Welcome to the first installment of the Org Report, a monthly e-newsletter that summarizes and shares information about SPP's organizational group activities. The Communications Department will work closely with the Staff Secretaries of each group to track key votes, decisions, and the development of initiatives.

We hope the Org Report will give you a better understanding of SPP and how our organizational groups impact and inform each other.

We will distribute the first few issues of this report via particular organizational groups’ Exploder lists. If you would like to continue receiving the Org Report after that time, please subscribe by visiting our Email List page (http://www.spp.org/exploder.asp) and selecting the Organizational Group E-Newsletter Exploder.

On November 9-10, SPP’s organizational group chairs and secretaries met to discuss ways to improve the effectiveness of our committees, working groups, and task forces. After reviewing survey results, Michael Desselle, Vice President of Process Integrity and CAO, led a brainstorming session to identify specific ideas for improvement.

The group came up with 40 ideas, which were arranged into 5 categories:

1. Meeting Management/Communications
2. Governance/Restructuring
3. Nimbleness/Speed
4. External Relations
5. Compliance

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) forwarded the results of the brainstorming session to the Board of Directors. The Board tasked the SPC with developing a plan to address and implement the recommendations identified during the organizational group chairs and secretaries meeting.

This is the first such meeting of SPP chairs and secretaries, and should lead to a more efficient and effective SPP.
EIS Market Launch Set for February 1

At its December 12 meeting, the SPP Board of Directors authorized staff to file certification with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a February 1, 2007, implementation of SPP's Energy Imbalance Services Market.

Market Working Group Approves PRRs at Monthly Meeting

The Market Working Group held its monthly meeting on December 5-6. Agenda items included: Protocol Revision Requests, Deployment Test Update, and System Stability Update.

The MWG approved the following: PRR 109 (Availability of LIP Data), PRR 114 (Protocol Revision Request), PRR 119 (Correction of Acronyms), PRR 121 (SPP Payments to Invoice Recipients), PRR 127 (A/S Plan Manual Changes), PRR 132 (Manual Status), PRR 133 (Definition of Scheduled Load), PRR 134 (Initial Settlement Timeline), and PRR 135 (Substitution of Missing Net Actual Interchange).

The MWG agreed to ask the MOPC, RTWG, and ORWG to review PRRs 132, 134 and 135 for the February 1st EIS Market Go Live.

Operating Reliability Working Group Holds 4Q Meeting

At their December 12 meeting, the ORWG reviewed and approved PRR110, PRR113, PRR114, PRR116, PRR117, PRR119, PRR120, PRR121, PRR125, PRR127, PRR132, PRR134, and PRR135.

The ORWG approved removing ramp rate restrictions in the Market Transition and Reversion Overview and suggested adding language in Section 6 indicating an ORWG-approved contingency reserve requirement increase during market transition.

Chair Scott Moore resigned from the ORWG as a result of workload changes at AEP. Pete Kuebeck will serve as Acting Chair until a permanent replacement can be named. Vacancies on the ORWG were filled by Dan Boezio of AEP and Danny McDaniel of CLECO.

The Month in Review

Business Practice Working Group, 12/13/06 and 12/21/06: The BPWG approved changes to Business Practice 2.11, a document that defines the criteria for requesting NITS service from non-designated resources. The BPWG requested that the RTWG, MOPC, and ORWG approve the document.


Cost Allocation Working Group, 12/20/2006: The CAWG held a special meeting to review a draft recommendation to MOPC regarding the OGE waiver. The recommendation was approved.

Finances Committee, 12/11/2006: The committee met with external auditors to discuss results of 2006 SAS70 audit. Participants reviewed a recommendation to change financial security requirements of transmission customers requiring transmission system upgrades to provide service. They also reviewed the limitation of liability provisions in the SPP tariff and discussed reasons to consider changes to the provisions. Finally, the FC reviewed implications of PRR 134, which would change the initial settlement date for market transactions to 7 days following the operating day.
Market Implementation Task Force, 12/01/06, 12/06/06, 12/08/06, 12/13/06, 12/18/06, and 12/20/06: The 12/1 and 12/8 meetings each included a Market Status Update and Deployment Test Debrief. Participants voted to accept the updated SPP Market Trials Approach. The group also drafted a Change Management Process and Guidelines to be presented to the Market Working Group. For a complete list of action items, visit the MITF Homepage and select the appropriate meeting materials from the Related Documents link at the left.

Market and Operations Policy Committee: MOPC approved PRR128 (Response to Notification of Market Infeasibility) and PRR125 (Violation Realization Limits), contingent on ORWG review. The group also discussed changing the compensation for reactive provision in Schedule 2 of the Tariff. This motion was defeated with several members providing minority opinions.

Operations Training Working Group, 12/11/2006: SPP staff will submit a draft pricing proposal for the 2007 Regional Training to the OTWG, post the 2007 Regional Training calendar, and continue planning for the April System Operator Conference.

Transmission Working Group, 12/11/2006: The TWG approved the 12/06/06 version of the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan 2006-2016 report, with recommended changes. SPP staff will update the Long Range Mitigation Review report and review the disposition of previously proposed Tariff Attachment O changes.

This is a summary of SPP organizational group meetings that occurred in December, 2006. For complete minutes of a particular group meeting, please visit www.spp.org and select that committee on the Committees and Groups page. Click on the "documents" folder in the left panel to view meeting minutes.