

Summary of September 22, 2006 WIRAB Meeting

The following WIRAB members participated in the September 22, 2006 conference call meeting and constituted a quorum of current WIRAB members:

Alberta: Ian McKay
California: Bill Chamberlain
Idaho: Marsha Smith
Montana: Art Compton
Nevada: Carl Linvill
New Mexico: Joanna Prukop
Oregon: John Savage
South Dakota: Greg Rislov
Washington: Tony Usibelli
Wyoming: Steve Ellenbecker

Also joining the call were Barry T. Smitherman/Rosey McMahill (TX PUC), Louise McCarren (WECC), Pat VanMidde (San Diego Gas & Electric); and Doug Larson/Tom Carr (WIEB)

Summary of August 25, 2006 WIRAB Meeting

With an editorial correction, Marsha Smith (ID) moved and Tony Usibelli (WA) seconded approval of the draft summary of the August 25, 2006 WIRAB meeting. Motion was approved.

Public Comments

No requests to provide comments were received.

Report on FERC's September 21, 2006 Meeting

Doug Larson (WIEB) reported that at its September 21 meeting the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) did not act on issues under Section 215 of the Federal Power Act. Most attention focused on approval of an order in the California ISO's MRTU docket. FERC has yet to issue its proposed rules approving mandatory reliability standards. It is unclear how this delay will affect the timing of the implementation of mandatory standards.

September 29, 2006 Briefing on WECC Reliability Centers

In conjunction with a meeting of the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation, there will be a briefing on the progress of WECC's strategic initiative on Reliability Centers in the Western Interconnection. Reliability Centers constitute a significant part of the WECC budget. **The briefing will be held from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. PDT on Friday, September 29. To connect to the in-person CREPC meeting via**

teleconference dial 973.935.2026; passcode 311961. Staff will email slides that will be used in the presentation.

NERC Proposed Consolidated 2007 Budget

Staff reviewed a draft working paper on potential advice on ERO and WECC fees and budgets. WIRAB agreed to consider potential advice to FERC on the consolidated NERC budget proposal. It is uncertain if FERC will act on the proposed budget at its next meeting, which is scheduled for October 19. **To ensure that WIRAB offers timely advice in case the NERC budget is considered at the Commission's October 19 meeting, WIRAB agreed to the following schedule for developing advice:**

- **Staff will email the first draft of advice to WIRAB members by September 26;**
- **WIRAB members will provide responses and edits to the draft by October 2;**
- **Staff will provide a second draft to WIRAB members on October 3; and**
- **WIRAB members are asked to cast their votes on the revised advice by October 9.**

The schedule may be extended if FERC does not plan to act on the NERC budget submission at its October 19 meeting.

Staff Update

Staff reported on:

- FERC Filings –
 - On August 23, NERC filed a proposed consolidated 2007 budget with FERC. Comments have been filed by a number of western parties.
 - On August 28, NERC filed 27 new or revised standards with FERC. FERC has opened a new docket for the cyber security standards (RM06-22). The other standards are folded into the existing standards docket (RM06-16). FERC is not seeking comments on the NERC proposal at this time.
 - On September 20, NERC made a compliance filing on the governance items in the July 20 FERC order approving the ERO. Comments are due October 20. Advice on the governance of NERC is not enumerated as a function of Regional Advisory Bodies under Section 215(j).
 - On October 18, NERC expects to make a compliance filing on non-governance issues in FERC's July 20 Order. Louise McCarren (WECC) will provide a copy of NERC draft compliance filing on non-governance issues.
 - Future FERC meetings are scheduled for October 19 and November 16.
- Draft WIRAB statement of goals/objectives and work plan –
 - As directed at the August 25 WIRAB meeting, staff prepared a draft WIRAB statement of goals and objectives and a draft work plan/schedule. WIRAB members expressed support for the organization of the document. WIRAB members are to provide staff with comments on the content of the

draft document. A revised document will be prepared for consideration for adoption at the October 20 WIRAB meeting.

- Delegation agreement –
 - Louise McCarren reported on the status of negotiations with NERC. Issues remain regarding the interpretation of FERC’s views on the uniformity of agreements, regional standards, and the contractual arrangements between NERC and WECC. Penalty provisions for non-compliance with standards are not yet clear.
- Webinar on compliance and enforcement procedures –
 - As directed at the last WIRAB meeting, staff has begun to develop information for a webinar on compliance and enforcement procedures. Louise McCarren volunteered to have WECC assist.
- WIRAB request for WECC report on RMS experience –
 - Louise McCarren said she would check on the progress of developing the report.
 - Bill Chamberlain noted that such a study is of interest to WIRAB and FERC.

Next Meeting

The next WIRAB conference call meeting will be held on October 20 at 1 p.m. CDT / noon MDT / 11 a.m. PDT. To connect to the call dial 973/935-2026; passcode 311861.