

Summary of January 26, 2007 WIRAB Meeting

The following members participated in the January 28, 2007 Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB) conference call meeting and constituted a quorum:

Alberta	Ian McKay
British Columbia:	Ed Higginbottom
California	Bill Chamberlain
Idaho	Marsha Smith
Montana	Art Compton
Nevada	Rebecca Wagner
New Mexico	Joanna Prukop
Oregon	John Savage
South Dakota	Dustin Johnson
Washington	Tony Usibelli

Also joining the call were Mike Welles, WECC, Eric Olson, Navigant, and Doug Larson/Tom Carr (WIEB).

Summary of January 5, 2007 WIRAB Meeting

Joanna Prukop (NM) moved approval of the draft summary of the January 5, 2007 WIRAB meeting summary. Tony Usibelli (WA) seconded the motion which was approved.

Public Comments

There were no requests to make public comments.

Status Report

Doug Larson reported:

- FERC's January 18 business meeting yielded several decisions of interest.
 - An order on NERC's compliance filing under Docket No. RR06-1-003, which was discussed later in the meeting.
 - The Commission's imposition of civil penalties which did not relate to violations of reliability standards but which Chairman Kelliher said has implications for enforcement of standards under Section 215 of the Federal Power Act.
 - The Commission's proposed rules to amend its codes of conduct rules.
 - FERC's new web site on market monitoring.

The Commission did not act on other issues of interest to WIRAB, such as funding of Western Interconnection Reliability Centers.

- NERC has begun conveying fees that have been collected to support the WIRAB 2007 budget. The budget includes funds for WIRAB travel. Staff was directed to draft a policy on WIRAB travel that will be considered at WIRAB's next meeting. Staff will also distribute to WIRAB members a job description for a position to assist WIRAB.
- WECC is holding three workshops on its Compliance Enforcement Program (February 20-21 in Portland; March 1-2 in San Diego; March 28-29 in Denver.) WIRAB members may want to consider attending.
- WIRAB bylaws require the organization to hold at least one face-to-face meeting per year. That meeting has been set for April 4 in Denver. A draft meeting agenda will be circulated for review by WIRAB members. Meeting logistics can be found at <http://www.westgov.org/wieb/site/wirab/wirabindex.htm> .
- Bill Chamberlain (CA) and Doug Larson (WIEB) will meet with FERC staff on February 9. The meeting is in response to FERC staff recommendations for expanding communication with WIRAB. The meeting had been planned for last fall but was postponed due to FERC schedule conflicts.

Potential advice to NERC and/or FERC on the eight regional standards proposed by WECC

Tom Carr (WIEB) reviewed a staff memo covering WECC's proposed regional standards and implications of FERC's January 18, 2007 FERC order on NERC's compliance filing. After discussion, WIRAB decided to:

- Directed staff to draft and circulate by February 2 proposed advice to NERC on its review of WECC's proposed regional standards.
- Set February 8 as the target date to reach agreement on WIRAB advice to NERC. This would be before the NERC Board of Trustees meeting on February 12-13.
- Postponed to a future meeting, a decision on whether to offer advice to FERC on the WECC proposed regional standards.

Regarding the effect of FERC's January 18, 2007 order on WIRAB's views on the confidentiality of information under Section 215, it was agreed to revisit this issue based on any insights garnered from the Bill Chamberlain/Doug Larson meeting with FERC staff on February 9.

Next Steps

- The next WIRAB conference call meeting is set for February 26 at 3:00 p.m. CST/ 2:00 p.m. MST / 1:00 PST. To connect dial 404.260.1415; passcode: 4290832. Likely agenda items include: approval of a summary of the January 26 meeting; updates on recent developments, including FERC's February 15 meeting; and potential advice to FERC on the eight regional standards proposed by WECC.
- Draft advice to NERC on approval of WECC's proposed regional standards will be circulated to WIRAB members by February 2. The target date to approve such advice is February 8.