

Telecommunications Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2024

Salt Lake City, Utah

#### 1. Welcome, Call to Order

Scott Johnson, Telecommunications Subcommittee (TCOMS) Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:09 a.m. MT on October 3, 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 Brian Nordlund, the TCOMS approved the agenda.

## 4. Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Mr. Johnson introduced the minutes from the meeting on July 18, 2024.

On a motion by Chris Witthaus, the TCOMS approved the minutes from July 18, 2024.

#### 5. Review Previous Action Items

Serena Stiehl, Administrative Coordinator, reviewed action items carried over from the TCOMS meeting on July 18, 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. Update on the Written Work Product Process

Mr. Brooksby provided an update on the written work product process for WECC committee documents. All committees will follow the board-approved Document Categorization Policy, which outlines the requirement for at least one notice and comment period, in addition to any others that are requested by the Reliability Risk Committee (RRC). Written guidelines also recommend that committee documents be reviewed and updated every three years.



### 7. Intertie Circuit Update

Mr. Johnson and Matt Barrington, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), provided an update on the intertie circuit. The TCOMS previously worked on posting all intertie circuit data they had internally at their utilities to the TCOMS team site for members to review. From this, PG&E generated a database to share with everyone. However, over the last 24 years there have not been significant additions or changes, and a question was posed whether there is a need to continue to track the ringdowns.

With more involvement in the markets and more utilities joining markets, the intertie circuit identifier no longer has a place. Mr. Barrington proposed the utilities could elect to label these circuits with their own numbers and exchange these numbers with their agency so that utilities can fulfill this need on their own, and the need for the database would go away.

In a previous meeting, Mr. Knoll developed a spreadsheet outlining the minimum amount of data that should be recorded for intertie circuits. The TCOMS agreed that the spreadsheet was a good format and contained the right amount of data, and Mr. Witthaus will lead the creation of a protocol draft document for intertie circuit data tracking.

### 8. Results of Utility Ringdown Circuit Audit

Mr. Witthaus provided an update on the results of the utility ringdown circuit audit. He has compiled information provided by the other utilities and is still trying to determine which circuits are active. After the protocol draft document for intertie data tracking has been created, the TCOMS can take the remaining data to determine whether ringdowns are still being used and what circuits are critical to maintain between the utilities.

## 9. Synchronization Guide Review Update

The drafting team plans to review the Synchronization Guide by December 2, 2024, after which the document will go out for public comment and final review. The document will then go to the RRC for approval at its February 2025 meeting.

## 10. COM-001-3 Standard Interpretation and Applications

Eleanour Hunstock, Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish County, gave a presentation on the COM-001-3 Standard and its interpretation and applications. The TCOMS discussed topics including capability communication designation, internal controls, and documentation ownership.

#### 11. Roundtable Discussions

The committee members present gave updates on what is happening at their companies.



#### 12. Public Comment

No comments were made.

#### 13. Review New Action Items

- Create a protocol draft document for tracking intertie circuit data.
  - o Assigned To: Chris Witthaus
  - o Due Date: March 13, 2025

## 14. Selection of TCOMS Leadership

Mr. Knoll volunteered to be the next chair of TCOMS. There were no objections or other nominations from the remaining TCOMS members. Scott Brooksby will take the proposal to the liaison and co-chairs of the RRC for final approval.

## 15. Upcoming Meetings

March 13–14, 2025	Salt Lake City, Utah
July 17–18, 2025	Salt Lake City, Utah
November 6–7, 2025 (tentative)	Salt Lake City, Utah

### 16. Adjourn

Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:51 p.m.



# **Exhibit A: Attendance List**

## **Members in Attendance**

Chris Ah Choy	
Matt Barrington	
Scott Brooksby	WECC
Darin Brummett	Tri-State Generation & Transmission–Power Management Division
Ryan Culley	
Carlos Gonzales	Salt River Project
Casey Hutchinson	Avista Corporation
Scott Johnson	
Wayne Klein	British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Karl Knoll	Portland General Electric Company
John McCarthy	Southern California Edison Company
Caleb Murphy	San Diego Gas and Electric
Brian Nordlund	
David Parkhurst	Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County
Jonathan Stefaniak	
Ryan Wisness	Portland General Electric Company
Chris Witthaus	Bonneville Power Administration
Members not in Attendance	
Jennifer Dekeyser	
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
Arturo Moreno	Salt River Project
JP Obligado	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power



Jack Raty	NorthWestern Energy
Shaun Skidmore	Idaho Power Company
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
Peter Ashcroft	WECC
Others in Attendance	
Eleanour Hunstock	Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish County
Mike Johnson	EarthLink
Tim Reynolds	WECC
Serena Stiehl	WECC
Branden Sudduth	WECC
Mason Tabata	Bonneville Power Administration

