

**Regional Planning Group  
Meeting Notes  
December 15, 2015**

**Misc. Updates**

- April 19 (Tuesday) RPG meeting moved to April 21 (Thursday)
- RTP report sent to TSPs on December 4. Comments due 12/18.
- Q: when is RTP going to be final? A: Would like to post before Christmas.
- Dana: Minor changes to final Regional Haze rule. Scrubber upgrades and retrofits stayed the same as the proposal.
  - What is the RPG role after those units are defined as targeted units that need retrofits? Will there be a special study or will you roll it into an annual plan?
    - It's up to resource entities to decide if they're going to comply or retire the units.

**Panhandle Update**

Fred Huang presented an update on the Panhandle studies.

Q: When do you plan on having the system strength constraint operational in real-time?

A: We will complete the calculation this month and work with ERCOT operations to release the information to stakeholders before they implement it in real-time.

Q: So we don't know when?

A: We'll have to check with Operations. We can take this note and have them provide an update.

**2016 LTSA Generation Expansion**

Doug Murray presented an update on the 2016 LTSA Scenarios.

Q: In the environmental mandate scenario, do you assume compliance with the CPP? Or does that figure into any of the scenarios?

A: We don't assume compliance. We will look at the impacts of carbon dioxide fee ranging from \$5 to \$50 per ton. We won't know the outcome until we run the model.

Q: You would report whether results would be compliant with the environmental mandate?

A: Yes, we will report CO2 emissions totals.

Q: With your 1,500 MW DC Tie, how will that be operated?

A: At this point, I have two methods that we will discuss internally on how to best handle. The first method would be to model the tie as an external load and generator. The external generator would be a combined cycle and there would be a hurdle rate on the tie to limit the flows to a reasonable amount. The second method would be to fix the flows in and out of ERCOT based on historical flows. Then scale them up to match the size of the new tie.

Q: On slide 2, the fixed capacity retirements, was there a financial analysis done to determine that? Is this an input or an output?

A: This is an input. At the September meeting we discussed the fixed methodology and looked at the age of units, so it was at that point that we set the 25 years for wind, 50 for gas, 55 years for coal and 60 years for nuclear.

Q: Economic retirement process?

A: Yes, the model will do that and look at fixed and variable costs.

Q: Slide 5: DC Tie, single tie or how do you figure out where to locate it?

A: Several options, what we've done in past is build a couple new ties or one new tie vs. taking the ones we have and increasing their size. Likely we'll have one or two more ties.

Q: You mention rooftop solar but don't mention utility scale solar.

A: Utility solar is part of generation expansion and that is done economically by the model.

### **LP&L Integration Study Scope**

Ben Richardson presented on the study to integrate Lubbock into the ERCOT system.

Q: Slide 3: Differentiate between N-1-1 and a N-1 maintenance outage.

A: N-1-1 analysis would include the loss two single transmission elements, whereas the N-1 maintenance outage would consider maintenance outage of double circuit outage followed by loss of ERCOT N-1 contingency.

Q: Production costs, reliability analyses with Lubbock in ERCOT, then you'll evaluate whether or not there are additional projects that are justified economically?

A: Production cost analysis will be performed for all the selected LP&L load integration options that meet the reliability criteria. The analysis would provide a relative production cost comparison between the selected LP&L load integration options.

Q: On the model data you're going to request, that's the load for LP&L that will be transferred, but not the total load? Is that correct?

A: Whatever load they're planning to bring on to the ERCOT system.

Q: Would you include retirement of generation within LP&L, would that be in your study?

A (LP&L): Retire two old steam turbines in 2019. Everything else would migrate over to ERCOT.

Q: When you do SSR frequency scan, which generators are you going to be looking at?

A: Generators in Lubbock. Will consider doing a topology check for the nearby generators in ERCOT.

Comment (Golden Spread EC): We have 750 MW of generation that's being connected into ERCOT. I need to make sure we're not impacted. Will your study determine what if any impacts there are on the Golden Spread generation. We're very concerned and very interested.

- ERCOT Response: Valid concern. We will consider and discuss this and please provide this as part of your comments.

Q: Any intent to take a look at additional wind power ability to go beyond those that are compliant with Planning Guide Section 6.9?

A: That is not part of this scope now. It will capture all of the wind farms that meet PG 6.9 and recent upgrades, but will not go past that.

Q: When you look at those that will meet 6.9, what will your cutoff date be?

A: Timeline is in the next slide.

Q: So anybody that has met 6.9 before you do the economic study will be included?

A: Correct.

NOTE: Please get comments in by 12/25/15.

Q: Open docket or anything by the PUC? Or is this just a request?

A (LP&L): At this time items are filed in the generic docket (43879).