

Memorandum

To: ISO Board of Governors
From: Keith Casey, Vice President of Market and Infrastructure Development
Date: March 20, 2019
Re: Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee update

This memorandum does not require Board action.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee (TMCC) held in-person meetings on October 16, 2018 and January 17, 2019. The following were the main topics discussed:

October 16, 2018

1. California ISO presentation on reliability coordination;
2. Open discussion on legislative bills, SB 901, AB 813 and SB 100;
3. Nominate and confirm a TMCC member for an open position.

January 17, 2019

1. San Diego Gas & Electric presentation on wildfire preparedness;
2. California ISO update on congestion revenue rights auction efficiency analysis.

The next regular scheduled TMCC meeting will be held on April 18, 2018 at the ISO Folsom Headquarters.

BACKGROUND

The TMCC is an advisory committee to ISO Management. TMCC membership includes one member representing each participating transmission owner with transmission facilities subject to the ISO transmission maintenance standards, two members representing organizations representing labor interests, five members representing other organizations, and the ISO vice president responsible for transmission maintenance, or his or her designee, who serves as the Chair of the TMCC.

Members of the TMCC perform duties specified in Appendix C to the transmission control agreement, including:

- Convey transmission facility maintenance related information to the ISO vice president responsible for transmission maintenance;
- Seek input from other participating transmission owners and interested stakeholders regarding the ISO transmission maintenance standards; and
- Review any proposed changes to the ISO transmission maintenance standards, submitted by the ISO, a participating transmission owner, or any interested stakeholder; and recommend revisions to the ISO transmission maintenance standards for submittal to the ISO Board of Governors for decision.

Summary of October 16, 2018 meeting

ISO presentation on Reliability Coordination:

Arthur Saenz, California ISO Lead Reliability Coordinator, and Robert Cristillo, California ISO Lead Reliability Coordinator, presented on the ISO's progress in becoming certified as a reliability coordinator (RC). Mr. Saenz and Mr. Cristillo described the make-up and experience of the current RC team. They provided an update on which balancing authorities (BAs) have committed to the California ISO RC or the Southwest Power Pool RC and the BAs that are undecided. Lastly, they provided an overview of the timeline in implementing the RC services first to the ISO BA footprint and then to the expanded ISO RC footprint.

Open discussion items:

Steve Rutty, California ISO Director of Grid Assets, summarized recent legislative bills and the group discussed the potential impact of interest to the TMCC membership;

- SB 901 – Wildfires
- AB 813 – A Western Regional Grid Authority
- SB 100 – California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program

Nominate and confirm a TMCC member for an open position:

Steve Rutty, acting TMCC chairperson, opened a TMCC member only session by stating that the committee was voting to fill a vacancy on the TMCC. Mr. Rutty explained the position became open on September 6, 2019 when the current member resigned. The committee voted on the nominees and Chris Spencer, Director Substation Technical Operations for PacifiCorp, was appointed to the committee to serve until March 31, 2019.

Summary of January 18, 2018 meeting

SDG&E presentation on Wildfire Preparedness:

Andrew Gazdziak, San Diego Gas & Electric Team Lead, presented on the system design, construction, operations and maintenance changes that SDG&E have implemented to assist in wildfire preparedness. Mr. Gazdziak explained that SDG&E had mapped their entire system based on fire risk and is investing in infrastructure projects and programs aimed at hardening lines located in High Fire Threat Districts (HFTD). SDG&E has automated all reclosers on circuits located within the HFTD and installed the capability for sensitive profile and sensitive ground fault protection. Mr. Gazdziak stated that SDG&E has implemented a corrective maintenance program and a quality assurance/quality control inspection and repair program that is more extensive than their routine compliance program and that their aggressive vegetation management program has resulted in a 90% reduction in tree-related outages since 1996.

Mr. Gazdziak further described measures SDG&E has taken in situational awareness to monitor wildfire risk. SDG&E operates America's largest utility-owned weather network that provides temperature, humidity and wind speed readings every 10 minutes and HD cameras to improve fire detection. Mr. Gazdziak stated that SDG&E has developed a Fire Potential Index to communicate the wildfire potential on a given day and produces a daily seven day forecast. In addition, SDG&E utilizes the Santa Ana Wildfire Threat Index and Wildfire Risk Reduction Modeling to assess the wildfire risk.

CRR auction efficiency update:

Chris Hillman, California ISO Lead Grid Asset Engineer, provided a brief update on the current status of the CRR auction efficiency initiative and recent changes that impact transmission maintenance outage scheduling.