

Telecommunications Subcommittee

Draft Meeting Minutes
Salt Lake City, Utah

November 6, 2025

8 a.m.—5 p.m. MST

1. Welcome, Call to Order

Karl Knoll, Telecommunications Subcommittee (TCOMS) chair, called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. MST on November 6, 2025. A quorum was present to conduct business. A list of attendees is attached as Exhibit A.

2. Secretary Duties November to March

K. Knoll asked TCOMS members for volunteers to cover the secretary role for the November meetings. There were no volunteers, and K. Knoll appointed Casey Hutchinson as the secretary.

3. Review WECC Antitrust Policy

Scott Brooksby, senior cybersecurity risk advisor, read aloud the WECC Antitrust Policy statement. The policy can be found on wecc.org.

4. Approve Agenda

K. Knoll introduced the proposed meeting agenda.

K. Knoll appointed the secretary for the meeting earlier and requested to move the agenda item up in the order. K. Knoll informed the group that Jay Sungu would not be available and asked that his presentation be removed from the agenda. K. Knoll requested two new agenda topics be added: inter-utility packet hand-offs and traveling wave relays.

The 2025-11-06 TCOMS Agenda was amended as follows:

- Agenda item four, “Secretary Duties November to March – Karl Knoll, PGE” was moved up to be agenda item two.
- Agenda item 10, “AI Presentation – Jay Sungu, NVIDIA” was removed.
- A new agenda item nine was added called “Inter-utility packet Hand-off – TCOMS Members.”
- A new agenda item 15 was added called “Traveling Wave Relays – TCOMS Members.”

On a motion by John McCarthy, the TCOMS approved the agenda as amended.

5. Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

K. Knoll introduced the minutes of the meeting on July 17, 2025.

On a motion by J. McCarthy, the TCOMS approved the minutes of the meeting on July 17, 2025.

6. Review Previous Action Items

Serena Stiehl, Administrative Coordinator, reviewed action items carried over from the TCOMS meeting on July 17, 2025. Action items that are not closed and will be carried forward can be found on wecc.org.

7. Discussion on Replacement of Voice Lines

Scott Johnson, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), led a discussion on soft phones versus Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) based phones, and which technology or solution is the best approach in the replacement of voice lines. The TCOMS members discussed how utilities are managing these phone systems.

8. Ring Down Circuits

The TCOMS members had a discussion on the transition to packet and which ringdowns are still being used versus which are not.

9. Inter-utility Packet Handoffs

Shaun Skidmore, Idaho Power Company, presented on inter-utility Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) service handoffs.

The presentation is available on wecc.org.

10. FCC to Launch Section 253 Broadband Deployment Inquiry

TCOMS Members had a general discussion on the recent draft Notice of Inquiry from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Members reviewed the draft and raised the importance of awareness for utilities regarding the notice.

11. 6/7/8Ghz Discussions

The TCOMS had a discussion on 6, 7, and 8 Ghz utilization, mitigation, and observations. Members shared their perspectives and experiences on what their organizations have seen when working with 6, 7, and 8 Ghz.

12. Roster Review

This agenda item will be moved to the closed session on November 7, 2025.

13. Microwave design

S. Johnson and Jon Stefaniak, WAPA, led a discussion on microwave design and analysis. TCOMS members were asked to share feedback on what they have seen and experienced at their own organizations.



14. Inter-utility Circuit interchange requirements

K. Knoll shared the TCOMS Intertie Circuit Process document and asked TCOMS members to review and update the inter-utility circuit interchange spreadsheet tracker by the March 2026 meeting. TCOMS members discussed requirements, numbering schemes, and transferring existing data. K. Knoll will work to add macros to the spreadsheet tracker before the March 2026 meeting.

15. Traveling Wave Relays

TCOMS members discussed traveling wave relays and their practicality.

16. Open Session Round Table

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

17. Public Comment

No comments were made.

18. Review New Action Items

- Work on adding macros for numbering into the intertie circuit tracker
 - Assigned To: Karl Knoll
 - Due Date: March 5, 2026

19. Review Upcoming Meetings

March 5–6, 2026.....	TBD
July 9–10, 2026 (TBD).....	Virtual
November 5–6, 2026 (TBD).....	Virtual

20. Adjourn

K. Knoll adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:40 p.m.



Exhibit A: Attendance List

Members in Attendance

Chris Ah Choy Bonneville Power Administration
Matt Barrington Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Scott Brooksby WECC
Darin Brummett Tri-State Generation & Transmission–Power Management Division
Ryan Culley Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Casey Hutchinson Avista Corporation
Ayo Idowu Bonneville Power Administration
Scott Johnson Western Area Power Administration
Karl Knoll Portland General Electric Company
John McCarthy Southern California Edison Company
Arturo Moreno Salt River Project
David Parkhurst Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County
Shaun Skidmore Idaho Power Company
Jonathan Stefaniak Western Area Power Administration
Bryan Szalewski NV Energy
Mason Tabata Bonneville Power Administration
Ryan Wisness Portland General Electric Company

Members not in Attendance

Eric Barnes Avista Corporation
Ryan Beato British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Carlos Gonzales Salt River Project
Wayne Klein British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Caleb Murphy San Diego Gas and Electric
Brian Nordlund PacifiCorp
Joe Richards Avista Corporation

Others in Attendance

Robert Reynolds NorthWestern Energy
Serena Stiehl WECC
Mark Willis WECC