



Update on Long-term Transmission Planning Task Force (LTPTF)

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New FERC Order No. 1920

- FERC issued Order No 1920 on May 13, 2024
 - Concludes that existing regional transmission planning processes are inadequate, and reforms are necessary to ensure a forward-looking approach that accounts for a broader set of benefits
 - Requires transmission providers to participate in Long-Term Regional Transmission Planning (LTRTP) to address long-term needs
 - Must look at least 20 years from the commencement of the LTRTP cycle
 - The LTRTP process must be conducted over no more than 3 years and include the following:
 - Develop long-term scenarios
 - Identify long-term transmission needs
 - Measure the benefits of Long-Term Regional Transmission Facilities, and
 - Evaluate and decide whether to select Long-Term Regional Transmission Facilities
 - LTRTP must be reassessed and revised at least once every 5 years
 - Requires use of at least three scenarios built from seven specified factors and assess seven types of benefits

WECC Role in Order 1920

- LTPTF has been actively discussing the role of WECC in creating cases for LTRTP that will support Order 1920 requirements
 - Proposed role of WECC is to collect and compile data sets, but not complete any studies
 - Order 1920 confirms the need for production cost models and power flow (i.e. bus-branch models)
 - Order 1920 requires assessing cost benefit for 20 years from project in-service, which could result in looking up to 40+ years from start of LTRTP
 - Need for continuous data due to requirement to assess “in any period of the 20-year transmission planning horizon”
 - LTPTF previously decided to not develop a 20-year dynamic model case and does not interpret that the order requires these cases at the WECC level
 - Discussions have focused on the methodology to build the case, data (source, requirements for acceptance, and dissemination), and the role of WECC to define a 20-year base case and scenarios (or not)
 - Development of FERC scenarios requires prescriptive inputs including changes in load/gen due to resource plans, policy goals, resource plans, trends in generation/storage, planned retirements, etc. There are additionally strict requirements on stakeholder engagement and public posting of information. Initial direction is that this makes it unsuitable for WECC to develop the Order 1920 scenarios.

Draft Proposed Approach

- Proposal: Extrapolate process for 10-year Anchor Data Set (ADS) to 20- year using best available data and assumptions
 - Foundational philosophy
 - **Document assumptions** such as the methodology for generating load data, source of the data and any additional assumptions (e.g. 15-year data load forecast extrapolated to 20-year), or reason for placing a fictitious generator, etc.
 - WECC to collect a wide range of data and make it all available (e.g. potential new transmission projects in a change file) regardless of whether information is included in the new 20-year case, which **allows transmission providers to develop their own scenarios**
 - Implement a consistent process to **extrapolate where data is not available**
 - Load: Rely on load serving entities; require assumptions behind load (e.g. BTM solar/battery or EV)
 - Generation: Still under discussion, though likely includes gathering IRP new planned resources/retirements and generator interconnection queues
 - Topology: Gather all concept projects along with status information typically used as criteria for inclusion in planning models; provide all project options in a change file, possibly define a threshold for inclusion in the 20-year model, though this is also a broader WECC issue

Next Steps

- Continue discussing options for data inputs, integrity/validation, and overall process
- Discuss timing of the first 20-year case and bring in relevant subcommittee(s)
- Target recommendation from the task force by end of 2024

