Change Working Group Formed

The newly-formed Change Working Group met for the first time in December to discuss its function and learn more about the working group organizational process. According to its charter, the Change Working Group coordinates and schedules any changes to the interfaces between SPP systems and the members required to implement or enhance needed functions. The group will then recommend any process improvements to other working groups to facilitate these interfaces.

The CWG will report directly to the Market and Operations Policy Committee. They will review changes and recommend processes to ensure that SPP members and market participants have the data required by the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff, NERC Standards, SPP Criteria, Market Protocols, and Business Practices. The group, which will meet quarterly, is chaired by Dave Kulha, with Ronald Spicer as vice-chair.

Organization Reviewing Staff Secretary Role

SPP organizational groups are assigned staff secretaries for purposes of providing administrative support, subject matter expertise, and facilitation to the group. To enhance organizational effectiveness, this role is being reviewed for each group to determine whether one staff person can and should serve all three roles.

“Some of the groups have outgrown the ability for one person to handle all of the needs of the group. The initiative is targeted at getting the right people in the right places,” said Michael Desselle, VP of Process Integrity and Chief Administrative Officer. “These assignments will be made depending on the nature of issues before the group, and may call for outside or contract facilitation from time to time,” he said.

The Month In Review

Board of Directors/Members Committee, 12/11: The December meeting focused on organizational effectiveness, and the group reviewed results of organizational group, Board of Directors, and Stakeholder Satisfaction surveys. Along with approving the organizational group rosters, they also approved several Tariff filings in accordance with the MOPC’s recommendations. The 2007 PriceWaterhouseCoopers audit report was also approved.

Finance Committee, 12/10: In their quarterly meeting, the Finance Committee accepted the Credit Task Force recommendation to shorten the cure period for transmission defaults to five days. Other agenda items included the 2007 SAS 70 Audit report and the SPP Internal Audit functionality.

Operations Training Working Group, 12/3: The OTWG began a nomination process to fill the vacancy on the OTWG. The group also discussed SPP training policies for 2008, which included topics such as registration, Regional Entity pricing, and non-Regional Entity participation.

Oversight Committee, 12/11: The Oversight Committee approved the Market Monitoring and Mitigation Plan final draft and discussed a benefits assessment methodology for the SPP Energy Imbalance Service market, both of which will be presented for discussion at the January Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting.

Transmission Working Group, 12/4: The TWG reviewed the SPP Transmission Expansion Plan (STEP) 2008-2017 report, making changes to more accurately reflect the process and results. The TWG will meet soon to approve the STEP.

Other Meetings

Market Working Group, 12/11-12

This is a summary of recent SPP organizational group meetings. For complete minutes of a particular group meeting, please visit www.spp.org and select that committee on the Org Groups page. Meeting minutes are located in the left
Please contact Laura Haywood in the Communications Department with questions or comments about The Org Report.