

## **OPENING REMARKS**

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**Transmission Agency of Northern California**

**May 1, 2018 Technical Conference**

**Docket No. AD18-12-000**

### Overview

- TANC is a California joint action agency consisting of 15 publicly-owned utilities.
- TANC's primary function is the development and operation of transmission assets for the use of our Members.
- TANC is the Project Manager and majority owner of the California-Oregon Transmission Project (COTP).
- The COTP is a 339 mile, 500-kV transmission line and related facilities interconnecting northern California with the Pacific Northwest.
- The COTP is one of three 500-kV lines that comprise the California-Oregon Intertie (COI) or Path 66, the most utilized transmission path in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) Region.
- TANC is one of the Complainants seeking Pacific Gas and Electric's compliance with Order No. 890 in Docket No. EL17-45-000 and protested Southern California Edison Company's submittal addressing capital additions that are not in compliance with Order No. 890 in Docket No. ER18-370-000.

### TANC's Interests in Transmission Planning

- On behalf of itself and its Members, TANC is an active participant in transmission planning and related activities in California and throughout WECC.
- TANC actively works at protecting and maximizing the transfer capability of the COI.
- TANC is an advocate of managing the upward pressure on transmission costs and restraining the rate of increase in the Transmission Access Charge (TAC) rate.
- TANC is a strong proponent of open and transparent transmission planning processes.
- TANC supports cost effective transmission expansion, which meets grid reliability requirements and California policy objectives.

TANC's Concern with Current Lack of Order 890 Compliance for Local Transmission Planning by California Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) or the California Independent System Operator (CAISO)

- Lack of transparency:
  - TANC and other Complainants have discovered significant amounts of California IOUs' capital expenditures that are being rolled into the CAISO TAC rate are for local transmission projects that are not reviewed through the CAISO Transmission Planning Process.
  - These self-approved projects total almost \$4 billion over past five years.
- Lack of opportunity for stakeholders to participate in studies or comment in a timely manner on transmission project selection.
- No designated planning process to verify the need for the self-approved projects.
- No designated planning process to verify that the right projects are built at the right time.
- No designated planning process to ensure that selected projects/solutions are the most cost effective or efficient solution to an identified need.

TANC Supports Proposed Changes to California Local Transmission Planning Process as Advocated by NCPA and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

- Need for uniformity in local transmission planning process within the CAISO region as to:
  - Scope of projects within local planning purview
  - Scope and timing of planning horizon/process
  - Stakeholder access to information
  - Opportunity to comment meaningfully at each stage of the local transmission planning process
  - Dispute resolution
- Need for coordination with, and input into, CAISO's regional planning process.
- Need for a process for "in-flight" projects developed prior to compliance with Order 890.