



# PLANNING AND EXPANSION CONTENT GROUP

## Stage 2



## Stage 1 Decisions



- RTO West has ultimate responsibility for the planning and expansion of the RTO System
- Expansion will result from market driven expansion mechanism
- RTO has backstop authority to assure transmission adequacy for load service
- RTO will determine what information it needs from the PTOs, what use to make of PTO input, and whether the RTO or the PTOs (or some combination thereof) should perform studies



## Scope – Effectuate Stage 1 Decisions



## Detail General Planning Process

- Determine capability of all paths on an on-going and five-year projected basis
- Identify paths that are experiencing congestion
- Identify opportunities for improvements (in a general way, not through detailed studies)
- Assess the ability of the RTO West facilities to deliver requested power (“transmission adequacy”)



- Provide above information to the market, including communicating opportunities for improvement and offering to facilitate discussion of whether opportunities should be acted upon
- Modify, if appropriate, and enforce interconnection standards
- Coordinate compliance studies and system base cases
- Provide for open process that considers transmission and non-transmission alternatives



## Develop Market Driven Expansion Mechanism

- RTO West planning process develops and distributes information regarding the RTO system to the market
- RTO West design sends price signals to the market and incents congestion clearing expansion
- Market driven mechanism could also provide additional incentives for expansion



## Further Define RTO's Backstop Authority for Load

- Develop Transmission Adequacy Standards
- Clearly define RTO backstop authority



## Develop Allocation Methodology

- Costs follow benefits
- How are benefits identified/quantified?
- How to handle future benefits



## Establish Criteria Regarding Initial Transfer Capability

- Establish criteria
- Further define exceptions to PTOs' obligation to maintain initial transfer capability