

# North Carolina Transmission Planning Collaborative

# DRAFT – October 15, 2007 Transmission Advisory Group Scope

#### **Purpose**

The Transmission Advisory Group (TAG) is formed from the North Carolina Load Serving Entities' Transmission Planning Participation Agreement ("Agreement") among the following Participants: Duke Energy Carolinas, Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc., North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, and ElectriCities of North Carolina, Inc. The purpose of the TAG is to provide a structure whereby stakeholders and other interested parties can participate in the NCTPC process.

# Responsibilities

In general, the TAG is responsible for working with the Participants to develop a transmission planning process that results in a single coordinated transmission plan which reliably and efficiently meets the needs of the electric consumers in North Carolina. The specific responsibilities of this group include:

- Adherence to the intent of the FERC Standards of Conduct requirements in all discussions.
- 2. Participation in the TAG meetings in a constructive and professional manner.
- 3. Assisting in the development of the TAG annual work plan and activity schedule.
- 4. Providing timely input on the annual study scope elements of both the Reliability Planning as well as the Enhanced Transmission Access Planning Process which includes the following:
  - a. Study Assumptions, Criteria and Methodology
  - b. Case Development and Technical Analysis
  - c. Problem Identification, Assessment and Development of Solutions (including proposing alternative solutions for evaluation)

- d. Comparison and Selection of the Preferred Transmission Plan
- e. Transmission Plan Study Results Report.
- 5. Proposing and selecting the enhanced transmission access projects for evaluation.
- 6. Providing advice and recommendations to the Oversight Steering Committee of the Participants on the NCTPC Process.

# Membership

The TAG membership is open to any valid stakeholder in the NCTPC process. For the NCTPC process a valid stakeholder is defined as any Eligible Customer, Transmission Customer, state or federal agency, and any organization capable of providing Ancillary Services under the Duke Energy Carolinas or Progress Energy Carolinas OATTs. In addition, any Transmission Owner, Transmission Operator, or Transmission Planner as those terms or their successors are used under the NERC Functional Model, as may be amended from time to time, are eligible to be stakeholders under this NCTPC process. Authorized agents of the above identified stakeholder organizations will also be permitted to represent those organizations in the NCTPC process.

Any individual wishing to become a TAG member can make an application for membership to the NCTPC's Independent Third-Party through the application process on the NCTPC website (<a href="www.nctpc.org/nctpc">www.nctpc.org/nctpc</a>). On the application for TAG membership, the applicant must provide their name, their organization affiliation, and an explanation of how they meet at least one of the categories listed in the above valid stakeholder definition.

**Comment [rw1]:** Note that this application process has not yet been added to this web site.

# **Meeting Procedures**

## **Meeting Chair**

The independent third-party consultant will chair the TAG meetings and serve as a facilitator for the group by working to bring consensus within the group. In addition, the duties of the independent third-party consultant include:

- 1. Developing mechanisms to solicit and obtain the input of all interested parties related to transmission planning options.
- Taking all reasonable action to ensure that no marketing / brokering organizations receive preferential treatment or achieve competitive advantage through the distribution of any transmission-related information in the TAG.
- 3. Ensuring that confidentiality of information and Standards of Conduct requirements are being adhered to within the TAG process.
- 4. Ensuring that TAG meeting notes are taken and meeting highlights are posted for the information of the participants after all TAG meetings.

#### **Meetings**

Meetings of the TAG shall be open to all parties interested in the development of a coordinated transmission plan across the respective service territories of the Participants in North Carolina. There are no restrictions on the number of people attending TAG meetings from any organization.

#### Quorum

Since TAG membership is open to all valid stakeholders, there are no quorum requirements for TAG meetings.

#### Voting

In attempting to resolve any issue, the goal is for the TAG to develop consensus solutions. However, in the event consensus cannot be reached, voting will be conducted with each stakeholder's organization represented at the meeting (either physically present

or participating via phone) receiving one vote. The independent third-party will provide notices to the TAG members in advance of the TAG meeting that specific votes will be taken during the TAG meeting. Only organizations participating in the meeting will be allowed to participate in the voting. No proxy votes will be allowed.

During each transmission planning cycle, the TAG members will propose and select the enhanced transmission access studies that will be performed during that particular planning cycle. Study scenarios that are of an Inter-Regional nature will be identified during this process and the organization that is responsible for requesting such studies will be directed to forward their study request to the Inter-Regional process since the study would have to be evaluated within that forum.

For the remaining study scenarios that impact the NCTPC region, the TAG will select a maximum of five scenarios that will be studied within the current NCTPC planning cycle. Each organization represented by their TAG members will be able to cast a single vote for up to five scenarios that their organization would like to be studied within the NCTPC planning cycle. If needed, repeat voting will be conducted until there are clear winners for the top five study scenarios.

## **Meeting Protocol**

In the absence of specific provisions in this document, the TAG shall conduct its meetings guided by the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, *Newly Revised*.

#### Data and Information Release Protocol

TAG members can request data and information that would allow them to replicate the NCTPC planning studies while ensuring that CEII and other confidential data is protected. The below steps outline the process the TAG members would typically use to obtain the data and information. Step 1 of the below process is an optional step that will be required at the discretion of the OSC. The OSC will make the determination of whether this first step is required based on the OSC's familiarity with the entity making

the data requests. For example, an adjoining Transmission Owner would likely not be required to follow the below Step 1. Steps 2 through 4 will be required for all entities requesting the data and information.

- 1. Request and obtain from FERC the 715 data (that includes CEII data) for both the Duke Energy Carolinas and Progress Energy Carolinas companies. This request must be submitted each year subject to OSC determination..
- 2. Have a current SERC Confidentiality Agreement in place.
- 3. Have a current NCTPC Confidentiality Agreement in place.
- 4. Formally request the data from the NCTPC Independent Third Party (ITP) with attestations that they have fulfilled the above 3 steps.

The NCTPC ITP will process the above requests, approve/deny the request, and if approved, provide the data to the TAG member.

**Comment [rw2]:** Note this is a new agreement that will be created for non-NCTPC participants.