Contiguous Points of Delivery

BPA Transmission Business Practice

Version 2
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This Business Practice describes the general criteria of a Contiguous Point of Delivery (POD) and how to request or make a change to a Contiguous POD.

For more information, visit the BPA Transmission Business Practices page or submit questions to techforum@bpa.gov.

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A. Contiguous POD General Information

1. The Contiguous POD applies only to Point-to-Point (PTP) transmission service.
2. The Contiguous POD is a set of individual PODs sharing a common boundary service area that are aggregated and treated as a single POD in a PTP Transmission Service Request (TSR).

B. Contiguous POD Criteria

1. In order for Contiguous PODs to be agreed to by BPAT, the criteria below must be met:
   a. All PODs on the delivery side must be interconnected through a transmission or distribution system. If the Customer's system is operated normally open, the Customer and BPA will agree to an operating plan for any load shifting between and/or amongst PODs in the contiguous set to prevent adverse impacts on the reliability of the Federal Columbia River Transmission System (FCRTS). The PODs must be significantly interconnected electrically on both high side and low side.
   b. In the event of an outage, each POD within the contiguous set must be capable of providing electric backup service to any other POD of that contiguous set so that retail Customers within the load center served by the contiguous set of PODs realize no interruption in service. However, if a substation or interconnection serves two or more PODs at different voltage levels and the source is a single transmission line, the PODs may be considered contiguous if there are reasonable technical and/or historical basis for doing so.
   c. All PODs in the set of contiguous PODs must be located on the same side of a constraint or potential constraint. Shifts in loads from one POD to another POD in
the contiguous set may not adversely affect any constraint, such as those posted on BPA's Open Access Same-Time Information System (OASIS).

d. The Transmission Customer may not direct BPA Transmission Services to deliver a specific amount of demand to a specific POD within the contiguous set of PODs. BPA Transmission Services has no obligation to deliver specific amounts to individual delivery points that constitute the contiguous set of PODs. BPA Transmission Services has no obligation to construct new facilities at or between PODs included in the contiguous set of PODs as long as BPA Transmission Services can deliver the combined demands to the contiguous sets of PODs.

e. All PODs within the contiguous set of PODs must be in a single Balancing Authority Area (BAA); all power associated with the contiguous set of PODs must be scheduled.

f. All PODs associated with the Southern Intertie are specifically excluded from consideration as part of a contiguous set of PODs (Big Eddy, John Day, California-Oregon Border, Nevada-Oregon Border).

g. The utility requesting contiguous PODs must be capable of receiving electric service at each of the PODs in the contiguous set. If the utility is requesting contiguous PODs to deliver to a third party, then that third party must be capable of receiving delivery at each of the PODs in the contiguous set.

h. Where appropriate, the Customer must agree to use limits on the individual PODs included in the contiguous set of PODs.

i. Contiguous PODs are granted for real power only.

j. These criteria shall be reviewed as needed. An individual Customer's situation shall be reviewed if there are any changes in how its system is served or impacted by any transmission system conditions. The Customer must notify their BPA Account Executive prior to a change. BPA Transmission Services reserves the right to modify any characteristics of a Customer's contiguous POD if changes in a system (BPA, Customer, third-party) warrant such modification.

C. Requesting a Contiguous POD

1. A BPA PTP Customer who wants BPA to consider adding a new Contiguous POD or make changes to an existing Contiguous POD in their PTP Agreement must contact their Transmission Account Executive in writing.