

## **Business Practice Process**

# What we will cover today

- Customer comment and concerns
- BPA's approach to Business Practices
- A scan of Transmission Provider Business Practice processes
- Business Practice process options/considerations
- Desired feedback

#### **Customer comment themes**

- Customers want to understand the distinction between what is included in the tariff, the rate schedule and Business Practices
- A Customer proposed that BPA include a definition and standard for Business Practices in the new tariff that reflects the FERC Rule of Reason
- Customers would like more certainty surrounding the Business Practice process to promote:
  - Transparency
  - Sufficient time to comment
  - Consideration of and response to comments

# Tariff, Rate Schedule and Business Practices Distinctions

Customers want to understand the distinction between what is included in the tariff, the rate schedule and Business Practices.

#### **BPA Tariff**

Terms and conditions for transmission service established in TC-20 and future Terms and Conditions proceedings Final decision by BPA
Administrator
documented in a
Record of Decision

# BPA Transmission Rate Schedule

- Transmission rates for service established in rate cases on a two year cycle
- Addresses rates, cost of service and cost allocation issues

# **Transmission Business Practice**

Implementation details for BPA OATT and BPA Transmission and Ancillary Service Rate Schedules, including operational details

Final decision by BPA
Management after
consultation and
input from customers

#### FERC Rule of Reason 'Standard'

A Customer proposed that BPA include a definition and standard for Business Practices in the new tariff that reflects the FERC Rule of Reason.

- BPA's approach to business practice content is consistent with the standard FERC uses under its rule of reason test.
- Through a process scan and revision of Business Practice process, BPA is considering the practices and procedures that are common in the industry.

## **Business Practice process certainty**

Customers would like more certainty surrounding the Business Practice process.

- The following slides document the process scan and potential revisions to the BPA Business Practice process to promote:
  - Transparency
  - Sufficient time to comment
  - Consideration of and response to comments

# **Business Practice Process Transmission Provider Scan**

- BPA reviewed the publicly posted Business Practice processes of 12 Transmission Providers (CAISO, SPP, IDP, SCT, BCH, PAC, PGE, PSEI, LADWP, WAPA, TVA, Duke).
- Review of these processes identified opportunities to improve BPA's Business Practice process.

### **Business Process Scan Summary/Comparison**

Process Step Summary	Findings Summary		BPA Currently	BPA Considering
Definition/Standard for Business Practices	Yes = 3	No = 9	No	X
Comment period length identified	Min = 1 week	Max = 30 cal. days	20 bd	Χ
Comment period extensions	Yes = 3	No = 9	No	X
Conference Calls	Yes = 1	No = 11	Approx. 2 weeks	Χ
Retirement process	Yes = 2	No = 10	No	
Timeline to post comments after receipt	Min = 2 bd	Max = 7 cal. days	No deadline	Χ
Subsequent Comment period / duration	Yes = 5*	No = 7	Yes / No duration	X
Flexibility outside standard process	Yes = 7	No = 5	Yes (+/- duration)	
Process to Expedite	Yes = 4	No = 8	No	X
Identify who can comment	Yes = 3	No = 9	No	
Required Change Request form (not comment form)	Yes = 3	No = 9	No	
Response to customer comment timeline	Yes = 4	No = 8	No	X
Immediate finalization if no comments received/no changes result from comments	Yes = 4	No = 8	No	X

### Additional process options/considerations

- Set standard comment period durations based on the level of change (e.g., Minor – General – New).
- Implement automatic comment period extensions.
  - When there is a great deal of change or when multiple
     Business Practices are in the comment phase at once.
- Conduct recurring Business Practice conference calls.
  - Provides an opportunity to inform customers of upcoming changes and status.

# **Feedback Summary**

- In your comments, please address the following:
  - Did we capture concerns correctly?
  - Do the Business Practice process options (two previous slides) address customer concerns sufficiently?
  - Are there additional Business Practice process options not currently identified that you would like BPA to consider?
- Comments received through Aug. 6