



PRELIMINARY NOTES

NW TRANSMISSION ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (NTAC) July 8, 2004 – Seattle, WA

Introductions, Arrangements, and Agenda Changes

Chris Reese, PSE, NTAC Chair, presided over the meeting. The attendance list is Attachment 1. Mark Lindberg, Mark Stauffer, John Leland, Natalie McIntyre, Perry Cole, Bill Pascoe, and Doug Ruse participated by phone.

The Agenda is Attachment 2. One item was added dealing with the base case preparation discussion from the previous day (however there is no record of it being discussed.)

Meeting Notes – May 18, 2004

The notes were accepted with one slight change.

Integrated Path Studies

Montana – Pacific Coast Study

Scott Waples presentation is Attachment 3. Scott also had some information on the difference cases. The goal of this study effort is to provide developers with enough information to decide whether further analysis is warranted. The study group next meets August 16 near the Seattle Airport.

At the request of several NTAC attendees, Northwestern Energy (NWE) will provide some rough estimates of cost of facilities. Scott also requested that Northern Lights bring the “Tar Sands” project into a similar study group forum.

Northern Lights

The Northern Lights Company was formed to try to move generation from resources (hydro or cogen) from NE Alberta to market. If there is no market, these resources will likely not be developed. A DC line is the most likely solution because of the distances involved.

BC – California Study

Gary Deshazo recapped the June 14 meeting of this study group. At that meeting, Marv Landauer presented some alternatives to move power from Canada to California; he is proceeding with further analysis of these options. Gary is interested in knowing the needs that are out there. He proposes a process of “mapping” potential lines that would be studied for technical merit. Then the group would study the economics in a manner similar to RMATS. There is much interest from the California governor’s office. Gary would like to see a larger group discussing these potential projects. It was noted that gas prices are forecast to exceed \$5.50/mmBTU, a fact that could affect study results.

Puget Sound Area Study

Gordon Dobson-Mack’s presentation is Attachment 4. The basic problem is that capacity through this area depends on all lines being in service, an outage of any one line can severely curtail available transfer capability (ATC). To analyze the bottlenecks, the group examined numerous nomograms trying to find those facilities that are most frequently the cause of a curtailment. The study group is refining its analysis

and focusing on three portfolios of solutions. There have already been some improvements as a result of this study effort. It was noted that the portfolios firm up existing capacity and do not increase the capacity of this path.

Cross Cascades South, NJD-COI
Not discussed.

Wyoming/Utah/Idaho – North Pacific Cost Study
No study group has yet formed. One dilemma is to decide the delivery point. RMATS studies assume Grizzly.

NWPP/NTAC Load Forecasting Update

Chris Reese recounted the workshop that NWPP, BPA, and NWPCC hosted on June 16. NTAC will coordinate further discussions of a group that is interested in improving load forecasts. The group will meet in mid-August.

TPC/NTAC Screening Studies

Marv Landauer reported that BPA sent a list of possible outages to each utility for review. It was noted that some systems use different criteria and thus a problem identified on BPA's list may not be a problem at all.

Idaho Power, Northwestern Energy, Portland General Electric, Snohomish PUD, BC Transmission Corp., and Puget Sound Energy have all responded. NWPP will send a reminder note to Seattle City Light, Avista, PacifiCorp, and Tacoma Power.

Other Topics

There is a desire to get a handle on how much load growth and displacement of resources that might occur. There is need to assess import/export capability.

BPA is planning a workshop on Transmission Adequacy to be held September 28 and 29. An agenda will be available on the bpa.gov website.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be August 24 in Portland.