

## Summary of the June 3, 2010 WIRAB Meeting

The following members participated in the June 3, 2010 Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB) meeting, and constituted a quorum.

British Columbia	Scott Barillaro
California	Bill Chamberlain
Colorado	Morey Wolfson
Idaho	Marsha Smith
Montana	Tom Kaiserski
Nebraska	Tim Texel
Oregon	John Savage
South Dakota	Brian Rounds
Texas	Donna Nelson, Melissa Oehler
Washington	Tony Usibelli, Mark Anderson

Also present were Louise McCarren/Mark Maher/Steve Reuckert/Dave Godfrey/Chris Luras/Lisa Milanese/Michelle Mizumori/Tricia Kritzberg (WECC staff); Pat Van Midde (SDG&E); Doug Larson/Tom Carr/Victoria Ravenscroft/Steve Ellenbecker/Jim Williams (WIRAB staff).

John Savage (OR, WIRAB Chairman) opened the meeting, and welcomed guests from WECC. He reviewed the meeting agenda, and asked for public comments. Hearing none, he proceeded with the agenda as outlined.

### Approval of Recent Meeting Summaries

WIRAB Chairman John Savage (OR) asked for corrections or objections to the draft summaries of the March 5, 2010 and April 21, 2010 WIRAB meetings. No corrections or objections were made, and the summaries were approved as drafted.

### WIRAB 2011 Budget

Doug Larson (WIEB) explained the proposed WIRAB budget for calendar year 2011. The proposed budget is essentially the same as the 2010 budget. Based on experience over the past year, the 2011 proposed budget reduces the allocations for meetings, travel and conference calls. Staff proposed that, in the event that WECC does not fund a cost/benefit study of the Efficient Dispatch Toolkit (EDT), WIRAB should fund the study. Louise McCarren (WECC) said that she expects the proposed 2011 WECC budget will be approved and will include \$400,000 for the cost/benefit study. She noted that FERC action on the WECC budget conveys "program approval," which is needed regardless of the funding source. Bill Chamberlain (CA) observed that it is desirable for the study to be overseen by WECC, including the Market Interface Committee. Marsha Smith (ID) moved that the proposed 2011 WIRAB budget be approved without an increase of \$400,000. and that WIRAB will consider EDT study funding in the event that WECC funding is not provided. Bill Chamberlain seconded the motion, which was approved.

### WIRAB Advice to FERC on Civil Penalty Guidelines

Doug Larson explained the background for the proposed advice to FERC. John Savage supported the recommendations in the proposed advice, but said that the rationale needs work. Staff will redraft that advice, based on edits offered by John Savage and Bill Chamberlain. The redraft will be re-circulated as soon as possible. [WIRAB approved the [revised advice](#) on June 14.]

### WIRAB Chair and Vice-Chair

Doug Larson reported that John Savage and Rebecca Wagner (NV) had offered to continue to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, provided that others are not interested. Marsha Smith moved that John and Rebecca be elected as WIRAB Chair and Vice-Chair by acclamation. The motion was approved.

### Efficient Dispatch Toolkit (EDT)

Doug Larson asked Louise McCarren to provide a WECC response to the Class 5 recommendations made at the WECC annual meeting, summarized in meeting background materials. Ms. McCarren focused on Recommendation #1, regarding the EDT. Michelle Mizumori (WECC) reported that WECC has created a steering committee for the study, chaired by Mark Maher. A technical review committee has also been formed. A second conference call meeting is scheduled for June 3. The Steering Committee is defining the status quo baseline for the cost-benefit analysis, and how the status quo should include various incremental reforms.

Doug Larson referred to WIRAB's April 8 advice on the EDT study, noting differences between WIRAB's advice and WECC's activities to date. WIRAB will have to consider whether WECC's direction comports sufficiently with WIRAB advice to warrant WIRAB funding. John Savage asked Doug to keep WIRAB up-to-date.

### Violations Database

Victoria Ravenscroft (WIEB) reported on a May 20 conference call with WECC staff, regarding access to the public violations in the WECC database. Publicly-available information will be used for the WIRAB violations mapping pilot project. She reported on the project kickoff meeting with ESRI, and noted that the contract will be signed shortly. Under the contract, WIRAB will be able to host the pilot demonstration through December 2010.

John Savage suggested the formation of a focus group, in part to suggest frequently asked questions for use in application design.

### Proposed WECC 2011 Business Plan and Budget

Trisha Kritzberg (WECC) reviewed the draft WECC budget, posted May 28. The proposed budget is \$69 Million, partially offset by standards enforcement penalties. In addition, WECC will receive \$29 million in (multi-year) grants from the Department of Energy. The proposed budget includes funds for development of the Base Case Coordination System (BCCS), enhancement of webSAS, and a cost/benefit study of the Efficient Dispatch Toolkit. The WECC Finance Audit Committee will review the budget on June 4. It will then be reviewed by the WECC Board, and should be submitted to NERC on July 8.

Louise McCarren said that the budget adequately plans for all the “knowns,” but not necessarily for the “unknowns,” many of which could involve cyber security and/or critical infrastructure protection. WECC has \$9 million in reserve.

#### FERC Remand of BAL-002-WECC-1

Steve Ruekert (WECC) summarized WECC’s May 24 response to FERC’s proposed remand of the revised regional standard and noted that NERC had also commented in support of the WECC position. Conference calls between FERC staff and WECC staff are continuing. Bill Chamberlain said he thought the WECC response was good. Doug Larson asked whether WIRAB should weigh-in, noting that no comment period is specified. Marsha Smith suggested that WIRAB should support the WECC position. John Savage asked staff to consider preparing advice to FERC.

#### Transmission Line Separation Requirements

With reference to Class 5 recommendation #2, Dave Godfrey (WECC) noted that regional criteria governing transmission line separation requirements are being reviewed, with no time frame for recommended changes.

#### Criteria for Establishing New Balancing Authorities

With reference the recommendation of Class 5 that WECC petition NERC and FERC to re-evaluate conditions for approving new Balancing Authorities, Louise McCarren said that WECC will continue to apply the NERC criteria and WECC is not planning to petition for a change.

#### FERC’s March 18 Orders

Louise McCarren observed that the several FERC orders issued on March 18, taken together, shift control of standards setting and enforcement from industry to FERC. She did not suggest what the industry response would be.

#### Next Meeting

Several dates were discussed. Staff will poll the members to identify a convenient date and time.