

New Path Request (NEWPOINT)

NorthWestern Energy (NWE) has a method by which customers can request ATC or TTC to be posted for an un-posted path on OASIS (thus getting an un-posted path posted). This method allows the customer to be placed in queue to reserve capacity for an un-posted path in a manner that is open and equitable to all customers.

The process is initiated by the customer making a transmission service request (TSR) that contains a special POR/POD pair which will indicate to the transmission provider that the request is for a path that has not been posted on OASIS. The customer needs to select "NEWPOINT" as the POR, POD or both as appropriate. The customer also needs to describe the requested path in the comments section. The rest of the TSR would then be filled out as typical for an Original request and submitted for review and action by the transmission provider.

Procedure for Customer

1. Initiate a new TSR from the Reservations Summary page by selecting New TSR.
2. Fill in the TSR as would typically be performed for an ORIGINAL type request with the following exceptions:
 - a. Select NEWPOINT as the POR or POD, or both as appropriate for the desired un-posted path, e.g. if the un-posted path is from one unlisted POR to a listed POD then choose NEWPOINT for the POR and the listed POD.
 - b. Enter the dates, times and MW capacity desired.
 - c. Describe the requested un-posted path in the Comment box.
 - d. The Pre-confirmed box may be checked or left unchecked.
3. Submit the TSR for review by the transmission provider
4. If the TSR is accepted by the transmission provider the customer must CONFIRM the request if the Pre-confirmed box was left unchecked. This consummates the transaction and locks the customer position in the queue for the requested capacity on this path. With the customer's concurrence a new ORIGINAL TSR will then be made by the transmission provider using the newly posted point(s) and path referencing the original TSR, i.e. the Newpoint TSR.
5. If the transmission provider determines that the requested path is physically impracticable or does not exist then the TSR may cause the initiation of a System Impact Study process as described in the transmission provider's Open Access Transmission Tariff. In this situation the transmission provider will change the status of the TSR to STUDY.

- a. If the customer does not agree to the terms as may be set forth in a resulting System Impact Study Agreement then the TSR may be rejected and status changed to REFUSED.
 - b. If the customer agrees with the terms of the study agreement, then that process will begin as described in the Tariff and the Newpoint TSR will be accepted
6. If the transmission provider determines that the requested path is effectively already posted, it will REFUSE the TSR and indicate the reason in the Provider Comments Box

Procedure for Transmission Provider

1. The transmission provider will review the TSR and for a new path assure that it meets valid posted path criteria. Once the path has been determined to be valid it will:
 - a. Accept the Newpoint TSR
 - b. Post the new point(s) and path on OASIS, and other systems as may be required.
 - c. Register the new points(s) on the NERC registry.
 - d. Make a new TSR with the concurrence of the customer using the TRANSASSIGN designating the new point(s) and path and referencing the original Newpoint TSR and its queue date in the Providers comments box. This will establish the effective queue date for the new TSR.
 - e. Annul the Newpoint TSR
2. If the transmission provider determines that the requested path is physically impracticable or does not exist then the TSR may cause the initiation of a System Impact Study process as described in the transmission providers Open Access Tariff. As described above, the Newpoint TSR may be either ACCEPTED or REFUSED depending upon the choice of the customer to agree or not agree with the System Impact Study Agreement.
3. If the transmission provider determines that the requested path is already physically represented by an existing posted path than the Newpoint TSR will be REFUSED and a reason stating as such will be made in the Provider Comments box.

