September 15, 2020 RPG Meeting Notes

**Miscellaneous Updates**

John Bernecker provided the following updates:

* We are currently working on the annual update for the financial assumptions used for the economic planning criteria, and plan to post those to MIS secure within the next week or so. Similar to last year, we will post a couple of slides to the October RPG page for more details as well.
* Also, the RTP Economic Analysis is ongoing we are starting to get to the point where we are winding down on the analysis so that we can finish things up by the end of October to produce the report by the end of the year. We will provide an update on what potential projects look like at a future RPG meeting.
* In response to stakeholder questions, we provided some information on the High BESS scenario from the 2020 LTSA to MIS and this month’s RPG page.

**Far West Texas Improvements Update**

Round table discussion with various TSPs on the Far West Texas construction. Mina Turner (AEP), Sandeep Borkar (LCRA) and Paul Bell (ONCOR) presented Far West Texas Improvement updates.

Bill Barnes (NRG): Could you give us a sense how many outages there will be?

Paul Bell (Oncor): It should be pretty minimal based on what the project entails.

Esteban Santos (HES): Are all the Oncor projects scheduled for Fall 2020 still on track to be in-service by December 2020?

Paul Bell (Oncor): Everything is still on track.

**Texas City Transmission Improvement RPG Project – ERCOT Independent Review**

Moinul Islam (ERCOT) presented ERCOT’s Independent Review of the Texas City Transmission Improvement Project. The EIR Report will be posted to the MIS in September 2020.

No questions.

**2020 RTP Sensitivity Analysis**

Ping Yan and Craig Wolf (ERCOT) presented the 2020 RTP Sensitivity Analysis.

Ajay Pappu (INVENERGY): Is this historical data being posted for Stakeholders to see? Especially for off peak conditions?

Ping Yan (ERCOT): The data is posted to the WMWG monthly meeting page.

Steven Havemann (AEN): On slide 4, on the table of total capacity, what year does that represent?

Ping Yan (ERCOT): It represents the total capacity as of 2022. Planned generators that met Planning Guide 6.9(1) requirements on or before April 1, 2020 are included in the model.

Walter Reid (APA): Observing stability limits, are all GTCs modeled in this?

Ping Yan (ERCOT): Not all the stability limits identified in planning studies are included, and some stability limits that are not currently in Operations model are also included.

Brad Woods (Texas RE): For the high wind penetration study, will ERCOT create a minimum load case or will ERCOT use the load in the HWLL case?

Craig Wolf (ERCOT): For the off peak study, we are basing it off of the 2023MIN RTP case but will scale the load and dispatch to the levels discussed in the presentation.

Cyrus Reed (Sierra Club): You guys are taking a close look at the Far West Region, I am wondering about the load. What will you use given there is so much uncertainty? Did you make any adjustments? What did you do in terms of net load?

Ping Yan (ERCOT): We will use the load level we have in the base case.

Clayton Greer (Morgan Stanley): Were you focusing on extremely high energy transfers when determining the DC tie dispatch, or was it based on historical data?

Craig Wolf (ERCOT): The DC Tie dispatch was determined by looking at the historic output during the top 20 hours identified, as well as by taking into consideration what dispatch would encourage the high energy transfers we are aiming to study.

Brad Woods (Texas RE): On the cases you build, are they available for the TSPs?

Ping Yan (ERCOT): We do post the sensitivity cases on the MIS Secure. We will post them around the middle to end of December.

**DER Modeling Update**

John Bernecker (ERCOT) gave an update on DER Modeling.

Bill Barnes (NRG): On slide 2, do you have information on what the last row in the table represents?

John Bernecker (ERCOT): We are currently engaged in internal conversations with Load Forecasting, Resource Adequacy and Transmission Planning Teams.

**2020 LTSA Update**

John Bernecker, Julie Jin and Hong Xiao (ERCOT) gave an update on the 2020 LTSA.

Cyrus Reed (Sierra Club): High BESS, you added a chart for this scenario showing the stand-alone and co-located battery storage, the co-located storage capacity is half of the co-located solar capacity, is this an input assumption you made?

Julie Jin (ERCOT): The scenario includes both co-located and stand-alone battery storage. The stand-alone storage capacity was added by the model. The co-located storage capacity was an assumption we made.

James Orenstrin (Solar Synergy, LLC), Is Recip engine “quick start" generation included in CT numbers, and does ERCOT ever see it being significant enough to have a separate category? Ex: Wartsila engines at Denton Energy Center.

Julie Jin (ERCOT): Yes, they are included.

Cyrus Reed (Sierra Club): On slide 12, the congestion and production cost savings, any estimate of cost of the transmission upgrades?

Hong Xiao (ERCOT): We do look into the cost for each project and the benefit resulted from the resolution.

John Snyder (Clearway Energy): On slide 15, you showed the West Texas export limit, is that 15.5 GW?

Hong Xiao (ERCOT): For 2030, yes.

Blake Gross: Why are we not seeing any changes in the Valley export limits?

Hong Xiao (ERCOT): The line into Valley doesn’t improve the export interface limit, but the zonal shift factors are no longer the same.

Shams Siddiqi: Does the Panhandle zone have a different impact than the West zone even though the Panhandle interface isn’t modeled? With the new addition of that line, some of the flow will be through that line and impact the interface limit. Is that right? Is the Panhandle interface a major factor going forward?

Hong Xiao (ERCOT): The Panhandle interface is not included in the model because we considered it a subset of the larger West Texas export interface for the purposes of the 2020 LTSA. The Panhandle zone is separate from the West zone with different shift factors because it is a generation pocket with a different impact than the West zone which has both load and generation. Generation-weighted average shift factors were calculated for Panhandle; while load-weighted average shift factors were calculated for West.

**West Export Special Study – Scope**

Fred Huang (ERCOT) presented the West Export Special Study Scope. ERCOT plans to finalize the study scope in October 2020.

Clayton Greer (Morgan Stanley): Are you planning on putting together a playbook, right?

Fred Huang (ERCOT): Yes, that is my thinking right now.