**Regional Planning Group**

**Meeting Notes**

**May 16, 2017**

**Misc. Updates.**

* Jeff Billo, ERCOT: Planning Working Group meeting 5/17/17, topics include Probabilistic Transmission Planning and Economic Transmission Planning.
* Sandeep Borkar, ERCOT: Brief update on the RTP.
	+ We are currently reviewing the loads in the Far West region trying to verify it for the PGRR 042 requirements.
	+ We should have the N -1 cases out soon for review.
	+ Every year, we review our financial assumptions to be used in our economic planning. There are not many changes this year; the slides have been posted.

Q: Any updates on the ERCOT MISO HVDC Study?

A: (Prabhu Gnanam, ERCOT): We provided MISO all of the required data/models, hopefully we will have an update in the coming RPG meetings.

Q: (Brad Schwarz, Sharyland): What is ERCOT’s role in this analysis?

A: (Prabhu Gnanam, ERCOT): Currently, ERCOT is providing support in terms of models. This study is mostly done by MISO in terms of running the models.

**2017 RTP Update**

Doug Murray gave an update on the 2017 RTP.

Q: (Eric Goff, CEI) On the Natural gas Price Assumption slide, what does this scenario test?

A: (Doug Murray, ERCOT): These numbers are high enough for the model that we will not see coal on the margin for instance, in these years. They need to be roughly $.50 lower.

Q: (Bill Barnes, NRG): What is the 2017 reference price used for?

A: Doug Murray, ERCOT: Reference cases is generally the case that everyone goes to first.

Q: (Bill Barnes, NRG): The gas prices used in the 2017 RTP, is that High Oil and Gas?

A: (Doug Murray, ERCOT): Yes.

**LTSA Workshop**

Sandeep Borkar hosted the first 2018 LTSA Workshop. The second workshop will be during the June RPG Meeting.

*Gurcan Gulen (The University of Texas) presented on Oil and Gas Development Scenarios in the Texas Region*

Q: (Jeff Billo, ERCOT): On the exports to Mexico, how big of a factor is that in natural gas prices?

 A: (Dr. Gurcan Gulen, BEG): The US market seasonally fluctuates. The gas being produced in Texas, in the Permian, there is easier access and attractive prices to Mexico. There is a regional variation.

Q: (Bill Barnes, NRG): How much gas do you think we can get out of the Permian Basin with associated gas?

A: (Dr. Gurcan Gulan, BEG): It might be close to 5-10 TCF range.

*Doug Murray presented on 2018 LTSA Scenario Workshop Initial Data*

Q: (Clayton Greer, Morgan Stanley): How much are you all coordinating with Brattle?

A: (Doug Murray, ERCOT): We have not had a lot of direct discussion. We will make sure that we are both going in the same direction.

*Nemica Kadel presented on Energy Storage for 2018 LTSA*

Q: (Clayton Greer, Morgan Stanley): Do you have a model set up to determine if we will get batteries in the future?

A: (Jeff Billo, ERCOT): We looked at that in the 2016 LTSA and we did not see the [favorable] economics in the models we were running.

*Tim McGinnis presented on Distributed PV Projections*

Q: When you add the rooftop solar into the model, do you actually change the load shape?

A: (Tim McGinnis, ERCOT): Yes, distributed solar profiles are used to modify the load forecast profiles.

*Sandeep Borkar presented on Load Forecast Scenarios*

(No questions.)

*Naga Kota presented on Energy Efficiency Projections*

Q: (Cyrus Reed, Sierra Club): How do your projections on PV compare to the previous presentation?

A: Naga Kota, ERCOT: Tim looked at a different set of data. Tim predominately looked at Texas data and this data source looks at South Eastern states.

**Freeport Master Plan Project**

F. Qureshi (CenterPoint Energy) presented on the Freeport Master Plan Project.

Q: (Question on the process) As part of the signed interconnection agreement, is there a requirement for the customer to post financial security to cover the entire securitized cost?

A: (F. Qureshi: CenterPoint): Yes.

Q: Follow up to the question above, can you give us a scope on the cost of that?

A: (Wes Woitt, CenterPoint): Depends on the customers, if it is a smaller customer then there is no upgrade. We do look at and study them individually.

Q: (Brad Woods, Texas RE): What is the time between you receiving the initial request and when the agreement officially happens?

A: (F. Qureshi: CenterPoint): Yes, could take 6 months or it could take a year.

**NE Denton & Celina /Prosper Project**

Meichen Chen presented on the NE Denton & Celina/Prosper Project.

(No questions.)

**North Garland Reliability Project Independent Review Scope**

Prabhu Gnamam presented on the study scope of ERCOT’s Independent Review of the North Garland Reliability Project.

(No questions.)

**Far West Texas Project Independent Review Scope**

Prabhu Gnamam presented on the study scope of ERCOT’s Independent Review of the Far West Project.

Q: (Murali Sithuraj, Austin Energy): Does the study include the AEPSC Oncor Barilla Junction Area Improvement Project?

A: (Prabhu Gnamam, ERCOT): Yes.

**Lubbock Power and Light Impact Study Results**

Ben Richardson presented the study results from ERCOT’s Lubbock and Light Impact Study.

Q: (Brad Schwarz, Sharyland): Was the operational outage coordination issue not considered in the initial study of 4ow?

A: (Ben Richardson, ERCOT): We considered and talked about it and this why 4ow includes 3 tie points. We do not have planning criteria to cover that right now.