

**STRUCTURAL ORGANIZATION AND WORK PLAN:
ASSESSING THE UTILIZATION OF TRANSMISSION PATHS
IN THE WESTERN INTERCONNECTION**

February 18, 2005

This document presents an organizational structure and work plan for the proposed study examining the utilization of western transmission paths.

Structural Organization

The proposed study shall be implemented by two related groups – a Project Steering Committee and a Work Group. The Project Steering Committee will have the responsibility to establish the objectives of the study, identify the specific tasks to be performed, review findings, make recommendations, and supervise the final written report. The Project Steering Committee shall consist of the following organizations and recommended individual representatives.

FERC – Jamie Simler
SSG-WI – Dean Perry
CREPC/WIEB – Doug Larson
RMATS – Jim Byrne
WECC – Steve Ashbaker
WestConnect – Jerry Smith

Other Potential Representatives – CA CEC/ISO; Northwest

The Work Group will be responsible for carrying out the specified tasks including the collection of data, analyzing information, and preparing draft reports. The Work Group will consist of consultants and/or staff from the following organizations.

FERC – Consultant
SSG-WI – Dean Perry
NREL – Michael Milligan, Brian Parsons
CREPC/WIEB – Thomas Carr
WECC – Steve Ashbaker

Work Plan

The proposed work plan envisions two phases for the study. Phase I will be a preliminary study of a smaller set of transmission paths (e.g. five paths). Phase II will expand the study effort to a larger set of transmission paths. The attached table provides a detailed description of the tasks and schedule for this project.

Phase I will serve as an exploratory effort to collect data from OASIS sites, determine the usability of this data, analyze the data, and interpret results. The Work

Group will provide an initial status report to the Project Steering Committee on the availability and usability of ATC data. The Work Group will then proceed to analyze the data, interpret results, and prepare a draft report. The Project Steering Committee will review and comment on the Phase I draft report.

The Project Steering Committee will meet with Stakeholders in the industry to solicit input on the Phase I results and the direction of work for Phase II. The Project Steering Committee and Work Group will incorporate Stakeholder input into a final version of the Phase I report.

Based on the lessons of Phase I, the Work Group will propose a Phase II work plan that identifies study objectives, the paths to be studied, data requirements, and analyses to be performed. The Project Steering Committee will review and approve a Phase II work plan. The Work Group will then proceed to perform the tasks identified in the Phase II work plan. The Work Group will prepare a draft report of the findings for Phase II. The Project Steering Committee will review and comment on the draft report. The Project Steering Committee will subsequently approve and release the final Phase II report.

DRAFT WORK PLAN

ASSESSING THE UTILIZATION OF TRANSMISSION PATHS IN THE WESTERN INTERCONNECTION

Tasks / Subtasks	Comments	Time Required	Responsible Entity
PHASE I		TOTAL = 10 –12 man weeks for Phase I.	
I. Define / Confirm Phase I Study Objectives and approve Work Plan – Project Steering Committee Call	Must agree up front on the objectives since this affects the analysis and presentation of results.	2 day (partially completed)	
Identify initial study paths	SSG-WI PWG discussed at February 3 PWG meeting	completed	
II. Evaluate availability and usability of ATC and other data on initial path set	Most critical part of PHASE I study. Previous SSG-WI reviews have found problems with consistency and availability of ATC data.	3 to 4 weeks – Total elapsed time will depend upon how long it takes to get information and data from OASIS sites.	
Contact OASIS sites			
Check data format, archiving, specific data available, etc.			
Review ATC calculation methodologies for consistency	WestConnect February 22, 2003 meeting for WestTrans plus discussions with TOs.		
Check availability of net schedule data			
Collect data for initial paths (prefer minimum of 1 year of data) – ATC, MW, schedules, limits, etc.	It may take some time to complete this subtask, depending upon workload of staff at OASIS sites.		
Assess usability of ATC data			
Project Steering Committee Call -- Status report re. ATC data assessment		2 day including preparation	
III. Data Analysis and Interpretation of	Assuming above work has been done properly, the	3 to 4 weeks	

results	analysis portion of this task should be a number crunching exercise.		
Organize data (seasonal, peak/off peak etc. according to study objective			
Perform analysis according to study objectives			
Graphic presentation of results			
Interpretation of Results	This subtask may take iterations with Transmission Owners and OASIS sites to understand path usage and scheduling practices.		
Identify issues uncovered during analysis			
Develop explanation of results			
IV. Draft Phase I report		1 week	
V. Meeting with Stakeholders to present results of Phase I and solicit input on work under Phase II.		3 days, including prep time	
VI. Redraft Phase I Report, incorporating Stakeholder input.		2 days	
VII. Develop Phase II Work Plan:		3 days	
Study Objectives			
List of Study Paths			
Data requirements			
Analysis to be performed			
VIII. Meeting with Project Steering Committee to discuss Phase I		3 days, including prep time	

results and approve Phase II Work Plan			
IX. Finalize Phase I report	May want to defer this work and combine Phase I and Phase II into a single Final Report.	Time not included in total estimate for Phase I.	
PHASE II - -Expanded Study		Estimate comparable time to Phase I.	
Phase II Work and paths to be analyzed will be defined as part of Phase I. Shouldn't have to analyze all western paths, only selected additional paths, perhaps an additional 6 to 8 paths.			