

To: State-Provincial Steering Committee
From: Tom Carr, Steve Ellenbecker
Date: August 16, 2011
Subject: **TEPPC Meeting and SPSC Comments on 10-Year Plan**

This memorandum presents a brief update and status report on the State Provincial Steering Committee (SPSC) public [comments](#) submitted August 1 to the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) regarding the Draft Final Regional Transmission Plan (Plan).

On August 5, WECC staff released their [recommendations](#) for proposed responses to public comments filed by all stakeholders. SPSC staff constructed the attached table that identifies the SPSC's August 1 comments and the corresponding WECC staff recommendations on how the comments should be addressed in the final Plan. The color code in the far right hand column represents staff's assessment of the degree to which WECC staff agreed with or rejected the specific SPSC comment (green = agreed, yellow = mixed, red = rejected). WECC's Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) held a meeting on August 10 in Salt Lake City to review public comments on the Plan and consider proposed changes to the Plan.

Prior to the TEPPC meeting, state and provincial representatives present in Salt Lake City for an August 9 meeting of the Scenario Planning Steering Group (SPSG) met to discuss the SPSC's comments and the WECC staff recommendations. Participants in these discussions included Commissioner Jim Tarpey (CO PUC), Commissioner Jason Marks (NM PRC), Scott Barillaro (BC), Howard Schwartz (WA Dept. Commerce), Brian DeKiep (MT PSC), Lisa Schwartz (RAP), Steve Ellenbecker (WIEB) and Tom Carr (WIEB). This group reviewed the WECC staff recommendations, the SPSC comments, and potential strategies to respond to the WECC staff recommendations. The group identified five high priority comments to pursue in the TEPPC meeting discussion.

On August 10, state and provincial representatives participated in the TEPPC meeting including the individuals identified above. Grace Anderson was also at the meeting and Keith White participated via phone. Discussions over the public comments on the Plan lasted for about four hours during the morning session and most of the discussion focused on SPSC comments. The dialogue involved a great deal of give-and-take between the SPSC representatives, WECC staff, and other TEPPC members. SPSC staff drafted the attached memo that describes our understanding on the agreed-to text discussed at the TEPPC meeting relating to SPSC comments to be incorporated in the Plan.

WECC staff intends to release its proposed final version of the Plan on Friday, August 19, which will be considered by the WECC Board September 22. SPSC staff will review the upcoming release of the Plan to assess how the SPSC comments are incorporated into the Plan given the consensus decisions from the TEPPC meeting.