



3628 South 35th Street

Tacoma, Washington 98409-3192

TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES

November 8, 2011

Kent Bolton
Staff Engineer
Western Electricity Coordinating Council
155 North 400 West, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1114

Dear Mr. Bolton:

Tacoma Power is requesting the waiver of the “Significant Transmission Project” Status for the following project pursuant to section 4, page III-42 of the Process for Project Review and Coordination. Our decision to submit this waiver request is based on the fact that this project is not expected to have any significant impact on the operation of the WECC interconnected electric system.

Project Name: 230 kV Re-Termination Project

Project Purpose: To improve system reliability and operational flexibility

Project description: This project involves the re-termination of the “BPA South Tacoma-Cowlitz #1” 230 kV line from TPWR’s Cowlitz 230 kV bus into TPWR’s “Southwest #4” 230 kV line to create a new “BPA South Tacoma-Southwest” 230 kV line. It also includes the re-termination of TPWR’s “Tacoma-Cowlitz #2” and “Cowlitz-Southwest #3” 230 kV lines to create a new “Tacoma-Southwest” 230 kV line. Please refer to the enclosed BPA Project Requirements Diagram titled “Reterminate South Tacoma–Cowlitz 230 kV Line” for information and reference.

Expected dates of release to operations:

- 1) Mid-April, 2012 for the BPA South Tacoma-Southwest line, and
- 2) Mid- June, 2012 for the Tacoma-Southwest line.

Expected operating voltage: 230 kV

No significant impact:

The fact that this project is not expected to have any significant impact on the operation of the WECC interconnected electric system can be substantiated by the following:

- Back in 2008, Tacoma Power requested BPA to perform the Transmission Interconnection System Impact Study to determine if the project would have any negative impact or issues on the interconnected system. The study results indicated that there was none.

- Tacoma Power submitted modeling data for this project to the Northwest Area Coordinator in March 2009. The modeling data has been incorporated in the TSS base cases for the summer of 2012 and beyond. No planning or operational issues were identified during the review and approval processes of these base cases. In addition, no planning or operational issues were identified by users of these approved base cases after their official release by WECC.
- ColumbiaGrid also had this project modeled in its Annual System Assessment Studies for the last 3 years. No planning or operational issues were identified or associated with this project were identified.
- The System Assessment Studies Tacoma Power performed annually to meet TPL-001 thru TPL-004 standards did not show any negative impact this project would have on its system or on the interconnection system with its neighbors.

Please circulate our waiver request to WECC staff and TSS as you deem appropriate. Feel free to contact me or our planning engineer, Francis Tong, at (253) 502-8262 if you have any questions. Thanks.

Enclosure: Project Requirement Diagram - Reterminate South Tacoma–Cowlitz 230 kV Line

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Wilson, P.E.
Power Supervisor
T&D System Planning
Tacoma Power
wilsonj@cityoftacoma.org
(253) 502-8931

cc: Chang Choi
John Lawrence
Aaron Moe
David Cole
Francis Tong
Khanh Thai
Mark Pigman
John Brank – BPA
Larry Furumasu - BPA