

RTO FILING UTILITIES'
PROPOSAL FOR A NEUTRAL NOTE-TAKER
AT
RTO FILING UTILITIES' MEETINGS

In the Northwest RTO Collaborative Process Plan, the RTO Filing Utilities responded to two over-riding messages they have heard over the past few weeks. The first was the desire by regional parties to be “at the table” when RTO issues are deliberated and to participate in a genuine effort to reach broad regional resolution of RTO issues. The second message was to provide assurance to regional parties that RTO issues are being discussed in a public forum, and that, in their own meetings, the RTO Filing Utilities will not advance a “private” agenda not shared in the public process.

The RTO Collaborative Process Plan now in effect was the RTO Filing Utilities' effort to be responsive to the desire to have RTO issues discussed in a public forum. This proposal for a neutral note-taker is to provide assurance that the RTO Filing Utilities will not advance a “private” agenda not shared in the public process.

This proposal emanates from discussions with several regional parties who are participating in the RTO collaborative process. It is designed to be of value to all parties who are participating in the collaborative process or who want to keep track of Northwest RTO development.

The RTO Filing Utilities will allow the presence of a neutral note-taker at their meetings. “Neutral” means that the note-taker will not be serving as an advocate or representative for any party but exclusively as an accurate recorder of the RTO Filing Utilities' discussions. The person who has been proposed to perform the neutral note-taker role is Kristi Wallis who was the IndeGO facilitator.

The notes of the neutral note-taker will be reviewed by the RTO Filing Utilities before they are published. The RTO Filing Utilities can provide feedback to the neutral note-taker, but it is the neutral note-taker's decision whether to make any changes in response to this feedback or to leave the notes as originally written. Following review and feedback, the notes will be posted on the NWRTO web site along with any comments by the RTO Filing Utilities if there are differences between the notes of the neutral note-taker and the notes and recollections of the RTO Filing Utilities.

Any regional party or parties can pose questions to the neutral note-taker about the RTO Filing Utilities' meetings. The neutral note-taker will not disclose to any other party the source or content of any questions presented to her.

It will be the responsibility of regional parties other than the RTO Filing Utilities to pay for the services of the neutral note-taker.