

WestConnect

February 1, 2005

To: WestConnect Interested Parties

Subject: WestConnect Stakeholder Meeting and Conference on Transmission Path Ratings

WestConnect is hosting a Stakeholder Meeting/Informational Conference to provide an overview for the determination of the transfer capabilities of the paths posted on the WestConnect transmission providers' OASIS sites¹. The overview will include the existing path rating processes in use within the Western Interconnection, including the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) path rating process and individual transmission owner determinations for all paths posted on their OASIS, whether or not WECC-rated paths. The conference is scheduled for February 22, 2005, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Phoenix Airport Hilton Hotel.

An important element for maintaining the reliability of a power system is establishing an appropriate and sustainable transfer capability rating for all critical transmission paths. In the Western Interconnection, transmission path transfer capability ratings for critical paths are established by WECC for reliability purposes. Individual transmission owners also establish ratings for transmission paths not rated in the WECC process. Ratings are primarily established for reliability purposes, but the ratings have commercial implications as well, as they become the basis for the determination of any Available Transfer Capability (ATC) for sale in the wholesale market.

WestConnect plans to implement a stakeholder process to provide full visibility of and input to the transmission providers' calculations of Total Transfer Capability (TTC) and ATC for their transmission systems. Each WestConnect transmission provider utilizes the calculated TTC and Committed Uses values for posting TTC on their OASIS sites, including the wesTTrans OASIS. . The WestConnect transmission owners that participate in the wesTTrans OASIS platform then rely on the wesTTrans ATC calculator to determine availabilities on specific transmission facilities for each operating hour.

The February 22, 2005 Conference is intended to provide an overview of existing transmission path rating processes, including presentations on the WECC Path Rating Process as well as processes used by individual transmission owners. A draft agenda for the conference is attached for your information.

¹ WestConnect parties include Arizona Public Service Company, El Paso Electric Company, Imperial Irrigation District, Public Service Company of Colorado, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Salt River Project, Southwest Transmission Cooperative, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Tucson Electric Power Company, and Western Area Power Administration.

This Stakeholder Meeting/Conference is intended to set the stage for the next phase of WestConnect's TTC stakeholder process, which will include the presentation by each transmission owner of the basis for current transmission owner ratings on non-WECC-rated transmission elements, stakeholder review and comment on specific ratings, and the refinement of transmission path ratings to be utilized in the westTTrans reservations process.

The Stakeholder Meeting/Conference will be held February 22, 2005, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Phoenix Airport Hilton Hotel, 2435 South 47th Street, in Phoenix, AZ (480-894-1600). The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service from Phoenix Skyharbor Airport. There is no registration fee for this conference, but registration is requested to let us make the appropriate meeting arrangements. Please RSVP your attendance to:

Jami Wylie – Arizona Public Service Co.
602-250-1110
jami.wylie@aps.com

Sincerely,

Cary Deise

Chair, WestConnect Steering Committee

DRAFT AGENDA
WestConnect Transfer Capability
Stakeholder Meeting/Informational Conference
February 22, 2005

- 1) Introduction
- 2) WECC Path Rating and Seasonal OTC Process
- 3) Transmission Providers Rating Process
 - WECC Paths
 - Major Non-Qualified Paths*
 - Other Paths Posted on the OASIS
 - a) SRP
 - b) APS
 - c) PNM
 - d) WAPA
 - e) PSCO
 - f) IID
 - g) TEP
 - h) SWTC
 - i) EPE
 - j) TriState
- 4) Open Comments
- 5) Next Steps

*Regional Coordination of Ratings