

FY12-FY13 Transmission Staffing Scenario

As part of the IPR process, Transmission received customer comments on a number of staffing issues. These included:

- Recommending BPA implement a succession planning initiative for the key Transmission Services areas.
- Ensuring there is sufficient staffing to efficiently perform in key areas, such as policy and rates, reliability compliance and operations.
- Validating there is sufficient staff to work on NERC standard compliance and operations. Includes ensuring a coordinated approach to NERC standard compliance, between BPA and its customers.
- Provide continuity in staff working on NT policy development
- Maintaining continuity in staffing and preservation of expertise in order to enable Transmission (and the customers) to move forward on pressing issues rather than spend time re-training staff.
- Dedicating sufficient resources to the interconnection process, the implementation of new operational capabilities, and important policy decisions, in order to avoid delays in new renewable energy investment.
- Prioritizing and increasing spending levels for the Wind Integration Team (WIT) and other advances in transmission and ancillary services operations. Adding an 10-15 additional FTE are required to fully reach the potential of WIT.
- Committing more resources towards achieving FERC reciprocity status.

Based on this feedback, Transmission reviewed its staffing levels and has the following proposal.

	Organization	IPR Program Area	CFTE	BFTE	TERM	Capital / Expense	Justification of Need for Position
							Compliance
1	Transmission Internal Operations	External Reimbursable Services	4			Reimbursable Expense	Develop new internal processes, ongoing program documentation and system enhancements to support ongoing customer coordination for NERC compliance associated with the Joint Registration Organization (JRO). This program supports up to 60 customers. Risk is non-compliance for BPA and its customers for those customers who elect the JRO option.
2	Transmission Engineering	Regulatory & Regional Association Fees		1		Expense	Additional support needed to provide advice and guidance to customers for NERC/CIP compliance associated with communications interphases - fiber, relays, etc. This is new ongoing core work specifically to provide customer support. Risk is non-compliance for BPA and its customers for those customers who elect the JRO option.
3	Transmission Customer Service Engineering	External Reimbursable Services	2			Reimbursable Expense	Provide ongoing annual technical coordination, review and certification for load serving entity (LSE) and distribution provider (DP) registered customers for NERC compliance. Risk is non-compliance for BPA and its customers.

	Organization	IPR Program Area	CFTE	BFTE	TERM	Capital / Expense	Justification of Need for Position
							Compliance
4	Marketing & Sales	Regulatory & Regional Association Fees	1			Expense	Technical modifications are required to BPA's webTrans system that only OATI can perform in order for BPA to be FERC compliant. The risk is that BPA won't meet the effective date for the NERC ATC Standards.
5	Transmission Commercial Systems	Regulatory & Regional Association Fees		2		Expense	Additional support needed to maintain additional commercial IT systems required under the NERC ATC Standards and Reciprocity. This includes integration with existing commercial systems, new enhancements, documentation, and new certification requirements. The risk is that BPA is non-compliant.
6	Transmission Account Services	Regulatory & Regional Association Fees			1	Expense	Additional support needed to process JRO Agreements. The risk is that BPA is non-compliant.
							Wind Integration
7	Transmission Planning	Internal Reimbursable Services	1			Reimbursable	Support for completing studies required for wind integration. Risk is non-compliance with LGIP.
8	Transmission Operations	Capital Program			1	Capital	Improving wind integration process with control center system environment and to respond to customer's needs. Risk is delay of project energization.
9	Transmission Engineering	Capital Program			2	Capital	Additional project managers are needed for wind integration projects. Risk is failure to execute projects.
10	Transmission Policy Development & Analysis	Scheduling Technical Support			1	Expense	Additional support needed to improve ancillary services required to implement the wind integration initiatives and to respond to customer needs. The risk is decreased reliability to the FCRPS.

	Organization	IPR Program Area	CFTE	BFTE	TERM	Capital / Expense	Justification of Need for Position
11	Transmission Policy Development & Analysis	Marketing Business Strategy	1			Expense	Additional support needed to improve customer access to existing and new inertia capacity, increase Dynamic Transfer Capability (DTC) between regions, reduce the risk of negative Northwest prices, and shift balancing service responsibilities to California Balancing Authority Areas (BAA). Risks include the inability to export surplus wind power out of the region during periods of high water or non-power constraints on hydro operation, thereby creating a risk of negative prices, and inability to shift balancing service responsibilities to California BAAs due to lack of DTC.
							NT Service
12	Transmission Marketing & Sales	Scheduling Technical Support		1		Expense	Conversion of MBA Coop Student. Additional support needed to maintain additional commercial IT systems required under the NAESB NT Standards, which includes the Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS). This includes a new transacting system for just NT service, integration with existing commercial systems, new enhancements, and customer support. The risk is that BPA is non-compliant in implementing new industry standards for NT Service.
13	Transmission Commercial Systems	Scheduling Technical Support		3		Expense	Additional support needed to maintain additional commercial IT systems required under the NAESB NT Standards, which includes the Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS). This includes a new transacting system for just NT service, integration with existing commercial systems, new enhancements, and customer support. The risk is that BPA is non-compliant in implementing new industry standards for NT Service.
14	Transmission Commercial Systems	Scheduling Technical Support	3			Expense	Additional support needed to setup the new Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS) model. This includes data population, testing, integration with other commercial systems, troubleshooting before the model is ready to be commercially available, and customer support. The risk is that BPA is non-compliant in implementing new industry standards for NT Service.
TOTAL			12	7	5		

FY12 Staffing Cost Rule of Thumb:	
BFTE	\$102,000
CFTE	\$129,846

CAPITAL:

Capital FTE are already covered in the FY12-13 capital program and there is no resulting incremental IPR program increase. There are 3 Term BFTE added in lieu of CFTE. Although the budget rule of thumb for CFTE is \$129,846, for most engineering functions the annual CFTE cost is typically \$150-300K.

EXPENSE:

The incremental expense FTE is 14 with an associated annual expense program increase is \$1,567,230. There are 2 Term BFTE and 7 permanent BFTE added in lieu of CFTE. These BFTE are added because the positions are inherently governmental and/or cost of CFTE significantly exceeds BFTE.

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSE:

Seven of the FTE are for reimbursable services and would be rate neutral.

EXPENSE FTE			CAPITAL FTE		
5	Expense CFTE	\$649,230	0	Capital CFTE	\$0
7	Expense BFTE	\$714,000	0	Capital BFTE	\$0
2	Expense Term BFTE	\$204,000	3	Capital Term BFTE	\$306,000
Total annual cost		<u>\$1,567,230</u>	Total annual cost		<u>\$306,000</u>

RATE IMPACT			
Rule of thumb rate impact for expense program \$6.2M = 1% change		Rule of thumb for capital program \$66M = 1% change	
Rate Impact: 0.25%		Rate Impact: Not applicable	

BPA Financial Disclosure Information: This information has been made publicly available by BPA on August 20, 2010 and does not contain Agency-approved Financial Information.