Credit Working Group ERCOT Meeting Minutes January 26, 2011 (Face-to-Face Meeting with Webex – Austin Energy)

## Attendance

Independent Retail	Peter J. Karculias – Cirro Group Inc.
Electric Providers	Amanda List – Direct Energy
	Ryan Evans – ACES Power
Independent Power	James Farrell – Constellation Energy Commodities Group
Marketers	Phil Priolo – Exelon Generation Company LLC
	Keith Volf – Keystone Energy Partners
Independent Generators	Arleen Spangler- NRG Texas LLC
	Morgan Davies – Calpine Power
	Cesar Seymour – GDF Suez
	Mark Holler – Tenaska
	Richard Guierrez – NASDAQ
	Vanus Priestly – Macquarie Energy LLC
Investor Owned Utilities	Don Blackburn – Luminant Generation Company LLC
	Tim Coffing – Luminant Generation Company LLC
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Municipals	Tamila Nikazm – Austin Energy
•	Josephine Wan – Austin Energy
	Don Daugherty – City of Garland
	Jack Brown – City of Garland
	Lee Starr – Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU)
	Domingo Villarreal – CPS Energy
Cooperatives	Roger Stewart – Lower Colorado River Authority
_	Loretto Martin – Lower Colorado River Authority
	Shams Siddiqi - Lower Colorado River Authority
Others	Randy Baker – Smith Street Advisors
	Kevin Carter – Duke Energy Ohio
	Stephen Hess – Edison Mission
	Seth Cochran – DC Energy
	Bob Whittmeyer
	Brian Ellison
	Tyler Stoneman
ERCOT Staff	Cheryl Yager

Vanessa Spells
Rizaldy Zapanta

Tamila Nikazm called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

# **Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2011**

Tim Coffing submitted a motion to approve the January 7<sup>th</sup> CWG/MCWG meeting minutes. Tamila Nikazm seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **Review of CWG Charter**

CWG Charter to be reviewed at next CWG meeting.

## **Review PRRs/NPRRs**

The group discussed the following PRRs/NPRRs and agreed there were no credit implications:

<b>NPRR 290</b>	ERCOT Publication of DAM PSS/E Files
<b>NPRR 294</b>	Texas SET 4.0 Including: Acquisition and Transfer of Customers
	From One REP to Another; Meter Tampering Transactional
	Solution
<b>NPRR 298</b>	New Definitions Related to Black Start
<b>NPRR 299</b>	Remove Requirement for ERCOT Board Approval of PUCT, IMM,
	and FERC Required Reports
<b>NPRR 301</b>	Correct Energy Trade Language for Adjustment Period
<b>NPRR 303</b>	Requirement to Post PTP Options Cleared in DAM or Taken to
	Real Time
<b>NPRR 304</b>	Removal of Frequency Bias Methodology Approval Requirement
<b>NPRR 305</b>	Timeline for Calculating the Value of X

Loretto Martin submitted a motion that there are no credit implications on the above PRRs and NPRRs. Ms. Nakizm seconded the motion. Motion passed.

# Feedback from F&A Meeting

Ms. Nikazm provided an update from the Jan F&A Meeting

## **2011 Projects-Review Assignments of Sub-groups**

Participants were asked to sign-up to work on 2011 Project sub-groups. The contacts for the sub-groups are:

- Nodal Credit Calculations Tim Coffing
- Netting/Mutuality Tamila Nikazm
- ERCOT Unsecured Credit Policies Arleen Spangler
- Tightening settlement/payment cycle Loretto Martin

Roger Stewart requested the meeting announcements and agendas be forwarded to the CWG & MCWG distribution lists.

## PTP Obligations offset with CRRs

Mr. Coffing presented to the group that the Day Ahead Market requires collateralization of PTP bids even when the Counter-Party holds expiring CRRs for the same Source/Sink/TOU/MW.

The group discussed ways to more efficiently address this scenario and began drafting a NPRR based on the discussion and generally agreed that an effort in this area would be beneficial.

Ms. Yager agreed to discuss best options with DA operations to address operational concerns.

## Reducing Settlement/Payment Timeline and Forward Risk

Ms. Martin provided an update on a proposal to reduce the settlement timeline and payment process.

The group discussed various options and ERCOT agreed to bring back a draft NPRR. For a long term solution, Mr. Coffing noted that there might be a benefit to "matching up" DA and RT Operating Day activity on the same invoice, even if the DAM settlement time line were delayed somewhat to achieve this.

Jack Brown indicated that he would like to see the low hanging fruit addressed initially. The group agreed to continue to work with SEWG on reducing the settlement and payment timeline.

#### **Forward Risk**

Cheryl Yager provided the group with a presentation on Forward Risk. She provided the group with an example of the potential impacts of reducing settlement, invoicing, and payment cycles on collateral and potential losses, noting that it was possible for losses to increase with increased netting if collateral went down disproportionately with the default risk.

Morgan Davies reminded the group that over \$1 billion in collateral was currently held in the ERCOT Market. Ms. Yager noted that the required collateral per the TPE was about the same as it was in Zonal. Since collateral held is substantially higher than collateral required, she stated that it was her belief that market participants posted extra collateral at ERCOT due to uncertainty around market open. Her expectation was that collateral would come down over time.

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## Netting/Mutuality

Ms. Nikazm informed the group that the sub-group was looking for ways to make netting of CCE to FCE available for all entities (given certain conditions) in the ERCOT Market. Ms. Nikazm noted that she planned to visit with other ISOs and review other papers on the subject while considering how the market should handle netting.

## Next steps:

- Get ERCOT to adapt a solution once a decision is made
- Review entities that are currently exempt and see where municipalities fall

Mr. Coffing asked whether the group wanted to look at alternative forms of collateral.

Mr. Brown indicated that he would like to review alternative suggestions and not limit the solution to the 1<sup>st</sup> Priority Security Agreement.

#### **ERCOT Standard Form Letter of Credit and Guarantee Agreement**

Ms. Yager informed the group that Mr. Seely is compiling the comments for the documents and plans to review with F&A during the April meeting. ERCOT will circulate 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of comments on March 4. Final comments are due back from MPs by March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.