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Ciesiel named SPP RE General Manager

JULY 23, 2012 – LITTLE ROCK, AR. Southwest Power Pool (SPP) RE Trustees today announced that Ron Ciesiel has been named General Manager of the SPP RE effective August 1. Ciesiel, who is the SPP RE Executive Director of Compliance and Acting General Manager, replaces Stacy Dochoda who left May 1 to become President and CEO of the Florida Reliability Coordinating Council (FRCC) in Tampa, Florida.

"After an extensive search and interview process, the trustees believe we have found the right person to provide the leadership we expect for the RE," said Chairman John Meyer.

Ciesiel has worked 34 years in the electric utility industry including 20 years for Gulf States Utilities in various technical capacities, and nine years with SPP. He has been part of the SPP RE for the last five years. Ciesiel has a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech, a master’s in business administration from Lamar University and a law degree from the University of Louisville.

“I appreciate the opportunity to lead the RE staff,” Ciesiel said. “It is a group of very talented, dedicated professionals who are clearly focused on meeting the three strategic objectives of effectively performing NERC-delegated functions, creating member and Registered Entity value, and enhancing reliability and critical infrastructure protection.”

The SPP RE, an independent and functionally separate division of SPP, was created to fulfill the duties specified in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission-approved Regional Entity Delegation Agreement between SPP and NERC. As a NERC Regional Entity, SPP RE promotes and works to improve bulk power system (BPS) reliability by overseeing regional reliability standard development; monitoring and enforcing registered entities' compliance with reliability standards; assessing and evaluating BPS reliability; and providing technical expertise and assistance to BPS owners, operators and users, in particular registered entities located within SPP RE’s footprint - an eight-state area including all or parts of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.