

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Transmission Planning Processes Under Order No. 890

Docket No. AD09-8-000

NOTICE ANNOUNCING PANELISTS AND FINAL AGENDA FOR THE
SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 TECHNICAL CONFERENCE
IN PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

(September 11, 2009)

On June 30, 2009, the Commission issued a notice (June 30 Notice) scheduling staff technical conferences to examine the transmission planning processes that are being conducted pursuant to Order No. 890.¹ As stated in the June 30 Notice, these technical conferences are intended to meet the Commission's commitment that its staff would conduct an assessment of the Order No. 890 transmission planning processes.

On August 3, 2009, the Commission issued a supplemental notice (August 3 Notice) with an agenda providing details on the topics that will be discussed on the panels at each of the three conferences as well as the topics panelists should be prepared to address. The August 3 Notice also reiterated that those wishing to participate as panelists should submit a request form describing the topic(s) they wish to address. In addition, those wishing to attend each conference were asked to complete a registration form. The August 3 Notice stated that a final notice with a list of the panelists for each conference would be issued in advance of the conferences. On August 7, 2009, the Commission issued an errata notice shortening the due date for all requests from those wishing to participate as a panelist at any of the three technical conferences to August 13, 2009.

The attached agenda contains the panelists chosen for the September 21, 2009 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania technical conference to be held at:

Marriott Philadelphia Airport
One Arrivals Road
Philadelphia, PA 19153
(215) 492-9000

Please note that the Philadelphia conference will begin at 8:30 am.

Additional panelists may be added prior to the date of the conference.

¹ *Preventing Undue Discrimination and Preference in Transmission Service*, Order No. 890, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,241, *order on reh'g*, Order No. 890-A, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,261 (2007), *order on reh'g*, Order No. 890-B, 123 FERC ¶ 61,299 (2008), *order on reh'g*, Order No. 890-C, 126 FERC ¶ 61,228 (2009).

If they have not already done so, those that plan to attend the Philadelphia conference should submit the registration form, located at: <https://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/registration/trans-09-21-form.asp>.²

Panelists will provide introductory remarks to begin the discussion of each topic identified in the August 3 notice. The purpose of the introductory remarks is to introduce the topics of discussion, and Staff intends to facilitate a constructive dialogue among all the attendees involved in the planning process and will actively seek to incorporate input from non-panelists and audience members into that dialogue. We strongly encourage all attendees to actively participate in the conference.

For further information about this conference, please contact:

Zeny Magos
Office of Energy Market Regulation
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426
(202) 502-8244
zeny.magos@ferc.gov

John Yakobitis
Office of Energy Market Regulation
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426
(202) 502-8512
john.yakobitis@ferc.gov

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

² The Philadelphia conference will address transmission planning for entities located within the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc., PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., New York Independent System Operator, and ISO New England Inc. footprints, Mid-Continent Area Power Pool/MAPP Participants, and adjacent areas. In the event a transmission provider is uncertain as to which technical conference is the appropriate forum for discussion of its planning process, such transmission providers should contact Commission staff in advance to discuss the matter. Lastly, a comment date will be set at a later date allowing for the filing of post-conference comments.



Regional Technical Conferences Assessing the Order No. 890 Planning Processes

Docket No. AD09-8-000

**Panelist List and Final Agenda
for the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Technical Conference
September 21, 2009**

8:30 am to 10:15 am Panel 1 - Feedback on Current Planning Processes

In this session, Commission staff seeks information on the effectiveness of the current planning processes and how the current planning processes are working at the local, sub-regional and regional levels. Staff will lead the panel in a discussion of the following topics. Panelists should be prepared to address each topic and discuss actual experiences under the existing transmission planning processes.

- Are the current Order No. 890 transmission planning processes, whether relying on reliability or market-driven structures, effective in preventing opportunities for undue discrimination in transmission planning and expansion?
- Is there robust participation by stakeholders from all sectors in the transmission planning process? Is diverse stakeholder participation occurring at all levels of the planning process (i.e., local, sub-regional and regional)? If not, why?
- Are there factors that have impeded the planning efforts? If so, what are they?
- Is there sufficient transparency? Are the data and information exchange needs of stakeholders being met?
- What improvements to the Order No. 890 transmission planning processes should be considered?

Panelists:

- Henry Chao – Vice President, System and Resource Planning, New York Independent System Operator
- Steven Herling – Vice President, Planning, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

- Jeff Webb – Director, Expansion Planning, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Stephen Rourke – Vice President, System Planning, ISO New England Inc.
- The Honorable Robert F. Powelson – Commissioner, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
- Edward Tatum, Jr. – Vice President, RTO and Regulatory Affairs, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative
- Maureen Borkowski – Vice President, Transmission, Ameren Services Company, on behalf of the Midwest ISO Transmission Owners
- Sandra Levine – Senior Attorney, Conservation Law Foundation
- Terry Schwennesen – Principal, TL Schwennesen and Associates LLC, on behalf of New England Participating Transmission Owners Administrative Committee

10:30 am to 12:00 pm Panel 2 – Regional and Inter-regional Planning

In this session, Commission staff seeks information on the development of regional and inter-regional transmission plans. Staff will lead the panel in a discussion of the following topics. Panelists should be prepared to address each topic and discuss actual experiences under existing transmission planning processes.

- Are existing transmission planning processes adequate to evaluate transmission investments with benefits that extend across multiple planning regions?
- Should there be broader coordination in the development of transmission plans? If so, what roles would individual public utilities and existing or new planning organizations play in this broader coordination?
- How are reliability impact studies aligned with economic-based evaluations of sub-regional or regional projects? If not aligned, how can reliability assessments and economic evaluations be aligned in order to better understand the impact of sub-regional and regional projects?
- How should merchant transmission projects be treated for purposes of regional transmission planning? For example, should they be required to participate in the planning process and, if so, at what point must they engage in the planning process?
- Should prospective transmission developers coordinate their projects in the interest of “right-sizing” facilities to make the best use of available corridors and minimize environmental impacts? If so, what, if any, process should govern the selection of competing sub-regional or regional projects?
- What improvements are necessary to facilitate planning between regional planning entities?
- What planning processes are needed to better integrate renewable resources into the system? How do the planning processes consider ancillary services that are necessary to accommodate renewables (e.g., regional deliverability and reliability needs)?

Panelists:

- Henry Chao – Vice President, System and Resource Planning, New York Independent System Operator

- Michael Kormos – Senior Vice President, Operations, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
- John Lawhorn – Director, Regulatory and Economic Studies, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Stephen Rourke – Vice President, System Planning, ISO New England Inc.

- The Honorable Lauren L. Azar – Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, on behalf of The Organization of Midwest ISO States
- The Honorable Jon W. McKinney – Commissioner, Public Service Commission of West Virginia
- Christopher Fallon – Vice President, Business Development, Duke Energy Corporation, on behalf of Pioneer Transmission, LLC
- Dale Landgren – Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer, American Transmission Company
- David Whiteley – Principal Member, Whiteley BPS Planning Ventures LLC, on behalf of Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm **Lunch Break**

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm **Panel 3 - Cost Allocation**

In this session, Commission staff seeks information on the effectiveness of the existing cost allocation methods currently used by transmission providers, and seeks comment on alternative cost allocation methods. Staff will lead the panel in a discussion of the following topics. Panelists should be prepared to address each topic and discuss actual experiences under existing transmission planning processes.

- Are there regional cost allocation methodologies outside RTOs, and broader regional cost allocation within RTOs, that should be considered or established? If so, how should this be done? What considerations should be used?
- Should processes be established to help stakeholders address cost allocation matters over larger geographic regions? Are there opportunities for stakeholders to address cost allocation matters by tariff or contract?
- Should each transmission provider hold an open season solicitation of interest for needed transmission projects identified through the transmission planning process in order to assist in cost allocation determinations? Should identified non-transmission alternatives also be held to an open season solicitation?

Panelists:

- John P. Buechler – Executive Regulatory Policy Advisor, New York Independent System Operator
- Michael Kormos – Senior Vice President, Operations, PJM Interconnection L.L.C.
- Jennifer Curran – Director, Regulatory Economic Studies, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Stephen Rourke – Vice President, System Planning, ISO New England Inc.

- The Honorable Sharon M. Reishus – Chairman, Maine Public Utilities Commission, on behalf of the New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners (NECPUC)
- Elizabeth Anne Moler – Executive Vice President, Government Affairs and Public Policy, Exelon Corporation
- Lisa Barton – Vice President, Transmission Strategy and Business Development, American Electric Power Company
- Gregory Ioanidis – Vice President, Business Strategy, ITC Holdings
- Kevin Jones – Director of Power Market Policy, Long Island Power Authority, on behalf of LIPA, Large Public Power Council’s Energy Regulatory Task Force, and the New York Transmission Owners Committee
- James A. Muntz – President, Transmission, Northeast Utilities

2:45 pm to 4:15 pm Panel 4 – Examining Coordination and Comparability

In this session, Commission staff seeks information on the effectiveness of coordination and open communication among transmission providers, their transmission-providing neighbors, affected state authorities, customers and other stakeholders. Commission staff also seeks information about the comparability in treatment between the transmission provider and stakeholders, as well as among various types of resources. Staff will lead the panel in a discussion of the following topics. Panelists should be prepared to address each topic and discuss actual experiences under existing transmission planning processes.

- Are all resources (transmission, generation, and demand resources) treated comparably in the transmission planning process? If not, what reforms are necessary to ensure that this occurs?
- How responsive are transmission providers to stakeholder needs, concerns or suggestions?
- What impact does a right of first refusal for incumbent transmission owners have on transmission development and cost allocation methods?
- How are interconnection queue processes coordinated with transmission planning studies? Are reforms needed to align the interconnection queue study process with the local, sub-regional and regional planning processes? If so, in what way(s) can these processes be aligned? Are the transmission planning processes addressing causes of interconnection queuing problems?³
- Do existing transmission planning processes incorporate adequate coordination with respect to satisfying state policies such as renewable portfolio standards and efficiency standards?
- How do the planning processes ensure that systems are planned to operate as efficiently as possible? To what degree are advanced transmission technologies (§1223 EPAct 2005) considered in the planning process?

Panelists:

- John P. Buechler – Executive Regulatory Policy Advisor, New York Independent System Operator, Inc.

³ See, e.g., *Interconnection Queuing Practices*, 122 FERC ¶ 61,252, at P 6 (2008).

- Michael Kormos – Senior Vice President, Operations, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
- Clair Moeller – Vice President, Transmission Asset Management, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator
- Stephen Rourke – Vice President, System Planning, ISO New England Inc.

- The Honorable Paul J. Hibbard – Chairman, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts/New England Region
- Terrance Naulty – Principal, Norton Energy Storage
- Mary Ellen Paravalos – Vice President, Transmission Regulatory and Commercial, National Grid
- Jan Bagnall – Senior Director, Transmission, NextEra Energy Resources
- Kenneth Schisler, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs, EnerNOC, Inc.

4:15 pm – 4:30 pm

Wrap-up