

**PRELIMINARY NOTES**  
**NW TRANSMISSION ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (NTAC)**  
**January 26, 2007 – Portland, OR**  
**9:30 AM-3:30 PM – NWPP Offices, Portland, Oregon**

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**1. Introductions, Arrangements, and Agenda Changes** Chris Reese, PSE, Chair  
Agenda is Attachment 1. Items were not necessarily considered in the order indicated. One item was added for a Proposal for a Forum for New Transmission Planners.

The Attendance is Attachment 2. A number participated by phone.

**2. Meeting Notes – October 31, 2006** David Pennington, NWPP  
The notes were accepted as submitted.

**3. NTAC Sub-Regional Study Efforts**  
It was noted that Columbia Grid & Northern Tier Transmission Group do not want to duplicate what NTAC does. They will work with NTAC and NWPP going forward until such time as another group takes over the NTAC functions. NTAC has a role in addressing seams issues.

**a. Mid-Columbia Transmission Planning Study Group** Eric Heredia  
New projects affecting the study: a line near Coulee City, a wind project near Dry Gulch and a change in facilities on Idaho system near LaGrande. It was noted that information should be shared among all planners. (The TPC will meet to discuss the coordination of the LaGrande phase shifter.) Jeff Miller and Jim Eden have assignments to work on this.

**b. South King County Study** John Phillips  
The Study has been completed. Construction will begin on the Covington-Berrydale line in 2007.

**4. Northwest Wind Integration Action Plan – Draft Transmission Recommendations**  
Chris Reese's presentation is Attachment 3. The NWPPCC and BPA have completed a report on wind integration, which report is available from the NWPPCC website ([www.nwpcouncil.org](http://www.nwpcouncil.org)).

**a. McNary-John Day Corridor** Kyle Kohne  
Kyles presentation is Attachment 4. Improvements to the West of McNary (WOM) path could also help the I-5 Corridor. A request was made that once BPA has completed their development of an initial plan of service that BPA forms a study group under NTAC to collaborate with interested NTAC participants.

**b. I-5 Corridor**  
See sections of Attachment 3 dealing with I-5 Corridor.

**c. Cross Cascades**

Hugh Nguyen's presentation is Attachment 5. Hugh raised concerns over voltage stability issues that occurred in the Puget Sound region during the recent cold weather. It was noted that these issues are the purview of the NWPP Operating Committee. NOPSG will discuss this issue at its next meeting. The PNSC has also reviewed this issue.

However, John Phillips of PSE and James Randall of BPA are performing initial study work of transmission options that could improve North Cross Cascades capacity.

**d. Montana (West Bound)-I5 Corridor Wind Oriented Studies**

Chris suggested that the study (aka Colstrip to Coast) should be revisited with more emphasis on wind generation, most of which is not situated at Colstrip. The study should look at how wind might be integrated.

**5. Projects Undergoing Regional Review**

**a. Northern Lights Proposal**

Bill Hosie

Bill's presentation is Attachment 6. Bill noted that prospective routes have been carefully chosen to avoid tribal lands, national and provincial parks and other sensitive areas. Configuration of the line is not yet final. There is a growing concern over CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the oil sands region. Changes are planned which should mitigate these concerns while enhancing production.

**b. British Columbia to Northern California transmission project**

Sherman Chen

Sherman's presentation is Attachment 7. Membership in study groups is open to anyone. Sherman noted that the study will also consider a DC inland option, which could have synergies with the Northern Lights proposal. For more information see the PG&E website: [www.pge.com/biz/transmission\\_service/canada](http://www.pge.com/biz/transmission_service/canada).

Katabatic Power recently announced a wind project on Northern Vancouver Island.

**c. Sea Breeze Proposal – Juan de Fuca Cable Project**

John Tompkins

Jim Polvi reports that Sea Breeze Pacific-RTS has requested Phase II status of WECC. There are some issues SBP-RTS plans to respond to in Phase II. Some believe the comments must be addressed before Phase I is complete. Questions should be addressed to Rod Lenfest ([rod\\_lenfest@sbp-rt.com](mailto:rod_lenfest@sbp-rt.com)).

**6. Proposed Principles for WI Sub-regional Transmission Planning**

Chris Reese

Not discussed.

**7. Consolidated NTAC Regional Transmission Plans & Information**

All

Not discussed

- 8. TEPPC/TAS Report**
  - a. Model Work Group**
  - b. Studies Work Group**

Chris Reese  
Gordon Dobson-Mack  
Marv Landauer

Not discussed.

- 9. Development of Future Work Efforts**
  - a. PSASG (Canada-NW transfers)**

All  
John Philips

Not discussed.

- b. Wanapum-Avista 230 kV line**

There is a remnant of a 115 kV line that could be upgraded. Avista, Puget Sound Energy, and Grant County PUD are studying whether the upgraded line could be useable. Contact Chris Reese or Scott Waples for additional information.

- c. LSE transformation studies Tacoma City and Snohomish**

Not discussed.

#### **Forum for New Transmission Planners**

The purpose is to acquaint new planners with the system and issues. It could also incorporate electrical engineering students who might consider entering the bulk power field. (Subsequently further developed by TPC and will be under TPC's auspices.)

#### **10. Next Meeting, Location**

March 13, 2007, 9:30-3:30, at the NWPP offices.