

WestConnect Guidelines on Intra-hour Reservations and Scheduling

Approved by WestConnect Steering Committee - January 19, 2011

Purpose: The purpose of the document is to establish minimal criteria for the implementation of Balancing Authority (BA) and Transmission Provider (TP) standardized business practices across the WestConnect footprint. Standardized business practices help set the minimal floor for transactions. Individual BAs and TPs may offer Intra-hour Reservation and Scheduling functionality that exceeds the minimal criteria.

Background: This effort coincides with the Joint Initiative and their objective to standardize intra-hour business practices across ColumbiaGrid, Northern Tier Transmission Group, WestConnect, and adjacent systems. The Joint Initiative has identified four steps that will ultimately result in intra-hour schedules that can be submitted at any time for any duration. At this point, WestConnect is focused on Step One which allows intra-hour schedules to begin at the bottom of the hour and have a duration of 30 minutes. The target date for completion of Step One is July 1, 2011. In coordination with WestConnect and Joint Initiatives, these guidelines will be reviewed periodically to ensure they are meeting the needs of BAs, TPs, and transmission customers.

I. Intra-hour Transmission Reservations

An Intra-hour Transmission Reservation is one that is initiated and confirmed up to 15 minutes after the start of the hour in which an intra-hour transaction will be utilized, has a start time at the beginning of that hour, and has a duration of one hour.

Intra-hour reservations are associated with the following characteristics. These characteristics do not exclude any reliability functions performed by a BA e.g. ramp capability during the assessment period:

- TSR can be submitted no earlier than XX:00 and no later than XX:15
- TSR Start Time must be XX:00 of the current hour
- TSR Stop Time must be YY:00 of the next hour, for a total duration of one hour.
- TSR must be Pre-Confirmed.
- An Intra-hour Transmission Reservation will not displace any existing transmission service (i.e. will not 'bump' other requests or confirmed reservations)
- Redirects to Secondary PTP are allowed at the discretion of the TP
- Non-firm PTP service may be offered
- Secondary network service (6-NN) is allowed at the discretion of the TP

II. Intra-hour Transmission Schedules

Intra-Hour e-Tags are associated with the following characteristics:

- Intra-hour e-Tags must be submitted between XX:00 and XX:15 of the operating hour.
- Intra-hour e-Tags must have a transaction duration of thirty [30] minutes
 - Transaction start time must be XX:30 of the operating hour
 - Transaction stop time must be YY:00 of the next hour
- Evaluation time is 5 minutes. BA/TP may respond in less time at their own discretion.
- Default straddle ramp duration will be 10 minutes¹ (XX:25 to XX:35)
- Minimum and maximum duration of transaction is 30 minutes
- Intra-hour e-Tags will only be accepted if sufficient unscheduled transmission capacity exists. BA/TP may place limits, such as one transaction per customer per hour.
- Intra-hour e-Tags are allowed for import/export/wheeling transactions
- BA/TP may suspend Intra-hour Scheduling without prior notice if there is a reliability event in progress or if reliability is adversely impacted.

¹ WECC Guideline

<http://www.wecc.biz/committees/StandingCommittees/OC/ISAS/Shared%20Documents/Guideline%20for%20Intra%20Hour%20e-Tag%20Default%20Ramp%20Rate.pdf>