THE ORG REPORT: FEBRUARY 2020

A monthly summary of organizational group activities

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS COMMITTEE MEETING: JAN. 28

The Southwest Power Pool (SPP) board of directors approved the consent agenda and discussed the Pauline-to-Hastings sponsored upgrade. The board endorsed the sponsored upgrade and directed SPP staff to work with the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and the sponsor to negotiate a sponsored upgrade agreement. The group discussed the approved the Western Energy Imbalance Service (WEIS) Tariff and authorized SPP to file the tariff with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

The group heard updates from the Regional State Committee (RSC), Oversight Committee, Finance Committee, Strategic Planning Committee and the Markets and Operations Policy Committee.

MARKETS AND OPERATIONS POLICY COMMITTEE (MOPC) MEETING: JAN. 14-15

The committee held a pre-MOPC meeting education session to discuss aging infrastructure, strategic market roadmap and the effective load-carrying capacity battery storage study results. MOPC voted to approve and/or endorse 15 revision requests, a sponsored upgrade, the 2021 Integrated Transmission Planning (ITP) assessment scope and manual waiver and the 2020 SPP Transmission Expansion Plan.

MOPC heard updates from the Market Working Group (MWG), Supply Adequacy Working Group (SAWG), Economic Studies Working Group (ESWG), Regional Tariff Working Group (RTWG) and the Regional State Committee (RSC) and OMS Liaison Committee. The group heard updates from SPP Staff on North American Reliability Corporation (NERC) and North American Energy Standards Board activities, the inverter-based integration study, the energy storage white paper, review of the Organizational Effectiveness Survey, consolidation of working groups, stakeholder prioritization, Holistic Integrated Tariff Team (HITT), conservative operations, activity in the west and SPP’s compliance.
JANUARY MEETING SUMMARIES

BALANCING AUTHORITY OPERATING COMMITTEE (BAOC)

Revision request (RR) 386 (BAOC membership update to Attachment AN) was approved by the Operating Reliability Working Group (ORWG) Jan. 7, and approved by MOPC Jan. 14. The next steps are still in progress.

CHANGE WORKING GROUP (CWG): JAN. 22

The CWG discussed upcoming markets, settlements, transmission congestion rights and SmartQ releases. The group received an update on customer training and recommendations for efforts to increase and track market participant testing engagements.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: JAN. 17

The Finance Committee reviewed preliminary work from the Credit Practices Working Group (CPWG), reforming SPP’s credit policy. The work focuses on enhancing the information provided in the initial credit application, increasing the minimum capitalization required to become a market participant and changing the exposure calculation to require collateral from all holders of transmission congestion rights. The CPWG expects to bring formal recommendations for these reforms, and others, early in the second quarter of 2020.

MODEL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP (MDWG); JAN. 22

The Model Development Working Group (MDWG) discussed transmission age, condition data-collection benefits and challenges for modeling and transmission planning. Staff and MDWG worked on the current 2020 series MDWG and 2021 Integrated Transmission Plan (ITP) powerflow and short-circuit model builds. The SPP standards department provided an update to MDWG for NERC reliability guideline development and standards revision, including NERC’s distributed energy resource (DER) MOD-032-1 Data Collection Reliability Guideline creation and MOD-032-1 Standard revision for DERs. MDWG reviewed the results of SPP’s 2019 Organizational Effectiveness Survey.

MARKET WORKING GROUP (MWG): JAN. 21-22 & 29

During the Jan. 21-22 meeting, the MWG discussed the status of HITT initiatives appointed to the MWG:

- HITT M1 (Implement Congestion Hedging Improvements)
- HITT R3b (Implement Market Enhancements FSRs)
- HITT R4 (Uncertainty Product)
The MWG discussed three open action items:

- MWG AI 361 (Protocol-Tariff Terminology Review Update)
- MOPC AI 299 (MWG to Evaluate SPP’s Wind and Solar Forecasting Performance and Capabilities in Consideration of Implications Related to Implementation of RR361 Ramp Capability Products)
- MWG AI 391 (SPP Staff to Determine how Often a Resource is cleared for OR in the Day-Ahead Market, but in real-time is not cleared for OR)

SPP staff discussed the SPP Strategic Market Roadmap and encouraged the group to provide their initiative requests for 2020.

During the Jan. 29 meeting, the MWG reviewed HITT initiatives:

1. HITT M4 (Study Economic Evaluations of Reliability)
2. HITT S3 (Energy Storage White Paper)
3. HITT R5 (Study Additional Operational Tools)

Other topics of discussion are in the MWG minutes posted on SPP.org.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (SPC): JAN. 15

The SPC discussed the energy storage white paper. The chairs and secretaries of the MOPC and SPC will be developing a framework to address the issues raised in the report to share at the April SPC meeting. SPP staff provided an overview of the 60:40 ratio used in the ITP process. The group directed staff to provide a more systematic process for selecting assumptions to improve the decisions used in modeling studies. The SPC continues its efforts to develop the 2020 strategic plan.

SYSTEM PROTECTION AND CONTROL WORKING GROUP (SPCWG): JAN. 15

SPCWG has a standing agenda item called “Protection in Your Shop,” which consists of best-practice presentations conducted by SPCWG members on topics related to protection and control to improve system performance. Topics recently covered were fault distance analysis and short circuit model validation, tracking settings using Enoserv to meet PRC-027, settings and settings philosophy, testing relay settings, substation commissioning and engineering test lab.

Steve Wadas (NPPD) reviewed PRC-026 (Setting relays to not trip for stable power swings) requirements R2, R3 and R4 with an effective date of Jan. 1, 2020. SPCWG discussed setting options to make zone 2 compliant with the PRC-026 when zone 2 extends into the stable region.

David Wheeler (Xcel Energy) provided an update on the Crossroads-Sagamore windfarm remedial action scheme (RAS). The SPCWG approved the RAS at the Oct. 2019 meeting. The RTWG and ORWG are reviewing Xcel Energy’s RAS documents and will vote on approval at their
February 2020 meetings. After approval by all three working groups, the RAS document will go to MOPC for approval.

The SPCWG approved the RAS specification document at the Oct. meeting. The RTWG made recent changes to the document and the group confirmed the changes did not affect the SPCWG. MOPC will consider the RAS specification document for approval at its April meeting. After approval, SPP staff will post the RAS specification document to the SPP website in April. SPP will start the new procedure May 1, for all new, retired and modified RAS schemes. On May 1, SPP will work with the Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) to transition five RASs from the MRO to SPP.

SPCWG approved the under frequency load shedding (UFLS) five-year study at the Oct. 2019 meeting. The next SPP regional UFLS five-year study is scheduled for 2024.

WESTERN RELIABILITY WORKING GROUP (WRWG): JAN. 14-15

The WRWG received reports from the three taskforces under its purview concerning completion of their associated scope items. After the WRWG heard reports from the Congestion Management and Seams Taskforce and the Reliability Coordination Readiness Taskforce, the WRWG decided to stand down these taskforces. The West Modeling Taskforce (WMTF) reported on remaining open items and the WRWG made the decision that the WMTF should continue progress on open items and report to the WRWG at the April meeting. The WRWG received updates on SPP West reliability coordination (RC) activity since going live and proposed future RC metrics. The group elected Marc Desmarais as the new WRWG vice chair to fill an open position.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

To view the current schedule of meetings, visit the SPP.org calendar.

For more information about an SPP organizational group, go to SPP.org’s Org Groups page.

Please contact Meghan Sever in the SPP communications department with questions or comments about The Org Report. Back issues of The Org Report are available here.