

Customer Workshop Summary, August 29, 2017 at the Oregon Convention Center

Overview

This summer, BPA launched a series of customer workshops to solicit input on a series of commercial transmission issues, primarily around results of the Pro Forma Gap Analysis (PFGA), but also including commercial alternatives to address requests for service given the decision not to build the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement.

On Aug. 29, 2017, BPA convened the second in a series of workshops focused on the following three topics:

1. Available Transfer Capability (ATC) - BPA seeks input on how to improve efficiency in our Short-Term ATC calculations, identification of objectives for ATC, how to meet those future-state objectives, and how to provide the clearest information regarding Transmission System congestion.
2. Network Integration Transmission Service (NT) - BPA seeks input on industry standards, best practices and how BPA could best use those to meet NT Service needs.
3. Study Process - BPA seeks input on how BPA will consider issues related to Conditional Firm (CF) and Planning Redispatch, as well as efforts to develop more commercial tools than building new transmission infrastructure, and its intent to efficiently proceed with identified study results.

Within each topic, BPA held three workshop sessions and aggregated feedback received throughout the day. The following summaries are BPA's attempt to capture key themes, concerns and questions identified by stakeholders.

Available Transfer Capability (ATC) Themes

- BPA must provide transparency on risk tolerances to ensure the different risk tolerances and needs of customers are considered.
- BPA should evaluate the costs of managing congestion versus the costs of avoiding congestion.
- The proposal must include equitable distribution of costs.
- Removing long-term ATC posting takes away a critical tool for customers in evaluating business cases and "what if" scenarios.
- BPA should demonstrate that its future tools (such as a heat map) are adequate replacement tools for evaluating business cases for acquiring long-term transmission.

Network Integration Transmission Service (NT) Themes

- Customers would like to know what BPA is proposing to be captured in the Network Operating Agreement. In the proposal, consider other tools that could help in the administration of data (such as the customer portal).
- Provide clarity on how Undesignation would be implemented, particularly as it impacts re-designating a resource as a DNR. Ensure the NITS on OASIS tool, or other applicable automation, is functional and can effectively process the Undesignations.
- Provide clarity on how all forms of Redispatch could be impacted and which forms NT non-federal resources could be part of.



- What parts of the NT Service proposal are expected to be in place by when? Is it BPA's goal to have everything in place by 2022?
- Having a Load Growth policy in place by 2022 is nice to have, but NT customers need that policy now to ensure transmission requirements are clearly met for future non-federal resource choices.
- Customers consider the load forecast process through KSL as the standard. Could there be changes to requirements, frequency and information granularity to the load forecasting process?

Study Process Themes

- How does expanding the CF product impact existing firm rights and other long-term transmission products?
- Can BPA clarify how the CF service will be determined, relative to BPA's calibrated model assumptions and risk tolerance?
- When will BPA be able to provide its proposal for Planning Redispatch that includes, among other things, which resources, how those resources would be acquired and how the costs would be allocated?
- BPA should develop a clear definition of non-wires, a clear methodology for evaluating the non-wire alternatives and how those alternatives would be integrated into the commercial studies.

Overall Procedural Themes

- Develop a crosswalk of dependencies between the PFGA issues to demonstrate how interconnected and inter-related many of the issues are. For example, BPA can better process the queue by implementing a more reliable ATC that actually reflects real constraints on the system.
- BPA should provide a strawman that provides more detail to the proposals, in addition to outlining the relationship between this topic and many of the previous workshop topics (Queue Management, ATC, Interim Plans of Service for the South of Allston flowgate, etc.).

Next Steps

A two week comment period on the topics presented in the Aug. 29 workshop concludes **Sept. 12, 2017**. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit specific questions and comments through their account executives or techforum@bpa.gov. BPA will respond to comments as appropriate and consider this input in its decision making process. Comments will be posted publicly on the [Customer Comments](#) section of the Transmission Business Practice page.

Stay Involved

BPA has posted all presentations to its public web site located at: <https://www.bpa.gov/transmission/CustomerInvolvement/TransmissionBusinessModel/Pages/default.aspx>. This web site will be the common repository for all documents for future workshops as well. Customers and stakeholders should continue to submit questions or comments through their account executive or techforum@bpa.gov. The next workshop is scheduled for Sept. 20, 2017.