

October 16, 2025

TRANSMISSION MAINTENANCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (TMCC) MINUTES

October 16, 2025

In person and Webex

Scott Vaughan, Acting Chairperson of the Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee (TMCC), called the meeting to order at approximately 9:15 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

The following TMCC members attended:

Jed Ferguson (Valley Electric Association (VEA))
Jim Useldinger (GridLiance West Transco (GWT))
Ross Hohlt (DesertLink)
Michael Blunt (Trans Bay Cable)
Dave Hahn (Western Area Power Administration (WASN))
Tibor Foki (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 47 (IBEW 47))
Alan Hernandez (Southern California Edison (SCE))
Christian Henderson (San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E))

The following TMCC members were not in attendance:

Issam El Ayadi (Pacific Gas & Electric(PG&E))

The following members of the public were in attendance:

Chad Dupuis (Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E))
Justin Flores (Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E))
Matthew Eck (LS POWER)
Alexandre Veilleux (NextEra)
Adalaberto Baca-Chavez (CAISO)
Kingsley Tenjoh (CAISO)
Rod Tshunza (CAISO)
Parikshat Pathak (CAISO)
Tad Kinyon (Pattern Energy)
Sheikh Ahmed (SCE)
Mark Christensen (SCE)
Henry Rodriguez (SCE)
Arthur Jackson (SCE)
Eric Pavlowski (NextEra)
Monica Curry (SDG&E)
Ethan Stonecipher (IBEW)
Christopher McLean (California Energy Commission)

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The following agenda items were addressed:

Opening Comments:

Scott Vaughan, Acting Chairperson of the TMCC, began a discussion for a motion to approve previous TMCC meeting Minutes.

Decision on 04/24/2025 TMCC meeting Minutes:

The April 24, 2025 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

SDG&E'S 2026-2028 Wildfire Mitigation Plan

Crystal Bertolini, San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) Project Manager, and Katie Mauer, SDG&E Project Manager, presented SDG&E's 2026-2028 Wildfire Mitigation Plan. The presentation detailed SDG&E's evolving strategy, shifting towards a "Sustained Approach" that prioritizes permanent, non-operational solutions such as Strategic Undergrounding and Covered Conductor over temporary measures like Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). SDG&E presented a lifecycle cost analysis demonstrating that strategic undergrounding is the more cost-effective solution that provides a 99% reduction in wildfire risk while also eliminating long-term operational expenses for vegetation management and inspections. The SDG&E 2026-2028 plan is guided by their data-driven Wildfire Next Generation System (WiNGS) model and includes 50 miles of undergrounding and 130 miles of covered conductor. The plan will increase undergrounding to 100 miles per year starting in 2027.

Overview of EPRI Leakage Current Monitoring System Project at Tracy Substation

Dave Hahn, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Maintenance Management Specialist, presented an overview of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Leakage Current Monitoring System project at WAPA's Tracy Substation. The pilot program is designed to monitor insulator leakage current in order to determine when to wash substation insulators and to serve as an early warning system for an impending flashover. Leakage current data is transmitted to EPRI where it is analyzed to provide alerts of when washing is needed and when there is an elevated risk of flashover.

Accelerating Data Center Interconnection with Advanced Power Flow Controllers

Chad Dupuis, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Principal Electrical Engineer, presented on PG&E's Advanced Power Controller (APFC) Project. The APFC project provides a near-term solution to certain power flow issues due new load demand from data centers in the Bay Area. The APFC is an advanced Static Synchronous Series Compensator that will be installed in series with an existing 115 kV transmission line at the Los Esteros Substation. This technology will redirect power from overloaded lines to less heavily loaded lines and mitigate thermal overloads in real time. This solution is an alternative to reconductoring or installing single solution air-core reactors and is expected to provide an additional 100 MW of firm power delivery capacity.

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Circuit Breaker Radiography

Alan Hernandez, Southern California Edison (SCE) Senior Advisor, T&D Transmission Compliance Integration, Arthur Jackson, SCE Test Technician and Sheikh Ahmed, SCE Advisor, T&D Substation Field Operations, presented on SCE's use of radiography for circuit breaker maintenance. Radiography has been implemented as a maintenance tool to perform internal inspections of critical components without opening the circuit breaker tank. The process involves passing gamma radiation through the breaker assembly onto a "phosphorous-laden plate" which captures a digital image based on the density of the internal parts. This data is used to identify equipment wear and anomalies. SCE has successfully used this technology to identify failing circuit breaker internal snap-rings and contact wear. SCE is expanding this program from its 220 kV and 500 kV sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) breakers to include other types of breakers, such as dry-air-vacuum breakers. Key benefits include reducing SF6 gas emissions by avoiding the need to open healthy, sealed breakers and achieving significant cost and labor savings from reduced field work and equipment outages.

Open discussion items:

The meeting included open and future discussion items:

Tibor Foki led a discussion on current industry news, which covered several topics:

- The extension of California's greenhouse gas initiative.
- A 75% system enrollment rate for OCPA by Orange County residents.
- The expansion of California's clean energy programs to other states.
- The EPA's decision to stop collecting emission data.
- The continuation of wind projects in California despite federal pressure.

Scott Vaughan discussed Procedure 4, noting that a copy will be sent to TMCC members for their review. He also addressed the need to formalize the approval and denial process for maintenance deferrals.

Future discussion items were identified as:

- New PTO overview: Sunzia
- Maintenance Deferral procedure additions
- Additional discussions and presentations on Radiography by PG&E

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 13:00 with no objections noted.