

134 FERC ¶ 61,168  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

March 4, 2011

In Reply Refer To:  
National Grid  
Schedule 20A Service Providers  
Docket No. ER11-2594-000

National Grid  
Attn: Kristine L. Mespelli  
40 Sylvan Road  
Waltham, MA 02451

Reference: Request for Waiver

Dear Ms. Mespelli:

1. On January 3, 2011, you filed, on behalf of the Schedule 20A Service Providers (SSP),<sup>1</sup> a request for waiver of North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Wholesale Electric Quadrant Standard 004 Version 002.1 (WEQ-004 Version 002.1), which was incorporated by reference into Commission regulations pursuant to Order No. 676-E,<sup>2</sup> and which public utilities are required to incorporate into their open access transmission tariffs (OATT).

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<sup>1</sup> The SSPs hold the rights to the transmission capacity over the Phase I/II high voltage, direct current-transmission facilities (Phase I/II HVDC-TF) interconnecting the transmission systems operated by ISO New England Inc. (ISO-NE) and Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie under Schedule 20A of the ISO-NE OATT. The SSPs include: Bangor Hydro-Electric Co.; NSTAR Electric Co.; Central Maine Power Co.; Central Vermont Public Service Corp.; Green Mountain Power Corp.; New England Power Co.; Northeast Utilities Service Co., on behalf of its affiliates, Connecticut Light and Power Co., Western Massachusetts Electric Co., and Public Service Company of New Hampshire; United Illuminating Co.; and Vermont Electric Cooperative.

<sup>2</sup> *Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities*, Order No. 676-E, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,299 (2009).

2. The SSPs state that the instant waiver request regarding WEQ-004 Version 002.1, which governs interchange matters, would continue its previously granted waiver of WEQ-004 Version 001.<sup>3</sup> The SSPs state that they have no authority for matters affecting the identification, quantification or approval of net interchange transactions as contemplated by either the earlier or later version of WEQ-004. Rather, the SSPs state that ISO-NE, as the regional transmission operator, continues to be the net interchange authority and Approval Entity<sup>4</sup> for the New England region. However, the SSPs recognize that the appendices to WEQ-004 Version 002.1 contain responsibilities applicable to transmission service providers (TSP). For example, the appendices include actions related to e-tags, and the SSPs, as the TSPs for the Phase I/II HVDC-TF, maintain responsibility for those e-tag actions. Therefore, the SSPs request waiver of WEQ-004 Version 002.1, except to the extent they have responsibilities applicable to TSPs as delineated in those appendices.

3. Notice of the SSPs' filing was published in the *Federal Register*, 76 Fed. Reg. 1418 (2011), with interventions and protests due on or before January 24, 2011. None was filed.

4. On November 4, 2009, the Commission issued Order No. 676-E,<sup>5</sup> incorporating by reference the latest version (Version 002.1) of certain business practice standards adopted by NAESB's WEQ. Order No. 676-E provides that "[w]hen the Commission adopts new requirements, it is incumbent on a public utility that wishes to maintain an existing waiver to mak[e] a showing to the Commission that, based on the particular facts at issue, the waiver should continue. The determination of whether a waiver from a prior requirement should apply to a revised requirement is one that needs to be made on a case-by-case basis."<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> *Participating Transmission Owners Administrative Committee*, 127 FERC ¶ 61,053 (2009).

<sup>4</sup> An Approval Entity is defined in WEQ 004-0.1 as "[a]n entity that has approval rights for an Arranged Interchange; this includes the Transmission Service Providers (TSP), scheduling Balancing Authorities (BA), Generator-Providing Entity (GPE), and the Load-Serving Entity (LSE) that are included in the Arranged Interchange, as well as any Purchasing Selling Entity (PSE) whose transmission rights are cited (TPSE) in the Arranged Interchange."

<sup>5</sup> Order No. 676-E, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,299 (2009).

<sup>6</sup> Order No. 676-E, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,299 at P 107.

5. We find that the SSPs' request for waiver of WEQ-004 Version 002.1 is reasonable, because the SSPs are not Approval Entities for arranged interchanges and continue to have no authority for matters affecting the identification, quantification or approval of net interchange transactions as contemplated by WEQ-004. Accordingly, the Commission will grant the SSPs waiver of WEQ-004 Version 002.1 except to the extent they have responsibilities applicable to TSPs as delineated in the appendices of Standard WEQ-004 Version 002.1.

By direction of the Commission.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,  
Deputy Secretary.