

**BPA Wind Integration Team Initiatives  
Update to WIT email list  
September 2011**

This is the monthly update on BPA's Wind Integration Team initiatives for September 2011. If you have questions, contact WIT Program Manager Eric King at 503-230-5236.

**New wind power forecasting data visualization available**

A new data visualization for BPA wind power forecasting is available on the agency's website. BPA has shared an aggregate wind power forecast display since May 2011. The new display includes past forecasts. Go to [www.bpa.gov/go/windforecast](http://www.bpa.gov/go/windforecast), and click on the buttons near the bottom of the screen to see forecasts from the past 72 hours.

**Intra-hour Scheduling Pilot phase III goes live**

BPA launched phase III of its Intra-hour Scheduling Pilot Sept. 27. The agency now accepts both firm and non-firm schedule changes, as well as increases and decreases to existing schedules within the hour. BPA previously accepted only non-firm schedule increases within the hour. This change will help wind generators better manage unscheduled decreases and help them avoid imbalance charges. The expanded pilot takes BPA to full intra-hour scheduling.

During the first 24 hours of phase III, customers submitted 14 intra-hour requests and used all of the pilot's features. As designed, all properly e-Tagged requests were automatically approved without any manual interaction.

BPA Transmission Services updated its business practices and E-Tag validations to enable phase III of the Intra-Hour Scheduling Pilot. The business practices are posted at [http://transmission.bpa.gov/ts\\_business\\_practices/](http://transmission.bpa.gov/ts_business_practices/).

**BPA seeks participants for committed intra-hour scheduling**

BPA will finalize its business practice for the new committed intra-hour scheduling program in early October. Under the new business practice, customers who operate wind facilities in the BPA balancing authority area can seek to prequalify their resources with BPA for participation in this program.

Participants must commit to submit schedules every 30 minutes and meet scheduling accuracy metrics. In return, participants will receive a 34 percent reduction in the rate for variable energy resource balancing and are exempt from persistent deviation penalties. Participants that prequalify could begin receiving their rate reduction as early as Nov. 1. The pilot is limited to 1,200 megawatts.



## **BPA tests ITAP**

BPA and other parties in the Joint Initiative developed ITAP to facilitate the market for intra-hour and real-time transactions, streamline procurement of transmission, and automate e-Tagging.

ITAP is an electronic trading platform for both intra-hour and hourly energy and capacity transactions, although transaction for any length of time can be facilitated on ITAP. Parties may post bids and offers for energy and capacity. The platform can also show available transmission paths and costs and can automatically create the e-Tag to deliver power to its destination.

BPA and other ITAP participants have been testing the platform's functionality since September. The testing highlighted some issues that the vendor needs to fix prior to implementation.

Full implementation of ITAP is scheduled for November 7. The current subscribers are BPA, Avista, Tacoma Power, Eugene Water and Electric Board, Idaho Power, NorthWestern Energy, PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric, Powerex, Xcel Energy, Public Service of New Mexico, Grant PUD, Puget Energy, Seattle City Light, Snohomish PUD, Tri-State and Western Area Power Administration.

## **CAISO intra-hour scheduling pilot delayed**

The joint pilot between BPA and the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), originally scheduled to begin Oct. 1, has been delayed until Oct. 17. The delay will allow CAISO and BPA to conduct additional integration testing.

This pilot will evaluate the use of intra-hour scheduling on the California-Oregon Intertie. If successful, the pilot will provide better scheduling and balancing flexibility for variable energy resources exported from BPA's Balancing Authority Area into the CAISO Balancing Authority Area.

## **BPA accepts requests for supplemental service**

BPA is finalizing its business practice for the new Supplemental Service Pilot the agency committed to develop in the BP-12 rate case. BPA expects to post the final business practice in early October. At that time, customers can begin the process to acquire or ask BPA to acquire resources to provide this service.

BPA accepted comments on the draft business practice through Sept. 9. BPA is responding to comments and will post the final business practice at [http://transmission.bpa.gov/ts\\_business\\_practices/](http://transmission.bpa.gov/ts_business_practices/).

Customers have two options for supplemental service. They can purchase an eligible balancing resource and provide that resource to BPA, or they can ask BPA to purchase supplemental reserves on their behalf from suppliers in the market.

Once the resource is acquired, BPA will integrate it with the agency's automatic generation control system. BPA will call on that resource when a DSO 216 curtailment is issued. The service is not a guarantee against curtailments during a DSO 216 event, but it would provide the participating customers an additional margin of protection.

Customer acquired resources for supplemental service could begin as early as April 1, 2012, if customers notify BPA by the end of October. The BPA-supplied service will take longer because BPA must coordinate the resource acquisition process with the process for incorporating the selected resource into the AGC system. Customer-supplied supplemental service only requires incorporating the selected resource into the AGC system. The pilot will continue through Sept. 30, 2013.

### **BPA updates on demand rights business practice**

BPA is updating its business practice related to on demand resource scheduling, an essential component to the new supplemental service BPA is offering customers. A resource supplying supplemental service must be an on demand resource – a resource that can be called on once during an operating hour. The output of an on demand resource, once fully deployed, does not change for the remainder of the operating hour, so it does not consume dynamic transfer capability – an important feature of supplemental service.

The business practice, currently called on demand rights, will be renamed the on demand resource scheduling business practice. It is being revised to include the ability to use on demand resources located within BPA's balancing authority area, which will include demand response resources. A demand response resource is (A) a dispatchable generating resource located "behind the meter" (such as an emergency generator located in a building or embedded in a manufacturing process), or (B) a load than can be turned off for brief periods (such as an air conditioner, water heater or manufacturing process). The current policy does not allow the operator of a resource within BPA's balancing authority area to submit an on demand schedule for that resource.

BPA will post the draft business practice and open a comment period in early October. The business practice will be posted at [http://transmission.bpa.gov/ts\\_business\\_practices/](http://transmission.bpa.gov/ts_business_practices/).

### **CSGI phase II begins Oct. 1**

Phase II of the Customer Supplied Generation Imbalance Pilot begins Oct. 1, and will continue through BPA's 2012-2013 rate period. Since CSGI phase I began in October 2010, Iberdrola

Renewables has supplied its own energy reserves to balance wind generation, freeing hundreds of megawatts of federal power for other uses.

During this second phase, BPA will continue to test the pilot's effectiveness and ultimately determine whether the agency should expand or reshape the initiative.

Iberdrola manages about 1,300 megawatts of wind energy in eastern Oregon and Washington. In the pilot, Iberdrola supplies reserves for all of its wind projects in the BPA balancing authority area, plus reserves for a wind project it operates for another wind project owner.

The company relies on a number of resources for balancing its wind energy, including its natural gas plant in Klamath Falls, Ore., Grant County PUD's hydroelectric resources in central Washington, and TransAlta's coal plant in Centralia, Wash. Energy from the coal plant is used as a *dec* resource. That is, the coal plant decreases generation when Iberdrola's wind plants generate beyond schedules, so Iberdrola is reducing the need for coal generation. Iberdrola recently added resources from Avista and BC Hydro to its mix and could add more resources as the pilot continues.

For background, see the article, "[BPA, Iberdrola to continue wind integration pilot](http://transmission.bpa.gov/wind/gen_imbalance/default.cfm)," or go to [http://transmission.bpa.gov/wind/gen\\_imbalance/default.cfm](http://transmission.bpa.gov/wind/gen_imbalance/default.cfm).

### **DTC pilot phase II begins Oct. 1**

Earlier this year, BPA [awarded five customers](#) the ability to use dynamic transfer capacity during the second phase of a Dynamic Transfer Capability pilot. BPA expects three of these customers will participate in phase II, which starts Oct. 1.

Dynamic transfer allows a utility to remotely control and manage a power plant in another utility's balancing authority area. This lets the utility balance unscheduled variations in wind generation moment to moment.

For more information, see the article, "[BPA advances transmission technique for wind energy](http://transmission.bpa.gov/wind/dynamic_transfer/default.cfm)," or go to [http://transmission.bpa.gov/wind/dynamic\\_transfer/default.cfm](http://transmission.bpa.gov/wind/dynamic_transfer/default.cfm).

### **BPA evaluates responses to RFP**

In July, BPA requested proposals for within-hour light load hour decremental reserves for the 2012-2013 rate period. Responses to the RFP are due Sept. 30. BPA will review the bids and expects to notify selected bidders in December 2011.

The agency would use the purchased reserves to replace the provision of decremental balancing reserve capacity from the FCRPS.

This is the second phase of the pilot program BPA conducted in the fall of 2009 in which the agency obtained decremental reserves from a third party. This RFP is intended to both broaden the amount of decremental reserves purchased and increase the length of the purchase.

BPA will work with the selected bidders between January and June on integration requirements and expects to have the decremental services on line by early July 2012.

### **New power line will expand renewables**

BPA will build a new high-voltage power line that will provide up to 100 new construction-related jobs. The new line will also help BPA move renewable energy from east of the Cascade Mountains to population centers west of the Cascades.

The 500-kilovolt transmission line will run 28 miles from BPA's Big Eddy Substation near The Dalles, Ore., to a new substation four miles northwest of Goldendale, Wash., and is called the Big Eddy-Knight line. Construction started in September.

For more information, see the [press release](#) or visit the [project website](#).

### **Next Transmission Customer Forum scheduled**

BPA will hold its next Transmission Customer Forum Oct. 13. The meeting will include a Wind Integration Team update. The agenda and meeting materials will be posted prior to the meeting at the [Transmission Customer Forum](#) web page. For meeting details, go to [http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/public\\_affairs/calendar/](http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/public_affairs/calendar/).