**Regional Planning Group**

**Meeting Notes**

**October 19, 2017**

**Misc. Updates**

* Jeff Billo announced a minor organization change. Sandeep Borkar has been promoted to manager, and he has divided his team of ten engineers into two groups. A supervisor will be added to oversee the Regional Transmission Plan and the remaining engineers will directly report to Sandeep on the LTSA, Economic Analysis, etc.
* Prabhu Gnanam gave an update on the N-GRIP project submitted by Garland. This project is currently on hold at the request of Garland. After ERCOT receives the go-ahead from Garland, the independent review will be initiated.

Q: Any updates on the ERCOT MISO evaluation?

A: (Prabhu Gnanam, ERCOT): There are no updates at this time. We are waiting to get information back from MISO.

Q: Does ERCOT know the state of the series capacitors in light of the ETT Outages? SSR going to be an issue up there while those issues are ongoing?

A: (Jeff Billo, ERCOT): There were some outages that some of the ETT outages were going to cause the panhandle series capacitors to be out of service. I do not know today if they are out of service.

A: The outage will continue until January 2018.

**Bearkat Area Project IR Scope**

Ben Richardson gave the first update on ERCOT’s Independent Review of the Bearkat Area Project.

Q: (Brad Woods, Texas RE): What exactly do you include for the economic analysis?

A: (Prabhu Gnanam, ERCOT): We use everything that has met Planning Guide 6.9 Criteria.

**Freeport Master Plan Project IR Update**

Ramya Nagarajan gave an update on ERCOT’s Independent Review of the Freeport Master Plan Project, a Tier One Project.

Q: (Clayton Greer, Morgan Stanley): On slide 7, what does the upgrade entail?

A: (Ramya Nagarajan, ERCOT): Sometimes reconductoring, sometimes raising the tower. From Oasis to WAP Circuit 99 it would be changing the tower. The other three lines would be reconductoring.

Q: (Bryan Sams, NRG): On the dynamic study results, it looks like there are multiple versions of the load models, can you elaborate on what has changed?

A: (Ajay Pappu, ERCOT): There were multiple iterations of dynamic load models because there were issues that were resolved with each version. The final model was used in this dynamic study.

**South Plains Project IR Update**

Prabhu Gnanam gave an update on ERCOT’s Independent Review of the South Plains Project.

Q: (Jeff Muir, Macquarie Capital): On slide 6, is this saying that the 14% is going to be viewed as the annual production cost savings or are we at the 14.9%?

A: (Prabhu Gnanam, ERCOT): We are at 14% when we make the decision.

**Generation Observations**

Jeff Billo shared general observations from the past six months.

Q: On slide 2, any sense of how many of these requests are duplicates?

A: (Prabhu Gnanam, ERCOT): We do not have that information, however there are developers that send in multiple requests on the same day.

Q: We have seen a couple projects related to wind where existing wind developers have added storage capabilities at their wind facilities. Have we seen any interconnection applications that would be a solar plus batteries?

A: (Jeff Billo, ERCOT): We cannot disclose that information.

**Wind Turbine Technology Improvements**

Swaraj Jammalamadaka from APEX Clean Energy presented on wind turbine technology evolution, performance trends, and power curves and capacity factor improvements.

Q: (Clayton Greer, Morgan Stanley): Were you going to try and factor in a bluff effect?

A: (Swaraj Jammalamadaka, APEX Clean Energy): I do not think that is a correction representation of performance over a year, because that would show extreme variations.