

## **Summary of May 4, 2007 WIRAB Meeting**

The following members participated in the May 4, 2007 Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB) meeting and constituted a quorum:

British Columbia	Ed Higgenbottom
California	Bill Chamberlain
Idaho	Marsha Smith
Mexico	Marcos Valenzuela
Montana	Art Compton
Nevada	Rebecca Wagner
New Mexico	Joanna Prukop
Oregon	John Savage
South Dakota	Dustin Johnson / Brian Rounds
Wyoming	Steve Ellenbecker

Also present were Tom Schneider (WECC); Pat Van Midde (SDG&E); and Doug Larson / Thomas Carr (WIEB).

Chairman Savage reported that the Governor of Nebraska has appointed Tim Texel to WIRAB.

### Approval of the April 4 Meeting Summary

Joanna Prukop (NM) moved and Steve Ellenbecker (WY) seconded a motion to approve the draft summary of the April 4 WIRAB meeting in Denver. The motion was approved.

### Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

### Update on FERC Developments

Tom Carr (WIEB) reviewed three decisions FERC announced at its April 19 meeting that related to priority issues for WIRAB:

- Funding for WECC Reliability Coordinators – Order on Rehearing, Docket No. RR06-3-001 (Apr. 19, 2007); and
- Delegation Agreement Order: NERC's Compliance Filing, Docket No. RR06-3-000 and the WECC-NERC Delegation Agreement, RR07-7-000 (Apr. 19, 2007); and
- Confidentiality of data addressed in FERC's delegation agreement order.

### Update on WECC and NERC Developments

Doug Larson (WIEB) and Bill Chamberlain (CEC) reported on the April 24-27 WECC annual meeting and WECC Board meeting including:

- Recommendations to WECC from Class 5 members (states/provinces);
- Election of Class 5 members (Marsha Smith, ID PUC, Lee Beyer, OR PUC, Ric Campbell, UT PSC);
- Re-election of Bill Chamberlain (CEC) as chairman of the WECC Board;
- Formation of a Regulatory Committee within the WECC Governance and Nominating Committee and the creation of a Compliance Hearing Body;
- Approval of WECC's 2008 budget; and
- Challenges WECC faces in the coming year (e.g., implementation of the Reliability Center initiative, compliance with ERO and possibly Tier 1 WECC mandatory standards; improving the relationship with NERC including greater western involvement in NERC standards development processes; a new regional standard on time error correction; follow-up on FERC action on WECC's proposed Tier 1 regional standards; potential revisions to standards on reserve requirements; efforts to develop frequency response reserves).

Doug Larson reported that the NERC Board met earlier in the week and staff will be providing WIRAB with information on NERC actions, including any action on data confidentiality. Tom Carr reported on WECC and NERC workshops on standards enforcement which have been very informative. John Savage (OR) encouraged WIRAB members to participate in such workshops and noted that WIRAB has funds to reimburse travel to such workshops.

#### WIRAB 2008 Work Plan and Budget

Doug Larson presented the proposed 2008 WIRAB budget and work plan, and reviewed changes to list of action items for the current year and 2008. During its March 26 meeting, WIRAB decided to maintain the same budget level in 2008 as in 2007. Steve Ellenbecker (WY) suggested that WIRAB consider a workshop for WIRAB members and others on compliance with elements of Order 890. The timing of such a workshop would depend on related developments. WECC held a workshop on April 10 addressing the planning requirements in Order 890 and scheduled a workshop for May 10-11 on the other elements of Order 890. The May 10-11 workshop is fully subscribed, but can be accessed through a webcast. One can register for the May 10-11 webcast at this [link](#) and review the workshop [agenda](#). Steve Ellenbecker also suggested that WIRAB members monitor the audit of WIRAB expenditures which will occur in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2007. The audit will coincide with an independent audit of expenditures of the Western Interstate Energy Board.

Bill Chamberlain (CA) moved and Joanna Prukop (NM) seconded approval of the budget. The motion was approved. The approved budget will be translated in a form required by NERC and provided to WECC and NERC.

#### WIRAB Position

Doug Larson reported that notice of a job position to support WIRAB's work has been posted on the WIRAB and WIEB websites. The position is for a grid reliability engineer and policy analyst who would bring greater technical expertise to WIRAB. WIRAB also discussed use of consulting funds in the 2007 budget to tap technical expertise, potentially from some retiring company employees.

#### Next Steps

- The next WIRAB conference call meeting is set for July 9 at 9:00 PDT / 10:00 MDT / 11:00 CDT. To connect dial 404.260.1415; passcode 4290832.
- If developments warrant, a WIRAB conference call meeting will be arranged before July 9.
- Likely agenda items for the July 9 meeting are: approval of the summary of the May 4 WIRAB meeting; public comments; report on FERC's May 17 and June 21 public meetings; and update on recent WECC and NERC developments, including issues that may arise with the enforcement of mandatory standards beginning on June 4.