2011 in Phoenix.
- h. LeeAnn Torkelson proposed to replace the Renewable Transmission Task Force with a 'Renewable Energy Transmission Subcommittee' (RETS). LeeAnn reviewed the possible activities for this newly formed group. Following discussion, SWAT decided to form a small group that will either decide on a work scope for RETS or to dissolve it. Alex Fratkin, Frank Barbera, Amanda Ormond, Lisa Szot and Cindy Bailey volunteered for this activity.

SWAT discussed the need for a subcommittee that evaluates the seam issues among the various SWAT subcommittees and other regions. LeeAnn will investigate the need for such a subcommittee further.

4. Charlie Reinhold provided an overview of the history, purpose and current activities of WestConnect. Issues covered included Virtual Control Areas, DSS, and reliability based control.
5. LeeAnn reviewed the implementation of NERC's MOD standards. WestConnect members filed for an extension of the 4/1/11 implementation date and are waiting to hear if the extension is granted or denied. The members of SWAT discussed the meeting involving NERC, FERC occurring at the same time as this SWAT meeting..
6. Following review and discussion of the SWAT Charter, the group decided to delay a formation of a work group charged with the responsibility of amending the Charter to conform with changes to state and federal standards for transmission planning. Such delay is warranted until the impacts of CIP standards and FERC's future rulemaking on transmission planning and cost allocation on SWAT are better understood.
7. LeeAnn provided an update on WECC activities that included a review of the Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee, Subregional Coordination Group, and Scenario Planning Steering Group.
8. SWAT discussed political activity at the state and federal levels that may impact SWAT during 2011 and beyond. Due to the robust discussion on this topic, the group generally agreed to continue this agenda item during subsequent SWAT meetings.
9. Adjourn

## Attendees

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