

Response to Customer Comments – Available Transfer Capability (ATC) Methodologies for the Planning Time Period

Version 14
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This document contains customer comments and BPA Transmission Services’ response to the Available Transfer Capability (ATC) Methodologies for the Planning Time Period, Version 14 posted for review.

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A. Public Power Council, Network Customer Group and Clark Public Utilities

The Public Power Council, Network Customer Group, and Clark Public Utilities indicated support for the proposed changes to the long term ATC Methodology, especially that BPA expects to encumber capacity for accepted forecasts of both load growth and resources.

Thank you.

B. Northwest & Intermountain Power Producers Coalition

Why was this topic included as part of the TC-20 process?

We’re sorry for the confusion. This topic is not part of TC-20. Any tariff changes to BPA’s ATC and/or study processes will be addressed in TC-22. We will make sure to post our materials on the ATC page in the future.

Supportive of the switch from a 1% load growth factor to performance of a 5 and 10 year studies.

Thank you.

Encouraged greater coordination of BPA’s long term ATC Methodology, Cluster Study, and tariff Attachment K Transmission Planning Process.

That is the ultimate goal of the TIPP effort. We are currently implementing phase one and will provide a description of the other phases at a future workshop.

C. Avangrid, Avista, Idaho Power, PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric and Puget Sound Energy

Desire for clarity on how ATC is encumbered for NT forecasts.

BPA has historically modeled load forecasts in the ATC Base Case, which means they have been included in the ETC_{Firm} however:

- *Rapid load growth may require an exception to this practice, which we are currently assessing; and*
- *Non-Federal resource forecasts are not currently added to the ATC Base Case (as stated at 7.6.3); these are currently included in the ATC calculation via PTDf (as stated at 8.3). It's possible that, during the Commercial Assessment process, BPA will determine that these resource forecasts will not result in increased impacts to the system (i.e., they're already modeled in the Base Case); in these instances, the PTDf impacts will be "backed out" of the ATC calculation, thus returning previously encumbered capacity to the market. This encumbrance process is also under assessment and may be modified in future phases of the TIPP effort.*

Desire for long term ATC Methodology uncertainty margin to be released to the short term firm market, rather than only to the non-firm.

This practice is not under revision at this time, but we will consider it as we continue to evaluate how to manage the hourly firm product.

Requested clarity on:

Definition of "Planning ETC";

Thank you for pointing out that stray term, which is a holdover from previous versions of the document. We have removed the term.

Which load forecasts are used within the long term ATC calculations; and

"Normal peak (1 in 2) load forecasts" are the same as "1-in-2 (average) non-coincidental peak (NCP) load forecasts" and we have clarified our use of NCP forecasts in the final ATC documents.

Generation scenarios modeled within the long term ATC calculations.

We assess the following scenarios as part of the ATC calculation process: three FCRPS dispatches, two wind scenarios, and two conditions to model the return of power under the Columbia River Treaty (a.k.a. Canadian Entitlement Return). We have clarified this in the final ATC documents.

Reinforced that BPA should not make changes to the ATC Methodology without a workshop and comment period.

We intend to continue to follow our status quo procedure: hold a workshop to describe the changes, post the relevant document/business practice for public comment, reply in writing to all comments, and finalize document/business practice.