



## SPSG Members and Stakeholders:

Here is the fifth installment of our bi-weekly newsletter for 2011. As always, we encourage you to share as much of the newsletter as you think would be helpful with your constituents.

Thanks,

*Byron*

## SPSG Member Update for March 11, 2011 (No. 5)

### SPSG ACTIVITY UPDATES

During the past two weeks, the SPSG has completed the following activities:

- The SPSGs Environmental Data Task Force (EDTF) held a [webinar on February 28<sup>th</sup>](#) to receive an update on the case study analysis, discuss where the EDTF recommendations could fit into the WECC 10-Year Regional Transmission Plan, and receive an overview of the new WECC long-term planning tools.

Over the next two weeks, the SPSG will focus on the following activities:

- The EDTF will have webinars on [March 14<sup>th</sup>](#), [March 21<sup>st</sup>](#) and [March 28<sup>th</sup>](#) to begin to develop draft recommendations for inclusion in the WECC 10-Year Regional Transmission Plan, based on the case study observations. As always, SPSG members are encouraged to participate in the webinars.

### TASK FORCE UPDATES

In March, the [Environmental Data Task Force](#) (EDTF) is concluding its case study analysis and beginning to develop draft recommendations based on the observations from the case study. The EDTF will meet via webinar three times in March (14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>) to develop draft recommendations, release a draft recommendations report on April 4<sup>th</sup>, and meet in person tentatively scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> to revise the draft recommendations. EDTF will then provide the revised draft recommendations report to the SPSG and the Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) in early May for those groups' review and discussion during their [May 24-25 meetings](#).

The [Subregional Coordination Group](#) (SCG) will be holding a meeting [April 5-6 in Folsom, CA](#) at the California ISO offices. Agenda items include discussions of the draft Transmission Benefits paper, Reliability Analysis of the 10-Year Plan (hours of selection and contingency list), 2011 Foundational Transmission Plan updates, and draft Transmission Planning the West paper.



## STATE-PROVINCIAL STEERING COMMITTEE (SPSC) UPDATES

The State-Provincial Steering Committee (SPSC) co-coordinated the [Energy Imbalance Market \(EIM\) Crossroads](#) meeting, held in Portland March 7-8. Approximately 160 participants attended the meeting in-person, while another 20 attended by webinar. Panel discussions during the meeting focused on:

- Analysis of potential benefits of an EIM;
- Most likely options of an initial EIM footprint;
- Entities candidates will serve as the market operator;
- Appropriate governance structure for EIM;
- EIM start-up and exiting issues;
- Key tariff issues; and
- EIM's impact on the challenges of integrating variable generation.

Slide presentations for the panel discussion are posted on the [EIM Crossroads website](#). Based on stakeholder input, the following "next steps" were identified.

1. Identify additional information required to make a go/no-go decision.
  - a. Crossroads meeting organizing committee will assemble all suggestions and send them to SPSG and others working on EIM topics.
2. Input into WECC benefit/cost study.
  - a. Key decisions on Phase 2 methodology to calculate benefits.
  - b. April 7 WECC stakeholder meeting.
  - c. Final results presented to WECC Board meeting in June.
3. For states/provinces, April 11-13 CREPC/SPSC meeting includes EIM discussion:
  - a. Benefits/costs;
  - b. Market monitoring;
  - c. Ways to contain start-up costs; and
  - d. Governance.
4. IMPORTANT: BA to BA discussions to determine if there is a critical mass.

The next meeting of SPSC will be held April 11-13 in Seattle. A joint SPSC meeting with the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC) will begin at 1 p.m. Monday April 11<sup>th</sup> and conclude at 5 p.m. Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup>. The SPSC will meet Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to noon. Logistics and meeting material will be posted on the [SPSC and CREPC websites](#).



## NEW DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE

New documents available on the SPSG website include:

- Meeting summary from the [February 28<sup>th</sup>](#) EDTF meeting;
- [Weekly updates](#) from ICF, the technical contractor for the EDTF;
- A [graphic](#) depicting the EDTF process for developing draft recommendations for inclusion in the WECC 1-Year Regional Transmission Plan;
- The [Observations and Buckets](#) and Examples of [Policy](#) and [Data](#) Recommendations;
- A [step-by-step process/schedule](#) for developing the EDTF draft recommendations;
- An [overview](#) of the EDTF process/schedule for developing the draft recommendations; and
- An [agenda and materials](#) for the March 14<sup>th</sup> EDTF webinar.

## FUTURE MEETING DATES

Note: All meetings begin at 1 p.m. on the first day and end at 12 p.m. the next day.

SPSG Meetings:

- [May 23-24](#), Salt Lake City
- [August 9-10](#), Salt Lake City
- [November 1-2](#), Location TBD

TEPPC Meetings:

- [May 24-25](#), Salt Lake City
- [August 10-11](#), Salt Lake City
- [November 2-3](#), Location TBD

## OTHER MEETINGS

Sponsored by the Sonoran Institute:

- [March 22<sup>nd</sup>](#), Phoenix

“Collaborating to Build Arizona’s Clean Energy Future”

To Register or for more information:

[Western Clean Energy Advocates](#) or  
[Paula Randolph](#) (602)393-4310 x307

## GLOSSARY

BA:	Balancing Authority
CREPC:	Committee on Regional Electric Power Corporation
EDTF:	Environmental Data Task Force
EIM:	Energy Imbalance Market
SCG:	Subregional Coordination Group
SPSC:	State-Provincial Steering Committee
SPSG:	Scenario Planning Steering Group
TEPPC:	Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee
WECC:	Western Electricity Coordinating Council