



TBL Programs In Review

Springfield, June 30, 2004

Questions, Answers & Comments

Q1: Does third-party financing have an impact on borrowing authority?

A: Not currently.

Q2: What federal legislation is impacting the vegetation management program?

A: TBL recently submitted a report on all lines 230 kV and above to meet a FERC requirement. There is currently no national standard for vegetation management but that may change resulting from the studies following the east coast outage.

Q3: The non-wires pilot projects seem to focus on relieving congestion by working with load. Has TBL considered looking at working with generators including PBL?

A: Redispatch has been a prevalent option in non-wires solutions involving generators; however, these require commercial agreements.

Q4: How does the ATC methodology work with customers being able to change transmission providers?

A: The methodology takes into account all long-term contractual agreements. Any expiring contracts are accounted for and new long-term transmission is considered only when transmission service agreements have been tendered and signed.

Q5: Did the de-rating of the lines post-1996 impact ATC?

A: Most of the lines are back to where they were. The northern and southern Interties were most affected.

Q6: What are some specific environmental benefits of the maintenance program? - ROBIN

A: By 2006, all PCB capacitors will be off system. This will be the conclusion of an 18 year program to replace these mercury-based components. In addition, benefits include noxious and invasive weed control and prevention; sediment control, fish and water quality protection by way of road drainage and culvert maintenance; and oil containment systems to limit contamination to waterways and property.

Q7: On the Albany-Eugene build, did this take into consideration the 1100 MW coming from the Coburg plant?

A: Coburg generation will be distributed on the network and will be used for other purposes.

Q8: Recognizing the required time and financial requirements involved in TBL's queue clearing practices, what is the current status?

A: The current state of the transmission queue is now posted to the TBL web site: Please click on "Long Term Request Queue Worksheet" at the following link http://www2.transmission.bpa.gov/Business/Reserve_and_Schedule_Transmission/.

Q9: Is TBL considering a product such as curtailable firm?

A: TBL will discuss development of new products in the upcoming rate case workshops starting July 15. The schedule for these workshops can be found on the TBL web site at

http://www2.transmission.bpa.gov/Business/Rates_and_Tariff/default.cfm?page=2006RC.

Q10: Is TBL considering revision of its redirect policy so that contract holders can maintain rights from its original contract?

A: Not at this time. We follow FERC's interpretations regarding this matter.

Q11: Regarding interconnection agreements and facility upgrades associated with FERC's Order 2003-A, how clear can TBL be on what the result of the upcoming rate case might be with regard to the direct assignment policy?

A: TBL will essentially know 90 days before October 1, 2005 which is the deadline for FERC approval of the new rates. TBL agrees in principle with FERC's policy on direct assignment.

Q12: Regarding FERC's new requirements, what is the impact on BPA's responsibility to deliver General Transfer Agreements? Are other transmission providers and responsible parties subject to these new requirements? The concern is that BPA may be picking up the slack for other responsible parties therefore increasing costs beyond its obligation.

A: The WECC is very strict in enforcing compliance with these types of reliability issues. Other responsible parties are subject to the same criteria within the WECC.

Q13: Is there a specific vendor in mind for scheduling automation?

A: We are negotiating with OATI.

COMMENTS:

C: Planning has very good technical review (NTAC) but it seems that you need to look more closely from a policy perspective. For example, is BPA properly set up to integrate renewables?

C: With respect to generator financing of new transmission, this is a chicken and egg scenario where it may make sense to use long-term transmission agreements as the collateral for financing.

C: Your ATC work is impressive. We hope that it delivers a chance for development of new products to better serve regional needs.