

TO: State-Provincial Steering Committee

FROM: John Savage, Chair

DATE: January 26, 2010

SUBJECT: **January 29 Steering Committee Meeting Decisions**

Staff has posted briefing material for this week's Steering Committee meeting at <http://www.westgov.org/sptsc/meetings/January%202010/01-10agen.pdf> . Some additional items will be posted between now and the meeting so be sure to revisit the web site before leaving for Salt Lake City.

Here are the key decisions we need to make in Salt Lake City.

- Adopt a Steering Committee charter
  - A draft charter was circulated to the Committee on January 13. Suggested amendments were incorporated and a proposed charter was circulated for a vote on January 19. Staff received votes or comments from ten Steering Committee members. At the request of several Committee members, a redline version of the charter reflecting suggested editorial changes was sent to the Committee on January 25. On January 26, Dian Grueneich suggested additional edits to the charter.
  - Staff will work us through a redline version incorporating everyone's proposed amendments. I will ask for a vote at the meeting.
- Adopt a Steering Committee work plan
  - On January 19, staff circulated a draft to the chairs of the Work Groups for comment.
  - A draft amended work plan is posted on the web site. **Please review the draft work plan and provide staff with any suggested amendments before the meeting.**
  - The draft work plan, with any recommended amendments, will be presented at the meeting. Recognizing that the work plan is a "living document" that will be amended as the Committee's work proceeds, we will vote to adopt an initial work plan.
- Decide to submit a study request to Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) by the January 31 deadline

- The Scenario Work Group and the DSM Work Group will present proposed study requests that the Steering Committee would submit to WECC. These requests, which are part of WECC's annual Order 890 study request process, are due by January 31. The study requests do not need to contain all the details necessary to execute the study. Also, these study requests are not a substitute for the scenario development effort that will be undertaken by the WECC Scenario Planning Steering Group.
  - The Scenario Work Group is proposing that the Steering Committee request that WECC study three scenarios: (1) a reference case scenario relying on utility IRPs; (2) A low-carbon case scenario; and (3) a technology change scenario.
  - The DSM Work Group is proposing that the Steering Committee also request the study of additional high efficiency/high demand response/high distributed generation scenario.
  - We will discuss and vote on these recommendations during the Work Group reports.
- Decide on the Committee's work to address integration of variable generation
  - At the November 6 Steering Committee, staff was directed to identify ongoing regional activities related to the integration of variable generation. This information-gathering process is a prelude to the Committee deciding how it wants to address variable generation integration issues. Staff will propose a course of action for us to discuss and vote on Friday morning.
  - One of the proposed action steps is to develop comments in response to last week's FERC Notice of Inquiry on variable generation.
- Elect a Vice Chair of the Steering Committee
- Agree on nominees to WECC Scenario Planning Steering Group (See separate January 26 memo from me.)

In addition, we will discuss priority areas for support from consultants and national laboratories.

Also, the Work Group chairs may organize meetings with their Work Groups on January 28. Steve Oxley's Grid Utilization Work Group will meet at the end of Thursday workshop.

We are expecting attendees from the Alberta DOE, Arizona Corporation Commission, BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, California PUC, California Energy Commission, Colorado PUC, Colorado Governor's Energy Office, Idaho PUC, Idaho Office of Energy Resources, Montana PSC, Montana Governor's Office, New Mexico PRC, Oregon PUC,

Oregon DOE, Utah PSC, Utah Governor's office, Washington Governor's office, Wyoming PSC, Wyoming Governor's office.

We are also expecting key staff from DOE and FERC and ex officio representatives from the Western States' Water Council and the Western Governors' Wildlife Council to attend.

If you cannot be in Salt Lake City, there will be a phone hook up and web link to presentations for both the workshop on the afternoon of January 28 and the Steering Committee meeting on January 29. See the agenda for connection information.

Please contact me (503.378.6025; [john.f.savage@state.or.us](mailto:john.f.savage@state.or.us)) or Doug Larson (303.573.8910; [dlarson@westgov.org](mailto:dlarson@westgov.org)) if you have any questions. See you in Salt Lake City.