



ColumbiaGrid Perspective and Proposal on Sub-Regional Coordination¹

Summary

- Parties to ColumbiaGrid's Planning and Expansion Functional Agreement ("PEFA Parties") will coordinate their transmission planning through the ColumbiaGrid planning process; that process is open to all interested persons
- When non-PEFA Parties sponsor projects that potentially affect PEFA Parties, ColumbiaGrid will (and individual PEFA Parties may) participate with the public planning process employed by the project sponsor
- Ideally, there will be one sub-regional study team per need, project, or issue
- In appropriate instances, jointly-sponsored study teams will be established

PEFA Parties' Participation in Sub-regional Planning Efforts

- ColumbiaGrid will coordinate actively and directly with neighboring transmission providers, including sub-regional planning groups acting on their behalf
- Irrespective of the forum, the relationship of the PEFA Parties will be governed by the PEFA
- Participation by a PEFA Party in another entity's planning process does not subject the PEFA Party to that planning process' dispute resolution mechanisms; participation by a non-PEFA Party in the ColumbiaGrid planning process does not require participation by such party in the PEFA's dispute resolution mechanisms
- ColumbiaGrid may participate in, lead, or co-lead joint study teams depending on the circumstances

Establishment of Study Teams

- For PEFA Party-sponsored projects, study teams will be set up under ColumbiaGrid
- For projects sponsored by other entities, study teams will be set up under the sub-regional planning group chosen by sponsor
- For projects that require joint sponsorship of facilities by PEFA and non-PEFA Parties, joint study teams will be used

¹ This paper does not address Western Interconnection-wide coordination.

Joint Study Team Expectations

- Solicit participation from stakeholders and transmission owners and keep them informed of activities, progress and results (expect this will happen, in large part, through sub-regional planning groups and forums, e.g., ColumbiaGrid, NTTG, NWPP)
- Work cooperatively to achieve a “single utility” approach in the best interest of the region
- Work cooperatively toward timely voluntary agreement on fundamental project elements:
 - What should be built
 - Who should build it
 - Who should pay for it
- In the event joint study teams cannot reach timely agreement, e.g., on cost allocation, if appropriate, PEFA Parties would continue to plan for need/project under provisions of the PEFA; non-PEFA Parties would proceed as they deemed appropriate