

Intertie Transmission Service Studies

Transmission Customer Forum

April 23, 2015



Background

- BPA is currently developing an intertie transmission service study process.
- BPA last engaged stakeholders on this issue as part of the 2011–2012 Bonneville OATT (BOATT) process.
 - At the conclusion of BOATT, BPA committed to developing a study process that is consistent with its existing OATT requirements.
 - Additionally, given the upcoming Service Across Multiple Transmission Systems (SAMTS) standards implementation, having a study process in place will minimize seams issues between BPA and other transmission providers.
- BPA is now seeking customer feedback on preliminary concepts.

BPA OATT Requirements

- When BPA cannot grant a request for Long Term Firm transmission service, the BPA OATT requires BPA to perform system impact studies and facilities studies to determine what upgrades to the transmission system are necessary to grant a customer's request.
 - BPA's Network Open Season (NOS) study process only applies to requests for service over network facilities.
- BPA staff believes the OATT provides sufficient flexibility to enable BPA to take the time necessary to collect information from the customer and secure cooperation from the relevant intertie transmission providers/owners to produce a worthwhile study.
- Reference: BPA OATT Sections 13.5, 15.2, 15.4, 15.5, 16.1, 17.2, 17.5, 18.4, 19.1, 19.2, 19.3, 19.4, 19.10, 21.2.

Customer Information Requirements

- BPA staff plans to require customers to provide the identities of the Delivering and Receiving Parties and the location of the generating facility supplying the capacity and energy (source) and the location of the load ultimately served (sink).
- If customers do not provide this information, the customer will not receive a study agreement and the relevant TSR(s) will be removed from the queue.
- This is the same information BPA requires for NOS.

Customer Information Requirements, cont.

- In addition to the information on slide 4, BPA staff anticipates requiring the customer to demonstrate that relevant intertie transmission providers/owners will coordinate on the study.
- Absent coordination with those transmission providers/owners, BPA can only provide customers with very high-level studies of upgrades needed on BPA's facilities only.
- BPA staff believes these studies would provide minimal value to BPA and its customers. These studies would in essence only show one-half of a bridge.

Customer Information Requirements, cont.

- BPA staff have identified potential ways in which a customer could make this demonstration.
 - If the relevant transmission provider has an OATT, the customer could provide an executed OATT study agreement (System Impact Study Agreement or System Facilities Study Agreement)
 - If the relevant transmission provider is the CAISO, the customer could demonstrate that the CAISO is treating the delivery of that resource as an assumption in its annual planning study.
- *How long do you anticipate needing to make this demonstration?*
- *Are there other mechanisms that demonstrate that relevant intertie transmission providers/owners will coordinate on the study that you recommend BPA consider?*

Study Options Under Consideration

- There are two phases to the OATT transmission service studies process: 1) System Impact Study → 2) System Facility Study.
- BPA staff is evaluating at which phase it will require that the customer secure the participation of the relevant intertie transmission providers/owners.
- Because BPA staff currently believes there is minimal value in producing high-level studies of upgrades needed on BPA's intertie facilities only, staff is leaning towards requiring coordination from phase 1.

Questions for Stakeholders

- Customer information requirements (Slides 4-6):
 - *How long do you anticipate needing to make this demonstration?*
 - *Are there other mechanisms that demonstrate that relevant intertie transmission providers/owners will coordinate on the study that you recommend BPA consider?*
- Study process options: (Slide 7):
 - *Do you believe there is any value in BPA conducting intertie transmission service studies that only identify the upgrades needed on BPA's portion of an intertie, i.e. one-half of the bridge?*
 - *At what point in the study process (SIS or SFS) do you recommend BPA begin coordinating studies with other intertie transmission providers/owners?*

Next Steps

- 1) Stakeholder comments on this presentation are due by COB May 7, 2015.
 - Send comments to techforum@bpa.gov, put “Intertie Transmission Service Studies” in the subject line.
- 2) BPA staff will develop a proposed study process, codify it in a draft business practice and post the business practice for stakeholder review.
 - We anticipate posting this business practice in late spring/early summer.
- 3) Once the study process is finalized, BPA will notify stakeholders of a proposed timeline for launching the first intertie transmission service study process.