

## Summary of November 16, 2006 WIRAB Meeting

The following members participated in the November 6, 2006 Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB) conference call meeting and constituted a quorum:

Alberta	Ian McKay
British Columbia:	Ed Higgenbottom
California	Bill Chamberlain
Colorado	Jeff Hein
Idaho	Marsha Smith
Nevada	Rebecca Wagner
New Mexico	Joanna Prukop
Oregon	John Savage
Washington	Tony Usibelli
Wyoming	Steve Ellenbecker

Also joining the call were Barry Smitherman (Texas PUC), Larry Chaset (California PUC), Chris Ellison/Lynn Houk (WECC Counsel), Pat VanMidde (San Diego Gas & Electric), and Doug Larson/Tom Carr (WIEB)

### Summaries of October 20, 2006 and November 2, 2006 WIRAB Meetings

Joanna Prukop (NM) moved and Steve Ellenbecker (WY) seconded a motion to approve draft summaries of the October 20 and November 2 WIRAB meetings. Motion was approved.

### Public Comments

There were no requests to make public comments.

### Summary of November 16 FERC Business Meeting

Tom Carr (WIEB) and Bill Chamberlain (CA) reported on the FERC business meeting earlier in the day. FERC did not act on items under Section 215 of the Federal Power Act, but did approve with one dissent final rules to implement Section 1221 of EPAct which provides for the preemption of state transmission siting decisions in DOE-designated National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors.

### Funding for Western Reliability Centers (RC)

Doug Larson (WIEB) reviewed the history of actions leading to FERC's denial of statutory funding for WECC Reliability Centers (RCs) and summarized WIRAB discussions on the issue at its previous meeting. Chris Ellison (WECC Counsel) reviewed WECC's draft petition to FERC asking for rehearing of the denial. Doug Larson (WIEB) reviewed staff's recommendation to WIRAB

After extended discussion, WIRAB members directed staff to prepare draft advice to FERC supporting key points in WECC's draft petition and expanding the discussion to address the public policy issues raised by FERC's denial. WIRAB will consider the draft advice on its next call on Monday, November 20.

#### Next Steps

- WIRAB will meet on November 20, 2006 at 1:00 CST / noon MST / 11:00 PST. At this meeting, WIRAB will consider election of a Vice-Chair, as provided by the WIRAB bylaws, decide on advice to FERC on funding WECC RCs, and receive a briefing on issues raised by NERC's Reliability Assessment that WIRAB may want to address. WIRAB will also decide if a webinar on compliance monitoring and enforcement is feasible on December 4. To connect to all WIRAB calls dial 973/935-2026; passcode 311861.
- The December WIRAB meeting conference call is set for December 15, 2006 at 1:00 CST / noon MST / 11:00 PST.