

Memorandum

To: ISO Board of Governors
From: Neil Millar, Vice President of Infrastructure and Operations Planning
Date: December 9, 2021
Re: Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee update

This memorandum does not require Board action.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee (TMCC) held teleconference meetings on March 23, 2021, April 15, 2021 and October 21, 2021. The following were the main topics discussed:

March 23, 2021

1. Nominate and confirm TMCC members for three open positions.

April 15, 2021

1. California Air Resources Board Sulphur Hexafluoride regulation revisions;
2. Allowable transmission maintenance activities during Restricted Maintenance Operations;
3. Harry Allen – Eldorado 500 kV transmission line project overview.

October 21, 2021

1. California Air Resources Board Sulphur Hexafluoride regulation revisions;
2. Substation equipment monitoring.

The next regular scheduled TMCC meeting will be held on January 20, 2022 via teleconference.

BACKGROUND

The TMCC is an advisory committee to ISO Management. TMCC membership includes one member representing each participating transmission owner (PTO) 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 of Infrastructure and Operations planning, 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 focused on maintaining the availability of transmission facilities, including:

- Conveying transmission facility maintenance-related information to the ISO vice president of Infrastructure and Operations Planning;
- Seeking input from participating transmission owners and interested stakeholders regarding the transmission maintenance standards; and
- Reviewing any proposed changes to the transmission maintenance standards submitted by the ISO, a participating transmission owner, or any interested stakeholder; and recommending revisions to the standards for submittal to the ISO Board of Governors for decision.

Summary of March 23, 2021 teleconference

The purpose of the conference call was for TMCC members to review nominations for three positions whose current members' terms were expiring on March 31, 2021. The committee voted on the nominees and the following were appointed to the committee to serve until March 31, 2024:

- Renewal – James Alligan, Project Director for NextEra Energy Transmission;
- Renewal – Tibor Foki, Senior Business Representative for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 47;
- New Member – Monica Curry, Transmission Maintenance and Construction Manager for San Diego Gas & Electric

Summary of April 15, 2021 meeting

California Air Resources Board (CARB) Sulphur Hexafluoride regulation revisions:

Steve Rutty, California ISO Director Grid Assets and acting chairperson, initiated a discussion about pending changes to CARB's regulation regarding Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF6) emissions from gas insulated switchgear. The proposed revisions would establish a timeframe for phasing out the acquisition of equipment that uses SF6 as an insulating medium. The TMCC representatives from PG&E and SCE indicated that they participate in

a utility working group that is following the pending changes and will provide comments to CARB after CARB posts the final language.

Allowable transmission maintenance activities during Restricted Maintenance Operations:

Steve Rutty initiated a follow up discussion to the October, 2020 TMCC discussion about ISO Operating Procedure No. 4420E. This operating procedure describes permissible transmission maintenance activities allowed during California ISO declared restricted maintenance operations. During the October 2021 discussion, TMCC members were requested to review the procedure with their internal organizations and bring back to the TMCC any proposed revisions. The TMCC members did not propose any changes to the procedure.

Harry Allen – Eldorado 500 kV transmission line project overview:

Ross Hohlt, LS Power Asset Manager, presented on DesertLink's recently completed Harry Allen – Eldorado 500 kV transmission line project. Mr. Hohlt reviewed the transmission line's planning and development, project statistics, operations & maintenance partners and the environmental management plans. The presentation went on to explain the project's specifications including rights-of-way, conductors and structures, the series capacitor station and remedial action scheme.

Summary of October 21, 2021 meeting

California Air Resources Board (CARB) Sulphur Hexafluoride regulation revisions:

Chris Hillman, California ISO Lead Grid Assets Engineer, reviewed the amendments to CARB's regulation for reducing Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF6) emissions from gas insulated switchgear. Mr. Hillman reviewed the phase-out dates for SF6 gas insulated equipment and described the procedure for requesting a phase out exemption and the notification procedure for SF6 equipment failure and emergency replacement. The adopted final regulation order was submitted to the Office of Administrative Law on August 13, 2021.

Substation equipment monitoring:

TMCC members and representatives from SCE, SDG&E and TBC provided presentations and described systems implemented by their respective organizations regarding the monitoring of substation equipment. The presentations and discussion focused mainly on monitoring power transformers through dissolved gas analysis and partial discharge monitors, and analysis of the results.