

January 15, 2018

Subject: NTTG 2018-2019 Biennial Planning Process Data Submission Window Notice

Northern Tier Transmission Group Members and Stakeholders,

On a biennial basis, the Northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG) develops a Regional Transmission Plan (RTP) that evaluates whether transmission needs within the NTTG Footprint may be satisfied on a regional or interregional basis more efficiently or cost effectively than through local planning processes.

The window for gathering data for the NTTG 2018-2019 Regional Transmission Planning process opened on January 1, 2018 and remains open **through midnight March 31st.** A summary of the data submittal requirements and opportunities are described below:

- 1) Data supporting the NTTG footprint transmission needs and associated facilities (e.g. loads and resources) for the ten-year planning horizon. These submissions should be for network or firm service requirements.
- 2) Project specific data for sponsored or unsponsored regional or Interregional Transmission Projects to be considered in the RTP.
- Data supporting transmission needs driven by Public Policy Requirements, Public Policy Considerations, and/or alternate solutions to the identified needs set out in the Local Transmission Providers Local Transmission System Plan and the NTTG 2016-2017 Regional Transmission Plan.
- 4) In addition to the above, Merchant Transmission Developers may submit project data to inform the RTP.

All project proposals and submissions for the above are due by March 31, 2018 using the <u>NTTG</u> <u>Data Submittal Form</u>, which is an Excel workbook available on the Northern Tier website at http://www.nttg.biz>Regional Order 1000>NTTG Order 1000 Data Submittal Forms or by <u>clicking here</u>.

Please note that the March 31, 2018 deadline for proposing a project for consideration in the RTP applies to both regional and Interregional Transmission Projects. A proponent of an Interregional Transmission Project that wishes to have its project considered for joint evaluation coordination must submit its project to each Relevant Planning Region no later than March 31, 2018 and in accordance with the project submittal requirements of each Planning Region. Information providing guidance on the project submittal process for each of the four western planning regions is available on the NTTG website by clicking here.

Finally, for a project to be considered for regional or interregional cost allocation in the RTP process, an Applicant must first have submitted appropriate sponsor prequalification information during the prequalification window (i.e., October 2017) and second submit project data using the <u>NTTG Data</u> <u>Submittal Form</u> and provide additional required information using the <u>Cost Allocation Data Form</u>. Both the Data Submittal and Cost Allocation Data Forms are due to <u>info@NTTG.biz</u> by March 31, 2018. NTTG Members and Stakeholders January 15, 2018 Page 2

Please submit any questions on this process to <u>info@nttg.biz</u>. NTTG appreciates your participation in our planning process.

Chelsea Loomis

Chelsea Loomis NTTG Planning Committee Chair

Courtney Waites

Courtney Waites NTTG Cost Allocation Committee Chair

Copy: Jared Ellsworth, NTTG Planning Committee Vice Chair Sharon Helms, NTTG Program Manager John Leland, NTTG Planning Technical Advisor Ron Schellberg, NTTG Technical Workgroup Project Manager