October Meeting Summaries

SPP held its Annual Meeting of Members and quarterly Board of Directors and Members Committee meeting Oct. 27 at the SPP Corporate Campus in Little Rock. There were 137 people in attendance either in person or by phone. Members approved three recommendations from the corporate governance committee: (i) nominations for three-year terms for the Board of Directors, Members Committee and Regional Entity Trustees; (ii) compensation changes for the Board of Directors and Regional Entity Trustees; and (iii) revisions to bylaws of the Regional Entity. Read the minutes from the Annual Meeting of Members.

The Board of Directors and Members Committee also approved various committee and staff recommendations, including nominations for the 2016 Industry Expert Pool (IEP) to review competitive transmission upgrade projects; the 2017 Integrated Transmission Plan 10-year (ITP10) scope and the method for distributing funds to members under the SPP-MISO settlement agreement. Read the summary of actions and minutes.

Cost Allocation Working Group: The CAWG welcomed three new members to the roster as a result of the Integrated System (IS) Integration, amended and approved the Aggregate Study Waiver Criteria Scope document, and approved RR119 – Incremental Long-Term Congestion Rights Compliance Filing in ER14-2553. CAWG members reviewed the New Member Cost Allocation Process document and volunteered to work on specific sections, both individually and collaboratively. Additionally, the group discussed the Regional State Committee (RSC) Education Session Scope, heard a presentation on the SPP-MISO Regional Review and received verbal summaries from the RSC and Capacity Margin Task Force (CMTF) September 2015 meetings.

Human Resources Committee: The HRC reviewed a compensation report from Mercer consultants, approved merit pool funding for the 2016 budget, approved revised SPP Performance Compensation Plan Metrics, conducted fiduciary training and received the annual 401(k) Plan report from the 401(k) investment manager.

Markets and Operations Policy Committee: The MOPC held its quarterly meeting Oct. 13-14 at the SPP Corporate Campus in Little Rock with over 130 in attendance. The MOPC voted to approve 15 revision requests and the 2017 Integrated Transmission Plan 10-year (ITP10) scope. The MOPC also voted to approve staff’s recommendation to withdraw 11 Notice to Construct (NTC) projects and reinstate one NTC project. An update was presented on the Integration Systems Market Impact. A demonstration was given on the new SPP website www.spp.org that launched Oct. 15. Read the summary of actions and minutes.

Market Working Group: The MWG reviewed and approved a number of Revision Requests including RR111 – Changes to Local Reliability Make Whole Payment distribution, RR115 – Resource Retirement Timeline and RR124 – Rejection of incomplete Market Registration Documentation and voted to implement the aggregate energy offer design for the JOU Combined Option. Per an action item from the SPP Board of Directors (BOD), the group also reviewed and developed draft responses to the nine recommendations for market design changes from the SPP Market Monitoring Unit (MMU) in their 2014 Annual State of the Market report. The group will finalize the responses in November and prepare them for presentation to the MOPC and BOD in January.

Operating Reliability Working Group: The ORWG approved five agenda items. The group approved the consent agenda, which contained RR112 – EEC Cleanup, and the ORWG approved changes to the Revision Request process, RR117 – Splitting SPP Criteria, RR116 – Quick-Start Resource Enhancements and the Basin Rapid City HVDC SPS. The ORWG reviewed outage coordination metrics, the Stakeholder Prioritization Process, updates to RR98 - Expanding the Use of SPP CROW and reviewed ORWG Action Item status. The ORWG bid farewell to Greg McAuley and recognized his leadership and commitment to the ORWG. The ORWG also welcomed Bryn Wilson as a new ORWG voting member.

Operations Training Working Group: The OTWG finalized the 2016 schedule for reliability training courses, including the System Operations Conferences. Registration for all 2016 training courses will open Nov. 9, 2015, at 2 p.m. CST. The group heard a review of the Marketplace Symposium, held in Little Rock on Oct. 7-8. The evaluations indicate the event was very successful, and the feedback will help plan another great event in 2016. The OTWG charter revisions were approved by the Market Operations and Policy Committee and Board of Directors. Nominations for additional OTWG Members will be solicited.
Regional Entity Trustees: The Trustees heard a presentation on the 2015-2016 Winter Reliability Assessment, which reported that reserve margins are adequate for the upcoming winter. The 2015 SPP RE Stakeholder Survey found that stakeholders are pleased with SPP RE’s provision of services; the overall rating was 4.1, between “good” and “excellent.” The Trustees heard presentations on the NERC Operating Committee’s recent activities, 2016 Implementation Plan, CIP, Events Analysis, third quarter financials and the Compliance and Enforcement programs.

Regional State Committee: The RSC held an educational session and its quarterly meeting Oct. 26. During the quarterly meeting, the RSC voted unanimously to accept the RSC’s 2016 Budget as presented. In addition, the RSC elected its 2016 officers with a unanimous vote. Commissioner Patrick H. Lyons was elected President, along with Commissioner Stephen M. Stoll as Vice President and Chair Shari Feist Albrecht as Secretary/Treasurer. Chairman Donna Nelson thanked RSC President Dana Murphy for her outstanding service this year as the 2015 RSC President, which was met with applause from the room. The RSC unanimously approved both the Aggregate Study Waiver Criteria Evaluation Scope as proposed by the Cost Allocation Working Group (CAWG) and Revision Request 119 for compliance with FERC’s Order in Docket No. ER14-2552—001 relating to Incremental Long Term Congestion Rights. RSC President Murphy presented former Arkansas Public Service Commissioner Olan “Butch” Reeves a Resolution of the RSC for his service on the RSC, including service as President of the RSC and the Chairman of the Regional Allocation Review Task Force. Updates on a number of topics were presented to the RSC including: the work of the Regional Allocation Review Task Force, the EPA Clean Power Plan Rule 111(d), recommendations on Notification to Construct reevaluations, the work of the Capacity Margin Task Force, seams matters, the Integrated Marketplace, the 2017 ITP10 Scope and the work of the Transmission Planning Improvement Task Force. The next regular meeting of the RSC will be an in-person meeting Jan. 25, 2016 in Oklahoma City.

Transmission Working Group: The TWG reviewed and approved the use of reliability metrics in the 2016 Integrated Transmission Plan Near-Term (ITPNT) Assessment, received an update on the Transmission Planning Improvement Task Force (TPITF) and walked through the draft deliverability whitepaper under development from the Capacity Margin Task Force (CMTF).

Upcoming Meetings

To view the current schedule of meetings, visit the SPP Calendar.

For more information about an SPP organizational group, go to Org Groups.

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