

**Regional Transmission Adequacy Guidelines
(Process Clarification)**

Background:

In Sept. 2004 BPA launched a regional discussion on Transmission Adequacy. The objective was to better balance reliability, economic, environmental and other public purpose objectives to optimize transmission and resources to meet the needs of the region. In response to comments, the effort was shifted to developing regional guidelines under the Northwest Power Pool's (NWPP) Transmission Planning Committee (TPC). The result will be one or more documents to supplement existing NERC, WECC and utility reliability criteria. A first set of guidelines based on the highest priority issues is expected to be drafted by Sept. 30, 2005, with regional review and approval by the transmission adequacy participants in the process by Dec. 31, 2005. Once approved, regional utilities, including BPA, will decide whether to adopt and voluntarily comply with the initial guidelines. A plan will be proposed by the transmission adequacy participants for development of regional guidelines to address remaining issues.

OBJECTIVE

The basic goal of the effort is to address two fundamental questions:

1. How does the region address transmission adequacy challenges that current reliability criteria don't address? (I.e., How do the existing NERC/WECC standards for the bulk system apply to local load areas)
2. What guidelines are needed to address challenges that we have planning for economic upgrades?