

Regional Planning Process in the West

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Tribal Webinar Series

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Transmission Planning in the Western Interconnection

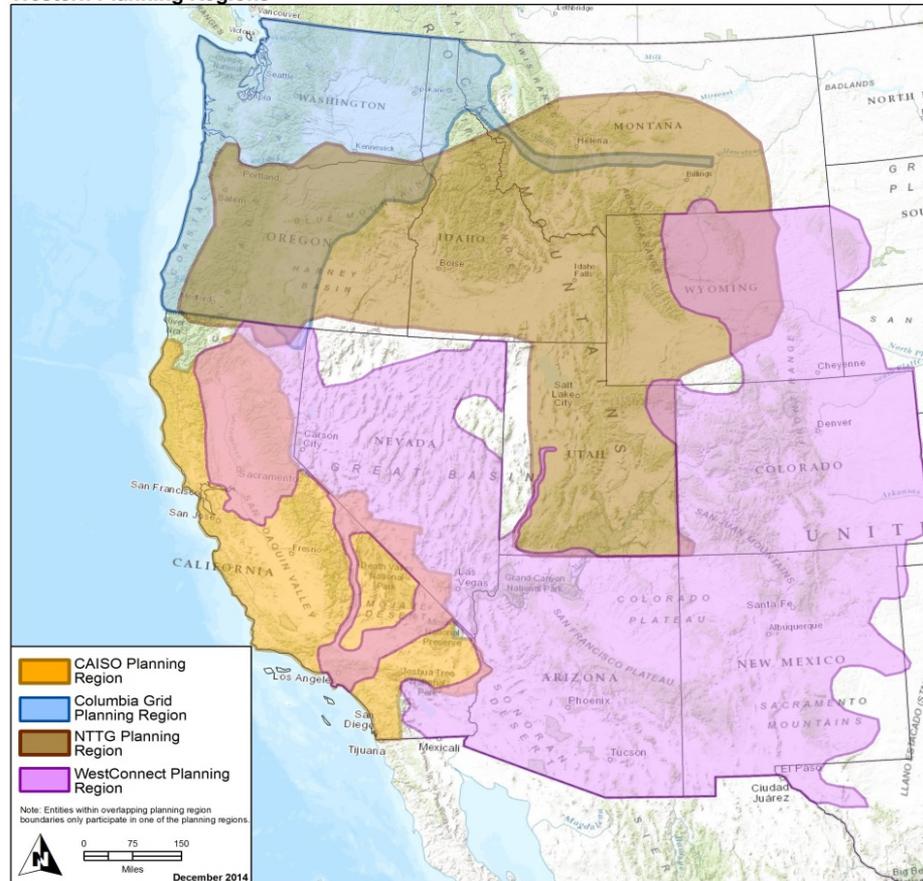
- Transmission Planning in the Western Interconnection has been, is, and will continue to be a hierarchy of local, regional, and interconnection-wide coordinated planning efforts
- Pre-Order 890
 - CAISO, NTTG, ColumbiaGrid, and WestConnect were already forums for collaboration and coordination
 - WECC PCC Project Coordination and Path Rating Process, Annual Study Program
 - Seams Steering Group of the Western Interconnection
- 2007 – FERC Order 890
 - Transmission planning obligations of Transmission Providers were reflected in OATT Attachment Ks
 - Memorialized the western Planning Regions as forums for regional transmission planning
 - WECC Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) was established as the forum for interconnection-wide economic transmission expansion planning and database services

Transmission Planning in the Western Interconnection

- 2011 – FERC Order 1000
 - Expanded obligations of regional transmission planning processes
 - More efficient or cost-effective regional transmission and non-transmission alternatives
 - Regional cost allocation
 - Interregional coordination: focused coordination of planning activities conducted at the regional level

Western Interconnection Planning Regions

Western Planning Regions

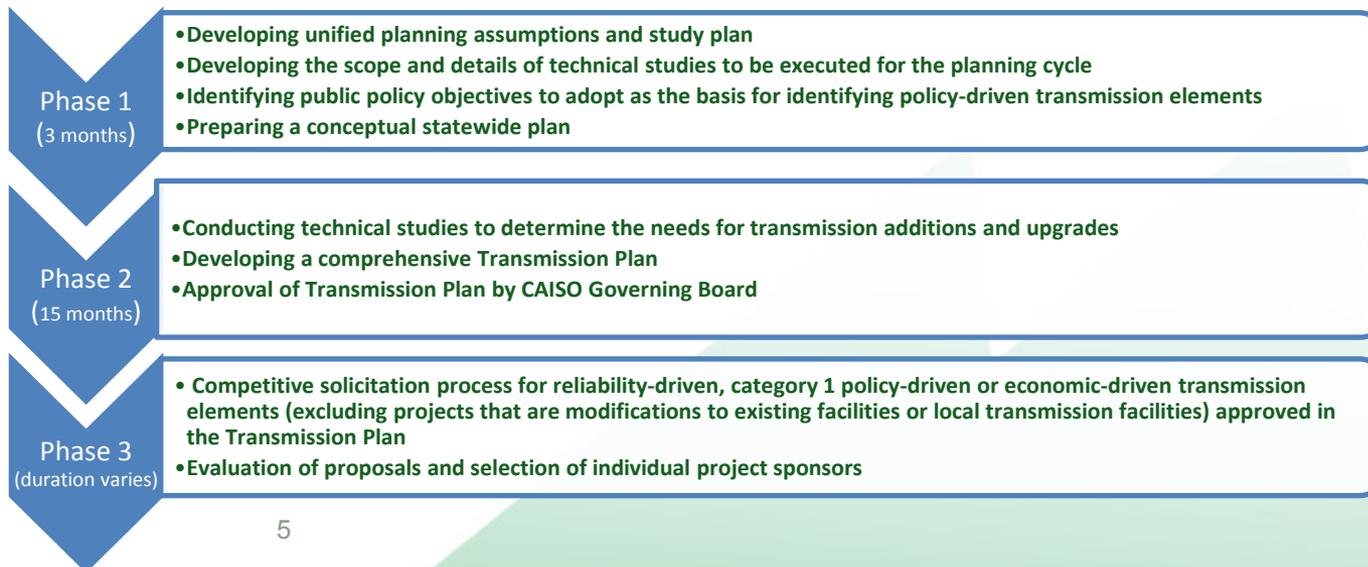


CAISO

- Began commercial operation March 1998
- First region in NA to fully comply with Order 1000

Table 1: CAISO Participating Transmission Owners (as of 7/22/14)

Citizen Sunrise Transmission LLC
City of Anaheim
City of Azusa
City of Banning
City of Colton
City of Pasadena
City of Riverside
City of Vernon
DATC Path 15, LLC
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
San Diego Gas and Electric Company
Southern California Edison Company
Startrans IO, LLC
Trans Bay Cable LLC
Valley Electric Association, Inc.
Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region



NTTG

- Formed in 2007 from Northern Tier Initiative to fulfil FERC Order 890 requirements
- Unincorporated association of TPs and customers
- Collaborate with state representatives and other stakeholders
- Today is a FERC Order 1000 Planning Region

NTTG Participating Utilities

Deseret Generation & Transmission Co-operative
Idaho Power
NorthWestern Energy
PacifiCorp
Portland General Electric
Utah Association of Municipal Power Users



ColumbiaGrid

- Non-profit member corporation formed in 2006
- Planning and Expansion Functional Agreement (PEFA) defines coordinated transmission planning process
- First Amended and Restated Order 1000 Functional Agreement works with PEFA to carry out a single, coordinated transmission planning process

Planning Parties
Avista*
BPA
Chelan
Cowlitz
Douglas
Enbridge (MATL)*
Grant
Puget*
Seattle
Snohomish
Tacoma

*Party to both the PEFA and Order 1000 Functional Agreement.
Others are party to only the PEFA.



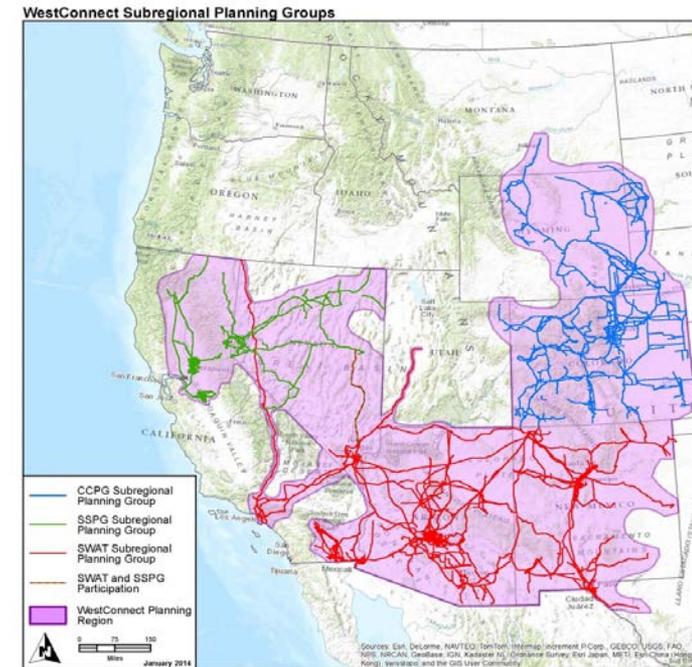
WestConnect

- May 2007 - WestConnect Project Agreement for Subregional Transmission Planning
- Formed Planning Management Committee (PMC)
- Satisfied compliance with FERC Order 890
- No region wide technical studies

WestConnect Order 890 PMC Members

Arizona Public Service	Southwest Transmission Cooperative
Basin Electric Power Coop	Transmission Agency of Northern California
Black Hills Corporation	Tri-State G & T Association
El Paso Electric	Tucson Electric Power
Imperial Irrigation District	Western Area Power Administration
NV Energy	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Xcel Energy	Platte River Power Authority
Public Service New Mexico	Colorado Springs Utility
Sacramento Municipal Utility District	
Salt River Project	

- Fifteen TO's have signed the WestConnect Planning Participation Agreement (PPA) to become members of new Order 1000 PMC
- All FERC Jurisdictional TOs joined as Enrolled Members (APS, EPE, NVE, Xcel, PNM, TEP, and BHC)
- WAPA, TANC, SMUD, TSGT, Platte River, and Basin Electric joined as Coordinating Transmission Owners



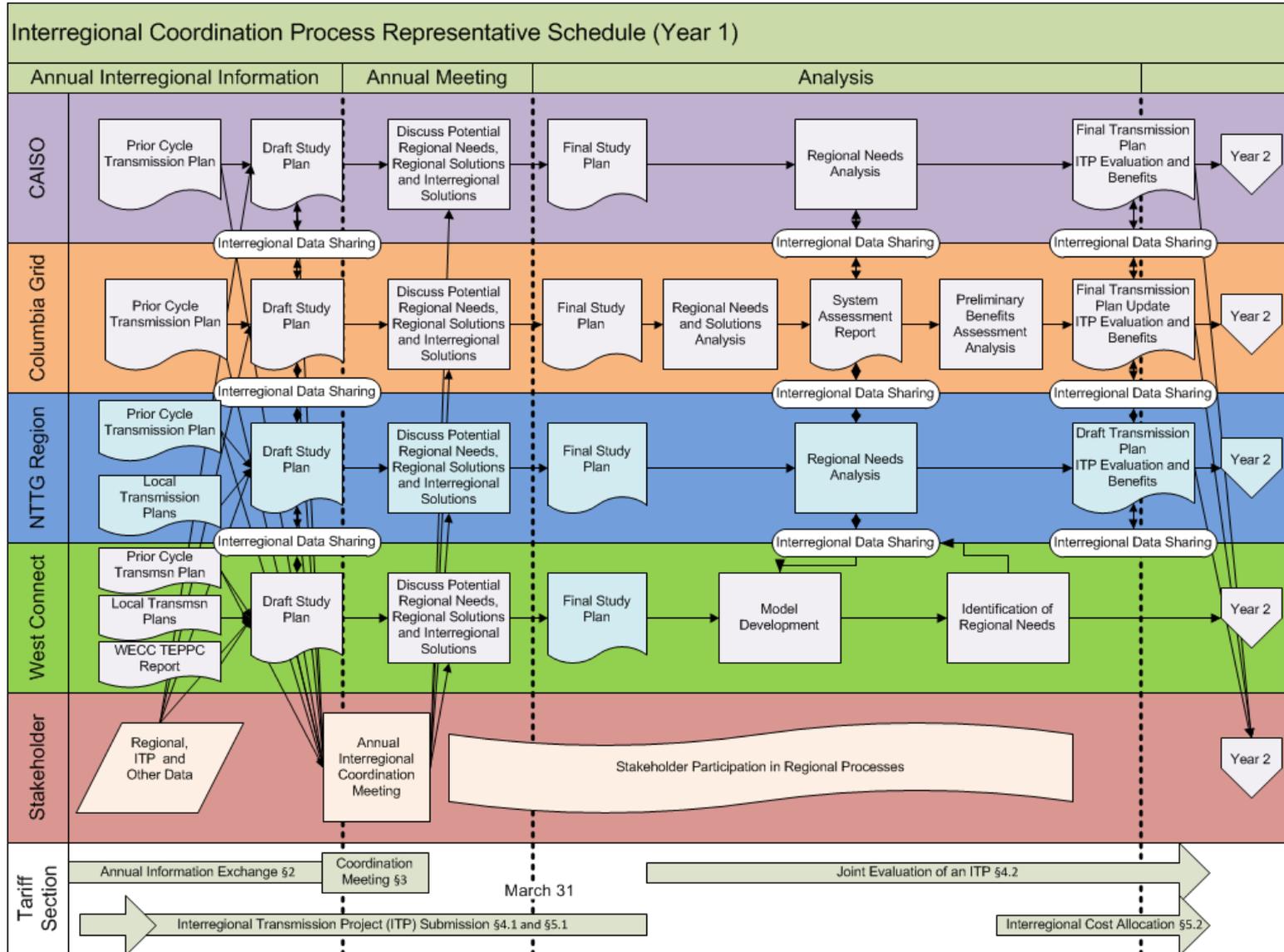
Interregional Planning Coordination

- No formal, documented process for coordinating planning data or activities across the western Planning Regions
- Many interregional coordination efforts to-date have been facilitated at the WECC level
- Order 1000 interregional planning coordination requirements:
 - Commitment to coordinate and share information from regional processes (annual interregional information, annual interregional coordination meeting)
 - Identify possible interregional transmission facilities that are more efficient or cost-effective than separate regional facilities
 - Formal procedure for joint evaluation of interregional projects
 - Commitment to maintain a method for communicating information related to the interregional coordination process
 - *No requirement for the creation of an interregional planning process, interregional planning entity, or interregional transmission plan*

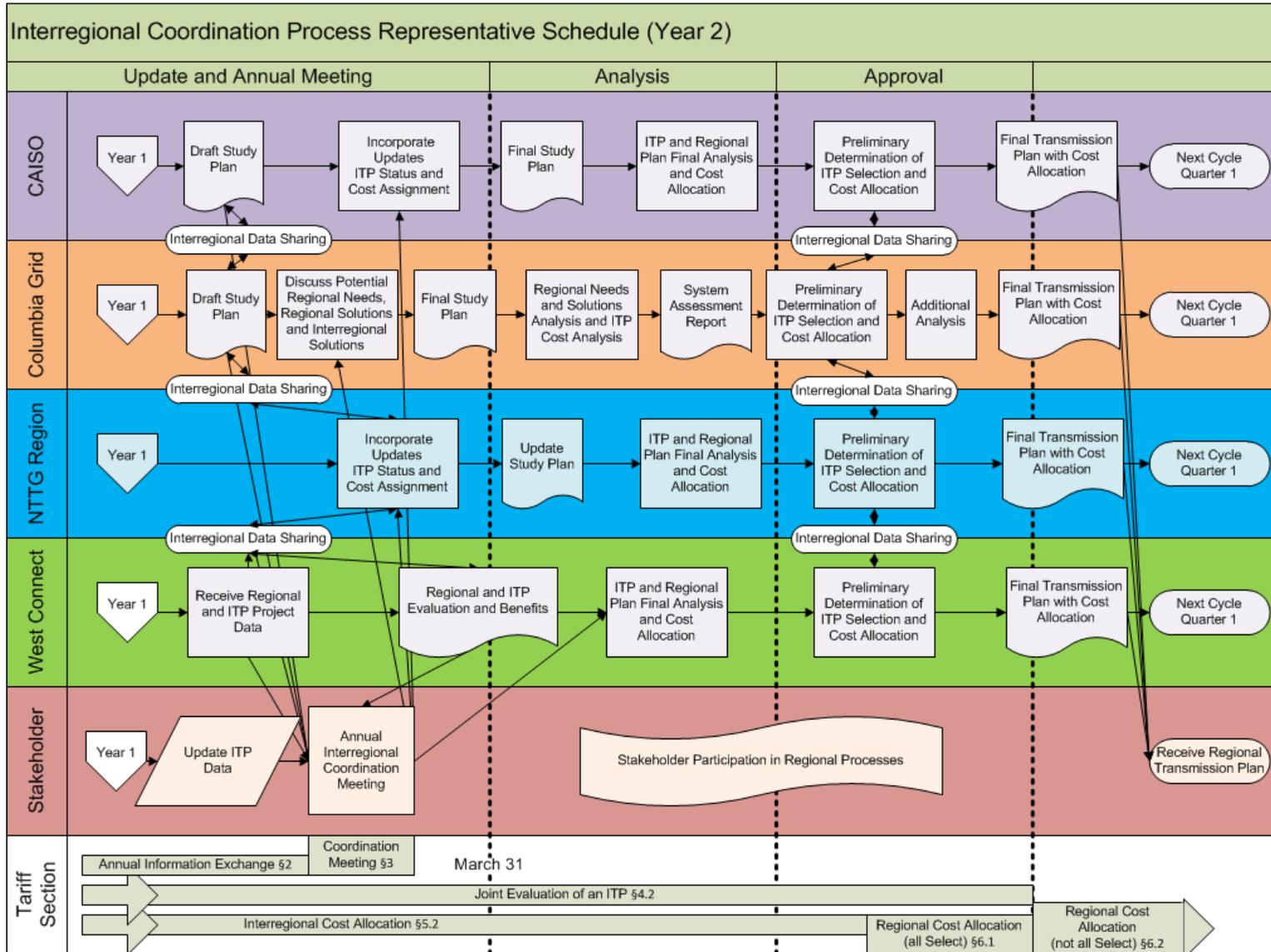
Interregional Planning Coordination

- The four western Planning Regions developed and filed common tariff language to address the interregional compliance requirements
 - Regions achieved full compliance with interregional requirements on June 1, 2015
 - Effective date of ColumbiaGrid interregional planning process is 1/1/2015
 - Effective date of CAISO, NTTG, and WestConnect interregional planning is 10/1/2015
- February 26, 2015 Western Planning Regions Coordination Meeting
- June 25, 2015 Western Planning Regions Stakeholder Coordination Call
 - Update on progress developing interregional coordination procedures
- August 18, 2015 - second Western Planning Regions Coordination Meeting
 - Final draft of the Interregional Transmission Coordination Procedures
 - Compliance date – October 1, 2015
- Next Steps: finalize interregional coordination procedures, joint ITP evaluation process; implement interregional Order 1000 – Meeting February 25, 2016

Year 1 Swim Lanes



Year 2 Swim Lanes



Look Ahead

- Order 1000 Regional Planning is in effect for all four western Planning Regions
 - Northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG) and CAISO have achieved full compliance with the regional and interregional planning requirements of Order 1000
 - ColumbiaGrid and WestConnect members are awaiting orders on their fourth round of regional compliance filings, tariff revisions became effective January 1, 2015

- Attention is turning to the development of Order 1000 interregional coordination procedures
 - Differences between regional planning processes will need to be addressed
 - Variations in planning cycle durations, timelines for major milestones, sources of planning data, technical study approaches
 - What role does WECC play in the IR coordination process?

- Remaining challenges
 - Ensure consistency of planning assumptions across the Regions to inform all levels of planning (local, regional, interconnection-wide)
 - ColumbiaGrid, NTTG, and WestConnect are all implementing cost allocation and project developer selection for first time with many details left to determine
 - What will be the first project outside CAISO to receive regional cost allocation?