SPP Announces Regional Entity Trustees

June 26, 2007, LITTLE ROCK, AR – On June 22, 2007, the SPP Membership elected Mr. David Christiano, Mr. Gerry Burrows, and Mr. John Meyer to serve as the SPP Regional Entity (RE) Trustees. SPP was recently approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to serve as a North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Regional Entity, overseeing standards development and compliance enforcement for the region. The governance structure requires the establishment of the RE Trustees panel. RE Trustees are charged with the oversight of SPP’s Regional Entity function, including its administration, budgeting, staffing, and policy development. Upon election, each trustee will serve on a staggered three-year rotation.

David Christiano served in the electric utility industry since 1971, and retired from City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, in 2006. He is a former member of the NERC Engineering Committee and NERC Operating Committee, and served on various committees and working groups for SPP during his career. Mr. Christiano has a strong operations and technical background, as well as experience with a smaller transmission system.

Gerry Burrows worked at Kansas City Power and Light from 1971 until his retirement in 2006. During the last 10 years, he served as Manager of Transmission Services. Burrows held leadership roles with NERC, serving on the NERC Operation Committee and Standards Drafting Team. Burrows also served on various SPP committees and task forces during his career.

John Meyer is retiring as the Vice President of Regional Transmission Organization Activities for Reliant Resources in Houston, Texas. Meyer has significant industry experience with large organizations, along with functional experience in the transmission and generation components of the power industry. He has worked in both the NERC and FERC arenas, as well as other regional organizations, and has a strong understanding of markets and their interaction with reliability.

According to SPP President and CEO Nick Brown, “This is a great team that will provide tremendous knowledge and support to SPP’s new responsibilities as a Regional Entity. We look forward to working with them as they initiate our Regional Entity function.”

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Southwest Power Pool is a group of 49 members serving more than four million customers across eight states of the Eastern Interconnection. Membership is comprised of investor-owned utilities, municipal systems, generation and transmission cooperatives, state authorities, wholesale generators, power marketers, and an independent transmission coordinator. SPP has served as a regional reliability council of the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) since 1968, and was designated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as a Regional Transmission Organization in 2004 and a Regional Entity in 2007.

Since 1997, SPP has provided independent security coordination and tariff administration, pursuant to a FERC-approved tariff, across its service area with over 33,000 miles of transmission lines and a gross plant investment approaching $4 billion.