

WestConnect Regional Planning Update

**2011 Joint SWAT / CCPG / SSPG Meeting
Tri-State G&T
Denver, CO**

August 17, 2011

WestConnect

- Exists by Agreement(s) Among Transmission Owners (TOs) in the Western Grid Dating from 2001
- Purposes:
 - Investigation of feasibility of cost-effective wholesale market enhancements
 - Work cooperatively with other Western Grid Organizations and market participants
 - Address seams issues in appropriate forums
 - *Regional Transmission Planning*

2012 WestConnect Ten Year Transmission Plans

Detailed SPG Plans

CCPG

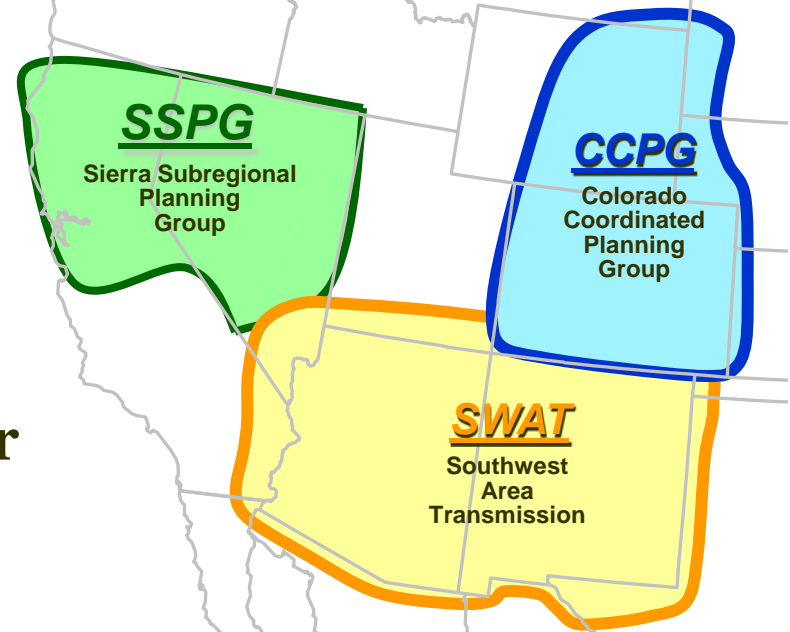
SSPG

SWAT

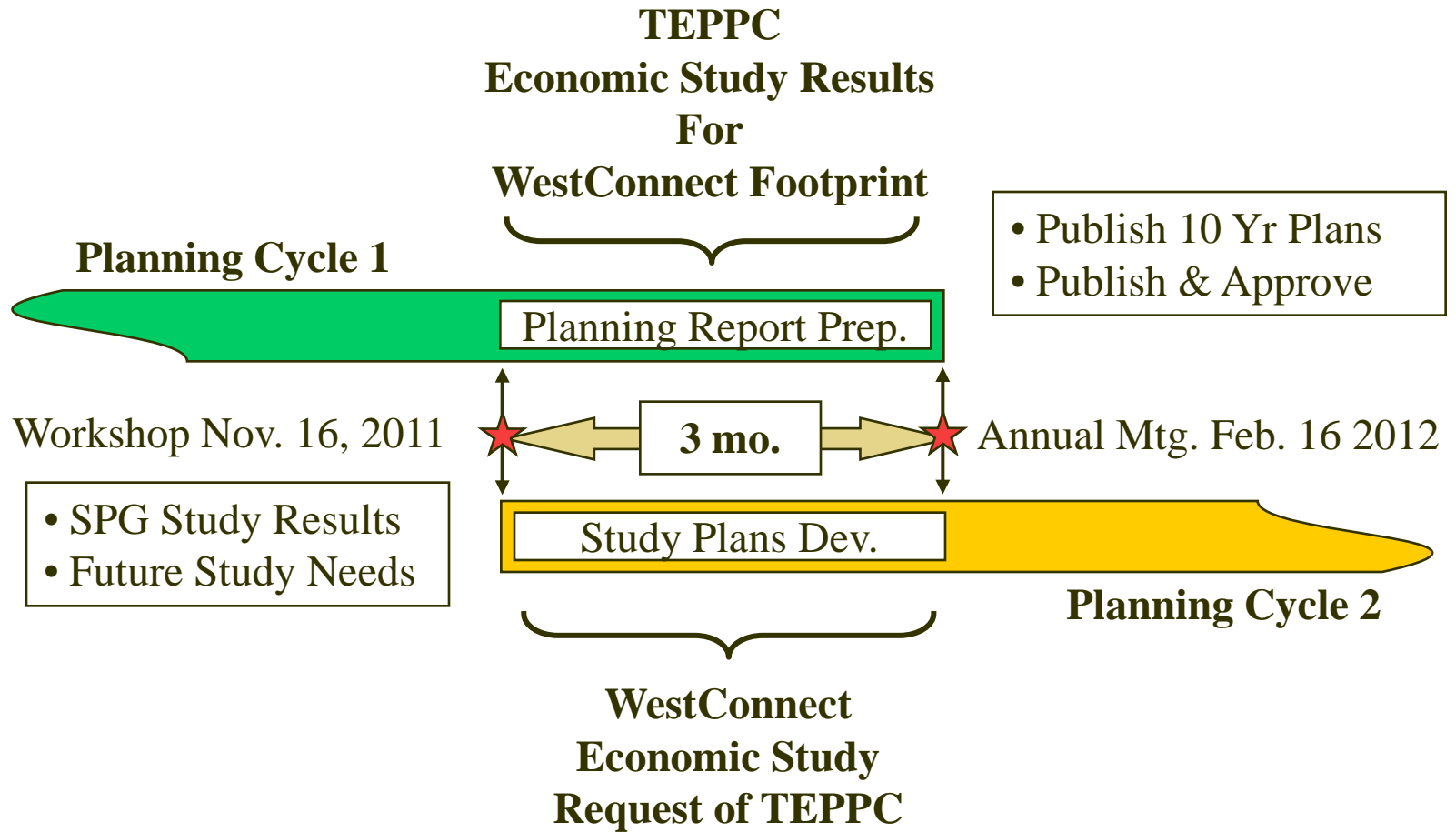
Regional Projects

Plans Include Estimated
Capital Investments

Plans Posted & Presented for
PMC Action in March 2012



Planning Cycle



Process for Plan Development

- Planning Workshop - Ten Year Plans presented by Transmission Providers and Merchant Developers
- Project descriptions submitted by project sponsors and participants through TPPL database entry
- Draft Plan compiled and posted for review.
- Comments addressed and Final Plan posted.
- Plan Presented for PMC action in March 2012

- Process is Managed by MAPPCOR

Regional Planning Is Occurring Voluntarily

Projects that are
driven by
reliability,
economics and
public policy.



WestConnect Supports Processes in the Western Interconnection

- Planning is Inclusive, Bottom-Up Approach
 - Local, Sub-Regional and Interconnection-Wide (Regional) Levels
- Opportunity for Stakeholders to identify particular needs and interests and review and comment upon proposed projects
 - Transmission Providers
 - Customers
 - Generation Developers
 - Environmental Groups
 - Local, State & Federal Governmental Entities
- Member Participation in RTEP Development

Integration of Renewable Resources

- Identification of ways to Efficiently Integrate Renewable Resources through Efforts by:
 - Arizona Renewable Resources and Transmission Identification Subcommittee (ARRTIS)
 - California Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI)
 - Colorado Governor's Office Renewable Energy Development Infrastructure Task Force (REDI)
 - Nevada Renewable Energy Transmission Access Advisory Committee (RETACC)
 - New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority (RETA)
 - NREL's Western Wind and Solar Integration Study (WWSIS)
 - Western Governors' Association, Western Renewable Energy Zones (WREZ)

Coordination of Planning & Operational Solutions

- Considers Emerging Needs
 - Integration of variable resources & access to new resources
- Coordinating operations among Balancing Authority Areas (BAAs)
 - Intra-Hour Scheduling
 - Dynamic Scheduling System (DSS)
 - ACE Diversity Interchange (ADI)
 - Intra-Hour Transaction Accelerator Platform (I-TAP)
 - Balancing Authority Reliability-based Controls (BARC or RBC)
 - Analysis of potential Energy Imbalance Market (EIM)

WestConnect Contacts and Information

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