

Memorandum

To: ISO Board of Governors

From: Keith Casey, Vice President of Market & Infrastructure Development

Date: October 25, 2017

Re: **Decision on ISO planning standards**

This memorandum requires Board action.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The California Independent System Operator Corporation is required through its tariff to adhere to planning standards established by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), as well as regional standards, criteria and business practices established by the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC). In addition, the ISO has identified other requirements necessary for reliable system operation that are referred to and documented as the ISO planning standards.

All of these planning standards are critical to providing reliable service to customers. They also form the foundation or basis for all planning activities. Transmission projects are developed and advanced as necessary to ensure compliance with these standards, and when transmission projects are advanced for other reasons, such as meeting economic or policy considerations, those projects must also remain compliant with approved planning standards. As such, the planning standards set the direction for planning activities, and the basis for many of the transmission projects approved by the ISO; the planning standards are therefore only modified with careful consideration.

As described below, Management proposes to revise the ISO planning standards to address changes to the WECC regional criteria (TPL-001-WECC-CRT-3).

Management recommends the approval of the attached standards; however, we also reserve the right to make minor non-substantive changes or updates to the planning standards, such as changes to links or references.

Management recommends the following motion:

Moved, that the ISO Board of Governors approves the ISO planning standards as attached to and described in the memorandum dated October 25, 2017.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The attached ISO planning standards have been revised to address changes in the WECC regional criteria (TPL-001-WECC-CRT-3) regarding voltage limits, and to update outdated information and links to other WECC and NERC standards. The current planning standards have been in effect since April 2015, and a stakeholder process to update them was initiated in September 2017. The following provides background and describes the proposed changes.

The current ISO planning voltage standard was updated in accordance with requirements WR2 and WR3 of WECC Regional Criteria TPL-001-WECC-CRT-3. At the same time, the ISO is memorializing in the grid planning standards, voltage exceptions and clarification for each Participating Transmission Owner area.

These proposed revisions were developed through the ISO stakeholder process. The ISO has not received any substantive comments from stakeholders.

POSITION OF PARTIES

The stakeholder process started in September when the ISO posted the draft revisions to the planning standards and scheduled a stakeholder meeting on September 13, 2017, with comments due two weeks later.

Due to the small scope of changes, the ISO has not received any substantive comments from stakeholders. Three of the PTOs (Pacific Gas & Electric, San Diego Gas & Electric and Valley Electric Association) have submitted minor and mostly editorial changes to their own voltage exceptions and clarifications. The ISO incorporated these changes in the final planning standards attached to this memorandum as Attachment 1.

CONCLUSION

Management recommends approval of its proposal to revise the ISO planning standards to address changes in the WECC regional criteria (TPL-001-WECC-CRT-3) regarding voltage limits, and to update outdated information and links to other WECC and NERC standards. Upon Board approval, Management will use the revised planning standards in the 2017-2018 Transmission Planning Process.