

Tacoma Power Request Responses

Date: August 19, 2014 (Updated From August 4 Posting)

Question #1

NOS forecast vs BP-16 forecast – Reason for lower NOS PTP/IR/FPT? Why is NT so different?

Answer

BPA understands that “NOS forecast” refers to a spreadsheet BPA provided to Tacoma for the July 23 workshop and that “BP-16 forecast” refers to information provided for the July 23 workshop. This spreadsheet does not reflect the official load forecasts used for the 2013 NOS base case studies. The information in the spreadsheet was used to inform the generation assumptions used in the NOS case. The official load forecast used for the 2013 NOS base cases can be obtained from the 2018 Heavy Winter and Heavy Summer WECC base cases. The description of the load forecasts that BPA supplies to WECC for the WECC base case is described under “Northwest Load” for *Question #2* below. The forecasts in the 2018 Heavy Winter and Heavy Summer WECC base cases are not the same values as the July 23 workshop spreadsheet. One of the differences between the spreadsheet numbers and the load forecasts in the WECC cases is who supplied the forecasts. In the spreadsheet data, all the forecasts were developed by BPA. In the official WECC base cases some forecasts are provided by individual customers and others by BPA (see response to *Question #2* below).

The forecast used for the NOS studies and the BP-16 forecast do not contain identical values because the forecasts are used for different purposes and were developed at different times. The NOS studies evaluate whether BPA’s system is adequate to offer long-term firm service to new long-term requests and to offer long-term firm service to customers. The BP-16 forecast is a sales forecast which includes conditional firm service sales in the sales forecast for long-term firm service (under the tariff, conditional firm service is billed at the long-term service rate).

In addition, the forecast that BPA submitted to WECC for the 2018 WECC base case, which was subsequently used for the 2013 NOS base cases, was developed several years ago. The BP-16 forecast data in the July 23 workshop slides was developed recently.

Question #2

Do NOS amounts only reflect LT obligations consistent with July 23 *slide 39* “Existing Obligations”?

Answer

BPA assumes that Tacoma’s question is whether the NOS forecasts reflected in [the July 2014 workshop](#) *slide 39* reflects only BPA’s long-term contractual commitments. As explained further below and discussed at the meeting on July 23, the NOS base cases do not necessarily reflect BPA’s long-term contractual commitments. *Slide 39* indicates that the ATC and NOS base cases include existing obligations plus new requests for transmission service. In addition, *slide 40* further describes the generation dispatches selected for NOS and the load assumptions for the Northwest. BPA provides additional explanation of the NOS generation and load assumptions below.



NOS generation

The NOS Scenarios, developed through public review, consider three cases which select a generation dispatch based upon a fleet of resources with a presumed firm right to dispatch (either on the BPA Network, or on an adjacent transmission system). For the study, BPA presumes that generation associated with new long-term firm transmission service requests has a firm right to dispatch. The three NOS cases make different assumptions about how generation in the fleet of resources will be used to incorporate new requests for service. The three scenarios demonstrate reliable system performance using three scenarios as described in the following table:

Scenario	Wind Generation	FCRPS Hydro	Mid-C Hydro	Thermal Resources
Base	60% of contracted	95 th percentile MW	Agreed to levels in ATC Methodology	Merit Order Sequence
High Wind	100% of contracted	95 th percentile MW	Agreed to levels in ATC Methodology	Merit Order Sequence
No Wind	0% of contracted	95 th percentile MW Additional shift from Lower Columbia & Snake River plants to Upper Columbia plants	Agreed to levels in ATC Methodology	Merit Order Sequence

The scenarios are not intended to and do not completely reflect BPA's committed uses or firm obligations. Instead, the NOS cases evaluate whether BPA's system, together with any identified network reinforcements, is sufficient to meet BPA's firm obligations and offer service to the requestors of incremental long term firm transmission service.

Northwest Load

Slide 40 indicates that the load forecast for the Northwest that is used for the NOS studies is based upon the expected peak for the applicable season. The NOS cases use the load forecasts supplied by transmission providers for the WECC seasonal base cases. BPA supplies WECC with 1-in-2 peak load forecasts based on the sum of the peak of each individual meter (POD) for each customer. BPA provides these forecasts for the applicable season for its requirements customers. Adjacent transmission providers supply WECC with their own load forecasts. The NOS base cases assume that all load within the Northwest will be served on a firm basis. The NOS Cluster Study does not, however, verify the assumption by performing a load-resource balance for each load serving entity to make sure that each load serving entity has sufficient firm resources to serve its load.

The NOS base cases use the same regional loads that BPA uses for its reliability compliance studies that determine reinforcements required to meet existing obligations. BPA also uses similar load assumptions for the ATC base cases. Although the load assumptions are the same, the NOS, reliability compliance, and ATC base cases consider different future points in time as indicated on *slide 40*.

Question #7

Can we get weather temps (high/low, TTSL hour temp) and percentile for the Dec. 10 TTSL NT peak of 9,767 MW (for major load centers Seattle, Portland, Spokane, etc?)?

Answer

Weather for Dec. 10,2009 hour ending 9 am			
Station	Hr ending 9	Daily Max	Daily Min
PDX	14	34	14
SEA	19	36	17
GEG	10	20	7

Question #8

Reed Davis stated that he does a 1:20 peak load forecast for the system (not at individual customer) during the RHWM workshop. What loads does the 1:20 system peak include (PF NT, all NT Network load?) and I assume it is a coincident peak? What are the monthly 1:20 peaks?

Answer

BPA may produce a winter and summer 1:20 system peak load forecast from time to time to support hydro operations planning. BPA does not produce monthly 1:20 peak load forecasts. Transmission Services does not use 1:20 forecasts in any fashion. BPA does not maintain these forecasts and, therefore, is unable to provide the requested information to Tacoma.