

1. Welcome, Call to Order

Scott Johnson, Telecommunications Subcommittee (TCOMS) Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. MT on July 18, 2024. A quorum was present to conduct business. A list of attendees is attached as Exhibit A.

2. Review WECC Antitrust Policy

Scott Brooksby, Senior Cybersecurity Risk Advisor, read aloud the WECC Antitrust Policy statement. The meeting agenda included a link to the posted policy.

3. Approve Agenda

Mr. Johnson introduced the proposed meeting agenda.

On a motion by Chris Witthaus, the TCOMS approved the agenda.

4. Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Mr. Johnson introduced the minutes from the meeting on March 14, 2024.

On a motion by Arturo Moreno, the TCOMS approved the minutes from March 14, 2024.

5. Review Previous Action Items

Serena Stiehl, Administrative Coordinator, reviewed action items carried over from the TCOMS meeting on March 14, 2024. Action items that are not closed and will be carried forward can be found on the WECC website TCOMS page under the Action Items accordion.

6. Intertie Circuit Update

Mr. Johnson provided an update on the intertie circuit. Mr. Knoll created a spreadsheet and sent it to the TCOMS members, proposing the minimum amount of data that should be recorded for intertie circuits. The data for the proposed spreadsheet came from a database provided by Matt Barrington, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PGE). TCOMS members who have not had the opportunity to review the proposed spreadsheet were encouraged to do so and to provide their comments or approval.

7. Results of Utility Ringdown Circuit Audit

Mr. Witthaus, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), presented the results of the utility ringdown circuit audit. TCOMS members discussed what they have seen so far regarding ringdown circuits within their regions and whether the ringdown circuits are being put onto a commercial network by other utilities or being maintained as in-house circuits. Members also discussed topics such as what technology has been replacing the ringdown systems, what type of equipment is being used, whether there is compatibility between systems, and the potential of long-term private voice communication systems in case of emergency situations. Results of this audit are starting to come in, and the TCOMS will give more time to the subject in the meeting on October 3, 2024.

8. Synchronization Guide Review Update

Mr. Johnson provided information on the Synchronization Guide review update. The TCOMS reviewed the existing document to identify potential changes and discuss timelines for reviews and updates.

9. FCC/NTIA Evaluation of 7-8 GHz for Spectrum Pipeline

Mr. Johnson presented on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) evaluation of 7–8 gigahertz (GHz) for the Spectrum Pipeline Plan. The FCC has asked the NTIA to evaluate the band, and the NTIA is undergoing a two-year study process that will start on October 1, 2024. From the information gathered, the NTIA will determine what technologies can go into the band without causing interference with existing users. Concerns were expressed about the methods the FCC used to evaluate interference in the 6 GHz band and what the cost would be if the 7–8 GHz frequency spectrum were lost.

10. Discussion/Preparation of TCOMS Leadership Change in October

The TCOMS discussed the upcoming leadership change that will be taking place in October. The last meeting Mr. Johnson will lead as chair will be the October 3, 2024, TCOMS meeting, after which the group will select a new chair to be approved by the RRC. The new chair will start with planning the March 2025 meeting.

11. Roundtable Discussions

The committee members who were present gave updates on what is happening at their companies. Mr. Brooksby also provided information on the upcoming WECC website migration that will take place on July 29, 2024.



12. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

13. Review New Action Items

No new action items were created during this meeting.

14. Upcoming Meetings

October 3–4, 2024..... Salt Lake City, Utah

March 13–14, 2025..... Salt Lake City, Utah

July 17–18, 2025 (proposed) Salt Lake City, Utah

October 2–3, 2025 (proposed)..... Salt Lake City, Utah

15. Adjourn

Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting without objection at 4:05 p.m.



Exhibit A: Attendance List

Members in Attendance

Chris Ah Choy Bonneville Power Administration
Matt Barrington..... Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Ryan Beato British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Scott Brooksby.....WECC
Darin Brummett..... Tri-State Generation & Transmission–Power Management Division
Carlos GonzalesSalt River Project
Casey Hutchinson.....Avista Corporation
Scott Johnson..... Western Area Power Administration
Wayne Klein British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Karl Knoll..... Portland General Electric Company
John McCarthy Southern California Edison Company
Arturo Moreno.....Salt River Project
Brian Nordlund..... PacifiCorp
Shaun Skidmore.....Idaho Power Company
Ryan Wisness Portland General Electric Company
Chris Witthaus Bonneville Power Administration

Members not in Attendance

Ryan Culley Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Jennifer Dekeyser..... Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Boubacar Diallo..... British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Carlos Garay..... Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Victor Gong Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Mark Goto..... Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Rajan Monteiro..... Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Caleb Murphy San Diego Gas and Electric
JP Obligado..... Los Angeles Department of Water and Power



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David Parkhurst.....Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County
Jack RatyNorthWestern Energy
Scott Strugnell Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Bryan Szalewski.....NV Energy
Caroline Tian-Mejia..... Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Thomas Varland Arizona Public Service Company

Others in Attendance

Peter Ashcroft.....WECC
Owen CoteSalt River Project
Jeff GrosshauserNokia
Serena StiehlWECC
Drew Weingart.....Nokia

