

WECC Project Coordination Process

PDCI Upgrade
Project Coordination Review Group Meeting
April 2, 2013



Purpose

- 1) Foster the development of a broad perspective among all stakeholders in the project planning process.
- 2) Promote and encourage a more efficient use and development of the region or subregion's existing and future facilities to enhance interconnected-system operation.
- 3) Facilitate consideration of all relevant regional or subregional planning issues during the planning of specific transmission projects.
- 4) Provide procedures and guidelines for coordinated project review.
- 5) Involve WECC member representatives, member executives, regulators, existing planning bodies, environmental groups, land-use groups, and other non-utility interest groups in the process.
- 6) Allow stakeholders to identify opportunities for improved regional transmission efficiencies and make recommendations to achieve them.
- 7) Provide a voluntary dispute resolution procedure.

Objectives

- 1) Undertake Integrated Project Evaluation
- 2) Conduct Coordination and Outreach
- 3) Describe Generation Resources and Related Policy Initiatives
- 4) Consider Reasonable Alternatives to the Project

Objective 1:

Undertake Integrated Project Evaluation

- Take multiple project needs and plans into account, including identified utilities and non-utilities' future needs, as well as environmental and other stakeholder interests. The findings of TEPPC, the Subregional Planning Groups (SPG), or other analyses may be used to satisfy these requirements.
- Identify transmission physical and operational constraints resulting from the project or that are removed by the project.
- Look beyond specific end points of the sponsors' project to identify broader regional and subregional needs or opportunities.

Objective 2:

Conduct Coordination and Outreach

- Cooperate with Project Coordination Review Group members in determining the benefits and impacts from the project.
- Coordinate project plans with and seek input from all interested members, TEPPC, SPGs, power pools, region-wide planning group(s), and other stakeholders including utilities, independent power producers, environmental and land-use groups, and regulators.

Objective 3:

Describe Generation Resources and Related Policy Initiatives

- Review how the project improves or impacts efficient use of existing and planned resources of the region.
- Address impacts of project for transmission congestion mitigation.
- Describe how the project addresses specific energy policy initiatives.

Objective 4:

Consider Reasonable Alternatives to the Project

- Review the possibility of using the existing system, upgrades, or reasonable alternatives to the project to meet the need (including non-transmission alternatives where appropriate).
- Address the efficient use of transmission corridors and take rights-of-way, new projects, optimal line voltage, upgrades, etc., into account.
- Specify how the evaluation of the project has taken into account costs and benefits of the project compared with reasonable alternatives.
- Describe potentially affected or competing projects and consolidate projects where practicable.

Project Coordination Report

- Indicates how the project conforms or plans to conform to each of the Project Coordination Review Objectives
- Submitted to WECC after approval by PCRG
 - 30-day comment period
 - PCC Chair grants WECC Approval
- If no activity for 18 months, project may lose its approval

A photograph of a modern building with a prominent curved glass facade. The building is surrounded by greenery, including trees and bushes. A paved area is visible in the foreground. The word "Discussion" is overlaid in large black text in the center of the image.

Discussion