

**SPP-NTC-220866**

**SPP**  
**Notification to Construct with Conditions**

December 13, 2024

Mr. Jeremy Severson  
Basin Electric Power Cooperative  
1717 E. Interstate Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58503

RE: Notification to Construct with Conditions Approved Reliability Network Upgrades

Dear Mr. Severson,

Pursuant to Section 3.3 of the Southwest Power Pool, Inc. ("SPP") Membership Agreement and Attachments O and Y of the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff ("OATT"), SPP provides this Notification to Construct with conditions ("NTC-C") directing Basin Electric Power Cooperative ("BEPC"), as the Designated Transmission Owner, to construct the Network Upgrades. This NTC is conditioned upon BEPC not ordering materials or beginning construction until:

(1) the DTO submits a refined NTC-C Project Estimate ("CPE") to SPP that has a variance bandwidth of -20% to +20% that does not exceed the Study Estimate variance bandwidth of -30% to +30% as provided for in SPP's Business Practices; or

(2) the SPP Board of Directors considers SPP's re-evaluation of a project that has a refined CPE from the DTO that exceeds the Study Estimate variance bandwidth of -30% to +30% as provided for in SPP's Business Practices.

On October 29, 2024, the SPP Board of Directors approved the Network Upgrade(s) listed below to be constructed as part of 2024 ITP.

**New Network Upgrades**

**Project ID:** 94795

**Project Name:** Line - Patent Gate 345 kV - Pioneer 345 kV New Line

**Need Date for Project:** 4/1/2025

**Estimated Cost for Project:** \$125,299,432

**Network Upgrade ID:** 169993

**Network Upgrade Name:** Patent Gate - Pioneer 345 kV Ckt 1 New Line

**Network Upgrade Description:** Build approximately 50 mile 345 kV Ckt 1 line from Patent Gate 345 kV substation to Pioneer 345 kV substation and upgrade

any necessary terminal equipment to achieve a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.

**Network Upgrade Owner:** BEPC

**Categorization:** Regional Reliability

**Network Upgrade Specification:** All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

**Network Upgrade Justification:** 2024 ITP

**Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars):** \$117,000,000

**Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade:** Base Plan

**Estimated Cost Source:** BEPC

**Date of Estimated Cost:** 7/5/2024

**Network Upgrade ID:** 169994

**Network Upgrade Name:** Patent Gate 345 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade

**Network Upgrade Description:** Install any necessary terminal equipment at Patent Gate 345 kV substation to support a new line from Patent Gate 345 kV substation to Pioneer 345 kV substation with a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.

**Network Upgrade Owner:** BEPC

**Categorization:** Regional Reliability

**Network Upgrade Specification:** All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

**Network Upgrade Justification:** 2024 ITP

**Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars):** \$678,333

**Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade:** Base Plan

**Estimated Cost Source:** BEPC

**Date of Estimated Cost:** 7/5/2024

**Network Upgrade ID:** 169995

**Network Upgrade Name:** Pioneer 345 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade

**Network Upgrade Description:** Install any necessary terminal equipment at Pioneer 345 kV substation to support a new line from Pioneer 345 kV substation to Patent Gate 345 kV substation with a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.

**Network Upgrade Owner:** BEPC

**Categorization:** Regional Reliability

**Network Upgrade Specification:** All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

**Network Upgrade Justification:** 2024 ITP

**Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars):** \$7,621,099

**Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade:** Base Plan

**Estimated Cost Source:** BEPC

**Date of Estimated Cost:** 7/5/2024

### **Commitment to Construct**

Please provide to SPP a written commitment to construct the Network Upgrade(s) by March 13, 2025. Failure to provide sufficient written commitment to construct as required by the SPP OATT could result in the Network Upgrade(s) being assigned to another entity.

### **CPE**

Please provide SPP a CPE by the earlier of 1) four months in advance of the start of the next Integrated Transmission Plan Assessment (ITP) or 2) June 11, 2025, as described in SPP's Business Practice No. 7060 regarding Notification to Construct with Conditions. Please also include a construction schedule with your CPE. BEPC shall advise SPP of any inability to provide the CPE by the date specified, as soon as the inability becomes apparent. This due date may change as a result of the final outcome of the FERC docket related to the Tariff changes to implement the revised ITP process.

### **Removal of Conditions**

Upon notice by SPP of removal of the conditions contained in this NTC, SPP will issue the DTO a new NTC and the following will be applicable:

### **Mitigation Plan**

The Need Date represents the timing required for the Network Upgrade(s) to address the identified need. Your prompt attention is required for formulation and approval of any necessary mitigation plans for the Network Upgrade(s) included in the Network Upgrade(s) if the Need Date is not feasible. Additionally, if it is anticipated that the completion of any Network Upgrade will be delayed past the Need Date, SPP requires a mitigation plan be filed within 60 days of the determination of expected delays.

### **Notification of Commercial Operation**

Please submit a notification of commercial operation for each listed Network Upgrade to SPP as soon as the Network Upgrade is complete and in-service. Please provide SPP with the actual costs of these Network Upgrades as soon as possible after completion of construction. This will facilitate the timely billing by SPP based on actual costs.

### **Notification of Progress**

On an ongoing basis, please keep SPP advised of any inability on BEPC's part to complete the approved Network Upgrade(s). For project tracking, SPP requires BEPC's to submit status updates of the Network Upgrade(s) quarterly in conjunction with the SPP Board of Directors meetings. However, BEPC shall also advise SPP of any inability to comply with the Project Schedule as soon as the inability becomes apparent.

All terms and conditions of the SPP OATT and the SPP Membership Agreement shall apply to this project(s), and nothing in this letter shall vary such terms and conditions.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions or comments about these requests. Thank you for the important role that you play in maintaining the reliability of our electric grid.

Sincerely,

*Casey Cathey*

Casey Cathey

Vice President, Engineering

Phone: (501) 614-3267 • Fax: (501) 482-2022 • [ccathey@spp.org](mailto:ccathey@spp.org)

cc: Lanny Nickell - SPP  
Natasha Henderson - SPP  
Tony Green - SPP  
Sunny Raheem - SPP  
Jason Mazigian - BEPC  
Phil Westby - BEPC  
Gavin McCollam - BEPC  
Matt Ehrman - BEPC  
Boyd Trester - BEPC