Commercial Operations Approved Project Business Case Summary

Outage Tracking System Project
Bonneville Power Administration’s (BPA) Power Services organization will be replacing its current and out of date application, Unit Outage, with a new system Outage Tracking System (OTS). A broad range of business stakeholders, which includes BPA Power (BPAP), BPA Transmission (BPAT), United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE), United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) see a clear need for a common system of record for federal generation outages. This system will give representative users across these agencies read and write access to accurate and up-to-date information on current and planned unit outages (including generation and non-generation outages) as well as accurate information on unit capacities. OTS is being designed to meet data requirements under PEAK’s IRO-17 outage coordination process.

Cost and Timeline
The project is expected to cost $3-$5 million. The project is estimated to be completed late 2018.

Benefit Summary
The new processes that are supported by OTS will:

• Improve communication and coordination between BPAP, BPAT, USACE and USBR.
• Provide the ability for BPAP to coordinate maintenance schedules and transmission limitations in accordance with the increasing level of daily activity received from each Federal Project and Transmission Business Line (TBL).
• Enhance BPA’s ability to comply with North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) reporting requirements and reduce risk of attendant fines. Provide complete audit information and support the audit of unit outage by an external agency.
• Provide improvements in efficient outage planning and the ability to maximize benefits and reliability of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS).
• Allow for more automated compliance with PEAK’s outage process under IRO-17.

Financial Disclosure: This information was made publicly available on March 3, 2017, and contains information not sourced directly from BPA financial statements.