

**Southwest Power Pool
WESTERN RELIABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 13, 2021
8am to 10am MST (9am to 11am CST)
Net Conference**

• M I N U T E S •

1. Call to Order

Chair Wade Kiess called the meeting to order at 8:02 am MST (9:02 am CST) on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

2. Attendance and Quorum Determination

CJ Brown took attendance and confirmed that quorum was met.

3. Review and approval of WREC meeting agenda

Wade Kiess reviewed the meeting agenda with the committee and requested for approval. Sam Rugel motioned to approve, seconded by Denton McGregor; with no further discussion or opposition, the motion was approved.

4. Approval of WREC Minutes from October 28, 2020 open meeting

Wade Kiess reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting with the committee and requested for approval. Bob Staton motioned to approve, seconded by Jonathan Aust; with no further discussion or opposition, the motion was approved.

5. Review of Past Action Items

- a. SPP (Yasser) to add some benchmarks for the quarterly SPP Metrics.

<IN PROGRESS>

Q4 Metrics are being developed. Benchmarking what is a healthy/unhealthy forecast and how granular it should be is being evaluated. SPP is leveraging methodology used in

the Eastern Interconnect as a starting point. WREC will meet again prior to Q1 2021 Performance Metrics being posted. WIRCEC is discussing comparison of metrics used by other RCs.

Action Item: SPP to share a link with WREC via email when quarterly SPP Metrics are posted.

6. WRWG Updates and Approval Items

Marc Desmarais updated the group on the November 10, 2020, WRWG meeting. Monitored element methodology was discussed. SPP has action items pending. The market integrated task force was also discussed. Progress has slowed waiting for direction from WREC. ECCWG talked about expanding their congestion management process interconnect wide. Chair/Vice Chair elections and COVID-19 were on the agenda as well.

The December WRWG meeting agenda included COVID and modification request 4; which was approved via email vote. This change to data requirement specs will allow phone calls, not just ICCP, to be an acceptable means of communication with the RC. R-Comm was also considered as another means of communicating with the RC.

7. WEIS Progress Report

CJ Brown and Yasser Bahbaz informed the group that FERC approved SPP's tariff filing on December 23, 2020, to move forward with the WEIS Market. SPP WEIS Operators are trained and desk qualified. Parallel Operations have been ongoing since December 10, 2020. A Go/No Go vote for February 1, 2021 Go-Live is upcoming on January 22nd.

Bob Staton asked about WEIS-related training of SPP West RCs. CJ noted that lessons learned from SPP's EIS Market rollout in 2007 are being applied and SPP is prepared to adapt as necessary to changing conditions.

8. EIM Project Update

Per Wade Kiess, Platte River is moving full speed ahead to meet deadline of April 2022 go-live. Bob Staton noted it is a heavier lift than initially thought but PSCO will be ready for April 2022 go-live as well.

Sam Rugel shared that Tuscon's go-live in the EIM will also be April 2022. It will be a big year due to changing EMS and moving into a new control center on top of new market software.

Denton McGregor said that Black Hills is looking for a different SIM as their current OSI SIM is not converging.

9. COVID-19

CJ Brown shared that SPP has had a few more cases but nothing widespread. Transfer appears to be occurring in public, not in the control rooms. No cases have required hospitalizations thus far. Fogging treatments and additional distancing of Operators in the control room have been implemented. Mostly normal operations have been maintained as far as covering shifts. SPP HR and Southwest Employee Assistance Program staff are scheduled to speak to each crew during their training week kickoff meeting. CJ is also encouraging staff during those meetings to be considering if they want to get the vaccine when it becomes available. SPP will not mandate vaccination. CDC protocol contact tracing is performed if an Operator tests positive. Only a few Operators have had to be contact trace quarantined, thanks to additional spacing of Operators.

Bob Staton noted PSCO has had 4 cases. Luckily, almost all were heading into their long time off. None have had to be hospitalized. One Operator that is immune suppressed was able to get the vaccine. Vaccine availability has been on a case-by-case basis for staff in Colorado thus far.

Per Sam Rugel, Tucson Electric Power is following mask protocol but has backed off on deep cleaning lately. They are receiving vaccines next week. Approximately 60% of staff are voluntarily planning to get the shot.

Keith Carman shared Tri-State is not allowing anyone in cubicles without wearing a mask.

Everyone that has to be onsite regularly has been moved to an office. Efforts to get staff

classified as priority 1B was not successful. Working to get vaccines for any Operators that want it. Tri-State will not mandate staff get vaccinated.

Wade Kiess noted Platte River is utilizing their training space next to the control room. Operators can still see each other but are in separate spaces and therefore do not have to wear masks. Thermometers were available to take home for Operators to do a self-check prior to coming into work.

Jonathan Aust informed the group that WAPA was not requiring staff to get vaccinated but is looking at ways to incentivize employees to get it if they want to; much like the flu shot. Their return to office plan is based on metrics of number of cases, etc. No date to come back into the office has been set. With operations in multiple states, Wyoming, Colorado, etc. evaluation of what priority rules apply (state you work in or state you live in) have not been set in stone.

Bob Staton expressed appreciation of having this topic on the agenda. It was beneficial to hear what others are doing regarding COVID-19.

10. Other Items

Yasser Bahbaz informed the group Grid BA is joining SPP RC services April 1, 2021. Grid BA is the same company as GridForce which manages it New Harquahala, Arlington Valley, and Griffith Energy. SPP already has a relationship with those entities and receives data from them. SCADA points will need to be added. Data quality check deadline is in February. SPP plans to upload to WECC by Feb. 15. No transmission, just generation, will be included in this addition. These are generators that are widely dispersed. Parallel Operations is planned to begin March 9th. SPP will be doing tabletop exercise with RC West in preparation for the April 1 Go Live.

CJ & Keith expressed appreciation for Samantha Gwei's long-term support of the group. Hamilton Bitely will be assuming her support role moving forward, as she will be moving to another department within SPP.

11. Summary of Action Items

- a. SPP to share a link with WREC via email when quarterly SPP Metrics are posted.

12. Future Meetings

Wade Kiess agreed with CJ Brown that the October/November 2021 in-person meeting may be determined at a later meeting due to current uncertainties.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Host</u>
4/28/2021, Wednesday	8-10am MT	WebEx
7/21/2021, Wednesday	8-10am MT	WebEx
October/November 2021	TBD	In-Person

13. Executive Session Discussion

Not required.

14. Adjournment

Wade Kiess called for a motion to adjourn the open meeting at 9:25am MDT (10:25am CDT). Keith Carman motioned to approve, seconded by Jonathan Aust; with no further discussion or opposition, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
CJ Brown
WREC Staff Secretary

Attendance:

Wade Kiess (PRPA, WREC Chair)

Denton McGregor (Black Hills, WREC Vice Chair)

Bob Staton (PSCo)

Calvin Dacus (TEP)

Eric Baran (WIRAB)

Hank Adair (Farmington)

Ian Wren

Jason Smith (Orsted)

Jonathan Aust (WAPA)

Lloyd Linke

Kassia Micek

Kaleb Brimhall (PRPA)

Kara Fornstrom

Keith Carman (Tri-State)

Marc Desmarais

Pam Feuerstein

Rebecca Johnson (WAPA)

Sam Rugel (TEP)

Shane Sanders (AEPCO)

Steve Ashbaker

Warren Rust (CSU)

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CJ Brown (SPP, WREC Staff Secretary)

Hamilton Bitely (SPP)

Leslie Sink (SPP)

Raleigh Mohr (SPP)

Samantha Gwei (SPP)

Yasser Bahbaz (SPP)