



December 13, 2006
ColumbiaGrid Forum

Elements of
ColumbiaGrid OASIS
Functional Agreement



Goals

- Better facilitate Transmission Customer (TC) access and choices across participating systems
- Provide seamless “one-stop shopping” for TCs to purchase transmission, redirect or resell transmission, and request interconnections for new resources or loads to Northwest transmission systems
 - TCs could purchase transmission service from multiple Transmission Service Providers (TSPs) at the same time and in the same place
 - Support a secondary transmission market where TCs would have ability to sell and buy unneeded transmission rights
 - Achieve common queues for interconnection requests and transmission service requests for all participating transmission systems
 - After common queue, assist in the reconciliation of differences between flow-based and contract path rights



Goals

- Facilitate TSP compliance with applicable FERC standards
 - TSPs continue managing sales of transmission products or ColumbiaGrid manages sales of transmission products on behalf of TSPs
 - Track redirect and resale activities of TCs
- Preserve individual TSP decision-making authority over its individual tariff
- Merge individual TSP OASIS portals into the ColumbiaGrid OASIS portal



Means

- Develop, implement, and administer single OASIS interface for TSPs which would
 - Display information common to all TSPs, e.g., business practices, both proposed and in effect
 - Allow individual TSPs to maintain their individual tariffs and business practices in a provider-specific portal



Means

- Establish a process and time frame for TSPs, along with TCs, to:
 - Provide transmission services and products with common attributes;
 - Develop common tariff terms and conditions to be implemented through each transmission provider's tariff;
 - Develop and implement a common queue for transmission service and interconnection requests; and
 - Implement a flow-based model for determining ATC
 - Evaluate options for evolving role of ColumbiaGrid
 - Administer regional tariffs/sell regional products on behalf of TSPs
 - ColumbiaGrid as TSP



Means

- Commit ColumbiaGrid to work with the vendor, and ColumbiaGrid, the TSPs, and the vendor to work together (e.g., agreeing to share their data etc.)
- Encourage TSPs to develop common West-wide features and practices with the wesTTrans OASIS members



Means

- TSPs would continue to provide service to their TCs under their existing tariffs and contracts; as TSPs agree to implement common products, attributes, and business practices, ColumbiaGrid would apply these common services the ColumbiaGrid area of the ColumbiaGrid OASIS
- To the maximum extent possible, have ColumbiaGrid act as an agent of TSPs
- *Allow coordination for control areas that are not TSPs to post relevant information?*



Responsibilities of ColumbiaGrid

- OASIS
 - Establish presence on wesTTrans/ColumbiaGrid portal
 - Coordinate ColumbiaGrid TSPs involvement in wesTTrans for purposes of non-discretionary enhancements
 - To extent modifications are to be made only to ColumbiaGrid OASIS and ColumbiaGrid TSP parties OASIS because they were not accepted by all wesTTrans parties, manage relationship with OATi to implement enhancements developed in the ColumbiaGrid process
 - OASIS administrator
 - Mechanism to allow individual TSP/TC to make individual improvements/enhancements at its own expense to the extent it can be reasonably accommodated by the ColumbiaGrid OASIS
 - Development of common queues for interconnection requests and transmission service requests
 - Handing off requests to appropriate TSP or
 - Processing requests involving multiple transmission systems or something else?



Responsibilities of ColumbiaGrid

- Uniform Business Practices and Products
 - Provide neutral forum for TSP development of uniform business practices and products taking into account differences in transmission systems
 - Public process
 - Input from OASIS Steering Committee comprised of subset of parties to the Functional Agreement
 - Open meetings 5 or 6 times a year (could be right before the westTTrans meetings)
 - Process to be completed in two years, including implementation of uniform products/services within the two years if possible
 - ColumbiaGrid sponsors/facilitates (aggressively) the process
 - Develop work plan with specific milestones/target dates
 - Identify critical differences in business practices (e.g., high priority items that somehow interfere with commerce)
 - Identify candidate practices and products to be made uniform
 - Develop recommendations/technical proposals
 - Identify impasse-breaking tools (e.g., high-level executive meeting; default positions)



Responsibilities of TPs

- Cooperate with ColumbiaGrid in moving common TSP information to ColumbiaGrid area
- Back-end processing of transmission service requests relating to their transmission systems (request would be submitted to ColumbiaGrid OASIS; software would notify TSPs of requests (simultaneously or in very short order))
- Endeavor in good faith to timely develop uniform practices and products as appropriate
- Together with other parties, populate Steering Committee to provide input to ColumbiaGrid about the uniform business practices/products process



Responsibilities of TCs

- Participate in Steering Committee
- Participate in Uniform Business Practices Process
- Other?



Timing

- First six months
 - Develop and implement ColumbiaGrid OASIS
- First two years
 - Process to develop uniform business practices and products



Staffing

- Tasks
 - Business Practices Review/Process – Staff and Facilitator
 - Flow-based ATC Development
 - OASIS – get it up and running, then post and maintain
 - Laying framework of common queue working with ColumbiaGrid planning
 - IT component



Remaining Work

- Confirm contents of proposal
- Pull together timeline (set of scenarios) and then estimate cost
 - Beginning – wesTTrans/OASIS, facilitation, IT support
 - Then – review of business practices process