



TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC.

HEADQUARTERS: P.O. BOX 33695 DENVER, COLORADO 80233-0695 303-452-6111

July 05, 2012

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

Dear Mr. Bolton,

Pursuant to the "Overview of Policies and Procedures for Project Coordination Review, Project Rating Review, and Progress Reports", Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association, Inc (Tri-State) is requesting a waiver of "Significant Project Status" and the subsequent requirement for a Project Coordination Review.

Project Name: Gladstone 230kV Phase Shifting Transformer Project

Project Purpose: To improve system reliability, operational flexibility, and prevent unscheduled north to south flow into north eastern New Mexico.

Project Description: This project involves the installation of a new 230kV 300MVA Phase Shifting Transformer (+/- 60°) at Gladstone substation in north eastern New Mexico.

Expected Date of Release to Operations: 4th Quarter, 2014

Expected Operating Voltage: 230kV

No Significant Impact: No significant impacts on the operation of the WECC interconnected electric system occur with the addition of the project based on the following:

- Tri-State has submitted modeling data for this project as part of the WECC base case development process to the New Mexico Area Coordinator (PNM) for 2015 cases and beyond. No planning or operational issues associated with this project have been identified.
- The TPL system assessment studies performed by Tri-State show the phase shifter increased north eastern New Mexico system reliability and operational flexibility. Studies did not show any negative impacts to system operation to Tri-State's system or any neighboring systems.
- Generator interconnection studies performed along the Gladstone – Walsenburg 230kV line indicated the need for the phase shifter to allow any new generation to be interconnection along this line. No negative impacts have been identified with the phase shifter project as part of these studies.



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Please share our waiver request to WECC staff and TSS as appropriate. Please contact me or our planning engineer, Ryan Hubbard, (303-254-3025) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CPink'.

Chris Pink, P.E.
Bulk Systems Planning Manager
Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association, Inc
cpink@tristategt.org
(303)-254-3339

