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# **COLSTRIP OPERATIONAL STUDY REPORT**

## **SHUTDOWN OF COLSTRIP UNITS 1 & 2**

**2018**

**REGIONAL ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION PLANNING**



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# 1 Executive Summary

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2 Puget Sound Energy (PSE) has requested that NorthWestern Energy (NWE), the operator of the Colstrip  
3 Transmission System (CTS), conduct an Operational Study for the eventual shutdown of Colstrip units 1  
4 and 2 (see Appendix 1). This study analyzed the potential impact that the shutdown could have on the  
5 Colstrip Transmission System after Colstrip Units 1 and 2 shut down. The results of this analysis conclude  
6 that the Colstrip Transmission System can support the 2200 MW of east to west transfer capability  
7 across Path 8 under a myriad of operating conditions, including the planned shutdown of Colstrip units 1  
8 and 2.

9 NWE, working with the Colstrip Transmission Committee (CTC) (NorthWestern Energy, Puget Sound  
10 Energy, Inc., Avista Corporation, Portland General Electric Company, and PacifiCorp), developed the  
11 following study scope.

12 NWE performed post-transient power flow analysis, transient stability analysis, and short circuit analysis  
13 for the following three phases of the study:

## 14 **Phase 1: Confirmation of 2200 MW Study**

15 The purpose of this phase was to confirm that the CTS can handle 2200 MW East-to-West on Path 8  
16 reliably. This study is tailored after NWE's Total Transfer Capability (TTC) study process, and establishes  
17 the capacity that can be moved across Path 8 which includes the 500 kV Colstrip system, along with the  
18 underlying transmission system, and interconnections to the Avista System. Since Path 8 is only capable  
19 of 2200 MW East-to-West under light load hours, only the following two cases were studied:

- 20 • 2018 Light Summer (18ls1ap)
- 21 • 2017-18 Light Winter (18lw2ap)

22 For each case, adjustments in the form of re-dispatching generation and/or adjusting phase shifting  
23 transformers (PSTs) were made to increase the westbound Path 8 flows, not to exceed 2200 MW.  
24 Colstrip units 1, 2, 3 and 4 were online for this study. Only PSTs on Paths 18, 80, and 83 were adjusted.

## 25 **Phase 2: TTC Operational Study without Colstrip units 1 and 2**

26 The intent of Phase 2 is to see if the CTS can handle the Path rating of 2200 MW reliably without Colstrip  
27 units 1 and 2. This study was performed the same as a Path Rating or TTC study would be performed  
28 under NERC Standard MOD-029. The base cases used for Phase 2 were:

- 29 • 2018 Light Summer (18ls1ap)
- 30 • 2017-18 Light Winter (18lw2ap)

31 For this study, adjustments in the form of re-dispatching generation and/or adjusting phase shifting  
32 transformers were made to increase the westbound Path 8 flows, not to exceed 2200 MW if achievable.  
33 Only PSTs on Paths 18, 80, and 83 were adjusted. Colstrip units 1 and 2, along with their associated  
34 station service power, were turned off.

35



1 **Phase 3: 500 kV CTS study**

2 PSE requested that NWE study the observable MW flows of the CTS (Colstrip to Townsend) only, without  
3 re-dispatching generation or adjusting PSTs while not exceeding system operating limits and path ratings  
4 on the interconnected systems. This study looked at varying operating conditions with and without  
5 Colstrip units 1 and 2. For all portions of Phase 3, the following cases were used:

- 6       • 2018 Heavy Summer  
7       • 2018 Light Summer  
8       • 2017-2018 Heavy Winter

9 For all cases, the PSTs were locked in their neutral tap positions.

10 For each of the cases listed above, the following 3 cases were created and analyzed:

- 11       • 3a - No changes made to the base cases  
12       • 3b - Colstrip units 1 and 2 were turned off, along with their associated station service power,  
13           and generation was increased at Grand Coulee to make up for the lost power  
14       • 3c - Colstrip units 1 and 2 were turned off, along with their associated station service power, and  
15           610 MW of generic Type 4 wind generation on the Colstrip 230 kV bus was modeled and  
16           dispatched at 100%

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# 1 Assumptions

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2 The following assumptions were used for the base cases used for Colstrip Operational Study:

- 3 • Siemens PTI PSS®E software was used and included the Acceleration Trend Relay (ATR)  
4 simulation software
- 5 • All internal and external path limits were within their acceptable limits
- 6 • All in-service units at Colstrip will be set to output maximum generation

## 8 Post-Transient Power Flow Analysis

9 The post-transient power flow analysis was used to study the steady-state impacts to the system  
10 following a system contingency. The following assumptions were used:

- 11 • All manually operated voltage control devices were fixed to pre-contingency status
- 12 • PSTs were locked to pre-contingency tap position
- 13 • Automatically controlled Load Tap Changers and switched shunts were allowed to move
- 14 • Generators which manually control a high side remote bus were set to regulate the voltage at  
15 the terminal bus at pre-contingency voltage set point. Generators with automatically controlled  
16 remote regulation (i.e. LDC) were allowed to control the high side bus.
- 17 • Automatically controlled remedial action schemes (RAS), relay devices, and/or load shedding  
18 schemes were allowed to operate
- 19 • No lines were be allowed to be loaded over 100% of their emergency rating. If there was no  
20 emergency rating given to the line, lines were not be permitted to exceed 100% of their normal  
21 rating
- 22 • If automatic generation dropping occurred, system-wide generation was re-dispatched pro-rata  
23 to all generators within WECC
- 24 • TPL-001-WECC-CRT-3.1 Transmission System Planning Performance Criteria was used to  
25 determine system performance

## 26 Transient Stability Analysis

27 The transient stability analysis analyzed the dynamic impacts to the system during, and immediately  
28 following a system event. The following assumptions were used:

- 29 • Automatically controlled RAS, relay devices, and/or load shedding schemes were allowed to  
30 operate and were modeled appropriately
- 31 • A detailed ATR model was used
- 32 • A no-event 1 second simulation was ran prior to the event to show pre-contingency stability
- 33 • All machines in the WECC interconnection were monitored and were to remain in synchronism  
34 and relative rotor angles must not diverge



- 1 • TPL-001-WECC-CRT-3.1 Transmission System Planning Performance Criteria was used to
- 2 determine system performance
- 3 • Impacts of tripping both Colstrip units 3 and 4 versus tripping either Colstrip Unit 3 or Colstrip
- 4 unit 4 was studied for Phases 3b and 3c

### 5 **Short Circuit Analysis**

6 The short circuit analysis analyzed the fault current contributions as well as the X/R ratio of the  
7 transmission system around the CTS before and after the shutdown of Colstrip Units 1 and 2.

### 8 **Contingencies**

9 All Categories listed in NERC TPL-001-4 Table 1 were studied at the following locations:

- 10 • Colstrip
- 11 • Broadview
- 12 • Garrison
- 13 • Taft
- 14 • Hot Springs
- 15 • Bell
- 16 • Dworshak
- 17 • Grand Coulee
- 18 • Hatwai
- 19 • Lower Granite
- 20 • Hardin
- 21 • Crossover

22 P5 analysis was not performed as the system being studied has full redundant relaying. For P6 analysis  
23 (N-1-1), a base case was created after each P1.2 and 1.3 contingency was applied. Each P1.2 and P1.3  
24 contingency was then applied to each one of these cases to provide the P6 results.

25



# 1 Phase 1: Confirmation of 2200 MW

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2 The purpose of this phase was to confirm that the CTS can handle 2200 MW East-to-West on Path 8  
3 reliably. This phase was tailored after NWE’s TTC study process, and establishes the capacity that can be  
4 moved across Path 8, which includes the 500 kV Colstrip system, along with the underlying transmission  
5 system, and interconnections to the Avista System. Table 1 shows a summary of key path flows and the  
6 generation dispatch of the two cases studied.

7 **Table 1: Phase 1 Dispatch Summary**

	<b>18ls1ap_p1</b>	<b>18lw2ap_p1</b>
<b>Colstrip Gross Total</b>	2270 MW	2270 MW
<b>Path 8</b>	2200 MW	2200 MW
<b>Path 18</b>	56 MW	-140 MW
<b>Path 80</b>	-112 MW	-310 MW
<b>Path 83</b>	-242 MW	11 MW
<b>Western Montana Hydro</b>	1680 MW	1680 MW
<b>NWE Control Area Load</b>	1256 MW	1097 MW

8 A negative MW value indicates an import to NWE’s transmission system.

## 9 Post-Transient Power Flow

10 The post-transient power flow analysis was performed after the transient stability analysis was  
11 performed in order to take into account RAS actions that will only occur in a transient stability  
12 simulation. The following is a summary and discussion of issues seen in the study.

### 13 **Overloads**

#### 14 ***Colstrip – Broadview A or B 500 kV lines***

15 Loss of one Colstrip – Broadview 500 kV line has potential to overload the series capacitors on the  
16 remaining Colstrip – Broadview 500 kV line if the ATR does not trip any units and Colstrip is at full  
17 output. The following contingencies have potential to cause this issue:

- 18 • P1.2 – Colstrip – Broadview A/B
- 19 • P2.1 – Colstrip – Broadview A/B
- 20 • P2.3 – Colstrip Breaker 500-001
- 21 • P2.3 – Colstrip Breaker 500-002
- 22 • P2.3 – Colstrip Breaker 500-003
- 23 • P2.3 – Broadview 500-010
- 24 • P2.3 – Broadview 500-011
- 25 • P2.3 – Broadview 500-014

26 The worst case overload on the Broadview - Garrison 500 kV series capacitors was 2157 A. The  
27 capacitors have a 2240 amp 30 minute rating and overloads can be mitigated in real time by curtailing



1 generation before the 30 minutes expires. As a backup, the series capacitors will automatically bypass if  
2 loaded above 2200 A for 1 hour. Therefore, these overloads are not viewed as an issue.

### 3 ***Judith Gap – Harlowton 100 kV line***

4 In the light winter base case, overloads were seen on the Judith Gap – Harlowton 100 kV line for loss of  
5 the Broadview – Judith Gap 230 kV line with ATR tripping. The following contingencies showed this  
6 issue:

- 7 • P2.3 - Broadview 230-036
- 8 • P2.3 - Broadview 230-037
- 9 • P4 - Broadview 230-037

10 The overload is a function of flows on the Broadview – Great Falls 230 kV line and not necessarily Path 8  
11 flows. On top of that, there is a relay scheme in place to open one end of the affected line to mitigate  
12 this overload. The overload witnessed is not related to Path 8 and is considered a non-issue.

### 13 ***Columbia Falls – Kalispell 115 kV line***

14 In the light summer base case, an overload was seen on the Columbia Falls – Kerr 115 kV line for a stuck  
15 breaker at the Hot Springs 230 kV substation. This overload is mostly a function of SKQ hydro  
16 generation levels and Flathead area loading and it's not uncommon to see the line section open at Kerr  
17 to prevent post-contingency violations. There is also relaying in place to open the Kerr end of the line  
18 for heavy loading on the line. The overload is seen as an issue not related to Path 8.

### 19 **Low Voltages**

20 There were no low voltage issues witnessed for Phase 1.

### 21 **High Voltages**

22 The results of the Phase 1 analysis showed no high voltage issues.

### 23 **Transient Stability**

24 The transient stability analysis was performed in PSS®E and included all applicable RAS including the ATR  
25 simulator. Results of the transient stability study showed that there were no stability issues with Path 8  
26 with westbound flows of 2200 MW.

### 27 **Conclusion**

28 The results of the Phase 1 analysis is consistent with past TTC studies and showed that there were no  
29 issues, CTS or otherwise, associated with Path 8 at 2200 MW.





## 1 **Phase 2: TTC Operational Study without Colstrip Units 1 and 2**

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2 The intent of Phase 2 is to see if the CTS can handle the Path rating of 2200 MW reliably without Colstrip  
3 units 1 and 2. This phase was tailored after NWE’s established TTC study process, and determines the  
4 capacity that can be moved across Path 8, which includes the 500 kV Colstrip system, along with the  
5 underlying NWE transmission system, and interconnections to the Avista System. Table 2 shows a  
6 summary of key path flows and generation dispatch of the two cases studied.

7 **Table 2: Phase 2 Dispatch Summary**

	<b>18ls1ap_p2</b>	<b>18lw2ap_p2</b>
<b>Colstrip Gross Total</b>	1610 MW	1610 MW
<b>Path 8</b>	2200 MW	2200 MW
<b>Path 18</b>	-106 MW	-170 MW
<b>Path 80</b>	-411 MW	-504 MW
<b>Path 83</b>	-88 MW	10 MW
<b>Western Montana Hydro</b>	1645 MW	1695 MW
<b>NWE Control Area Load</b>	1256 MW	1097 MW

### 8 **Post-Transient Power Flow**

9 The post-transient power flow analysis was performed after the transient stability analysis was  
10 performed in order to take into account RAS actions that will only occur in a transient stability  
11 simulation. The following is a summary and discussion of issues seen in the study.  
12

#### 13 **Overloads**

##### 14 ***Judith Gap – Harlowton 100 kV line***

15 In the light summer base case, overloads were seen on the Judith Gap – Harlowton 100 kV line for loss  
16 of the Broadview – Judith Gap 230 kV line with ATR tripping. The following contingencies showed this  
17 issue:

- 18 • P2.3 - Broadview 230-036
- 19 • P4 - Broadview 230-036
- 20 • P4 - Broadview 230-037

21 The overload of this line is a function of flows on the Broadview – Great Falls 230 kV line and not  
22 necessarily Path 8 flows. On top of that, there is a relay scheme in place to open one end of the affected  
23 line to mitigate this overload. The overload witnessed is not related to Path 8 and is considered a non-  
24 issue.



1 ***Columbia Falls – Kalispell 115 kV line***

2 In the light winter base case, an overload was seen on the Columbia Falls – Kerr 115 kV line for a stuck  
3 breaker at the Hot Springs 230 kV substation. This overload is mostly a function of SKQ hydro  
4 generation levels and Flathead area loading and it's not uncommon to see the line section open at Kerr  
5 to prevent post-contingency violations. There is also relaying in place to open the Kerr end of the line  
6 for heavy loading on the line. The overload is seen as an issue not related to Path 8.

7 **Low Voltages**

8 There were no low voltage issues observed for Phase 2.

9 **High Voltages**

10 The results of the Phase 2 analysis showed no high voltage issues.

11 **Transient Stability**

12 The transient stability analysis was performed in PSS®E and included all applicable RAS including the ATR  
13 simulator. Results of the transient stability study showed that there were no stability issues with Path 8  
14 at 2200 MW and Colstrip units 1 & 2 offline.

15 **Conclusion**

16 The results of Phase 2 indicate that the CTS is still capable of maximum transfers without Colstrip units 1  
17 and 2 while adhering to the 2200 MW limit of westbound transfers across Path 8. The results of this  
18 phase of the study showed the system behaved very similarly to that of Phase 1. Therefore, the loss of  
19 units 1 & 2 should not affect Path 8's rated export capability.

20



# 1 Phase 3: 500 kV CTS Study

2 The purpose of phase 3 was to study the CTS (Colstrip to Townsend) under typical operating conditions  
3 represented by the use of unmodified WECC Operation Base Cases. This portion of the study did not  
4 include any re-dispatching of generation except when makeup power was necessary for the shutdown  
5 of Colstrip units 1 & 2, in which case Grand Coulee was adjusted. PSTs were also not allowed to move to  
6 re-dispatch power around the system. The results of the Phase 3 Study could be mitigated through  
7 modified operation of the overall Montana transmission system. In other words, the use of the existing  
8 capabilities of the overall Montana Transmission system, which is normal operation, would yield results  
9 as shown in Case 2 with no impacts to Path 8’s capability.

10 Phase 3 included three operating base cases; heavy summer 2018, light summer 2018, and light winter  
11 2018. Each case was then modified to look at effects of the system with units 1 & 2 offline as well as  
12 what a potential type 4 wind farm replacing Colstrip units 1 & 2 would look like. Table 3 shows a  
13 summary of key path flows and generation dispatch of each of the cases and scenarios studied.

14 **Table 3: Phase 3 Dispatch Summary**

	18hs4ap_ p3a	18hs4ap_ p3b	18hs4ap_ p3c	18ls1ap_ p3a	18ls1ap_ p3b	18ls1ap_ p3c	19hw3ap_ p3a	19hw3ap_ p3b	19hw3ap_ p3c
<b>Colstrip Gross Total</b>	2270 MW	1610 MW	1610 MW	2270 MW	1610 MW	1610 MW	2270 MW	1610 MW	1610 MW
<b>Replacement CS Wind</b>	0 MW	0 MW	610 MW	0 MW	0 MW	610 MW	0 MW	0 MW	610 MW
<b>Path 8</b>	567 MW	70 MW	571 MW	1507 MW	1012 MW	1507 MW	1163 MW	650 MW	1163 MW
<b>Path 18</b>	268 MW	256 MW	271 MW	107 MW	98 MW	107 MW	149 MW	118 MW	148 MW
<b>Path 80</b>	41 MW	-32 MW	41 MW	-66 MW	-139 MW	-66 MW	-278 MW	-275 MW	-278 MW
<b>Path 83</b>	51 MW	51 MW	52 MW	55 MW	55 MW	55 MW	59 MW	27 MW	60 MW
<b>Western Montana Hydro</b>	1620 MW	1620 MW	1620 MW	1680 MW	1680 MW	1680 MW	1300 MW	1300 MW	1300 MW
<b>NWE Control Area Load</b>	1868 MW	1859 MW	1868 MW	1200 MW	1191 MW	1200 MW	1729 MW	1718 MW	1729 MW

15

16 The three scenarios for each base case is as follows:

- 17 • Phase 3a (p3a) – base case without modifications
- 18 • Phase 3b (p3b) – base case with Colstrip units 1 & 2 removed, power replaced by Grand Coulee
- 19 • Phase 3c (p3c) – base case with Colstrip units 1 & 2 removed, power replaced by type 4 wind
- 20 farm

## 21 **Post-Transient Power Flow**

22 The post-transient power flow analysis was performed after the transient stability analysis was  
23 performed in order to take into account RAS actions that will only occur in a transient stability  
24 simulation. The following is a summary and discussion of issues seen in the study.

### 25 **Overloads**

#### 26 **Colstrip – Broadview A or B 500 kV lines**

27 Loss of one Colstrip – Broadview 500 kV line has the potential to overload the series capacitors on the  
28 remaining Colstrip – Broadview 500 kV line if the ATR does not trip any units and Colstrip and/or Colstrip



1 replacement wind are at full output. This was only an issue in the phase 3a and 3c scenarios. The  
2 following contingencies have potential to cause this issue:

- 3 • P1.2 – Colstrip – Broadview A/B
- 4 • P2.1 – Colstrip – Broadview A/B
- 5 • P2.3 – Colstrip Breaker 500-001
- 6 • P2.3 – Colstrip Breaker 500-002
- 7 • P2.3 – Colstrip Breaker 500-003
- 8 • P2.3 – Broadview 500-010
- 9 • P2.3 – Broadview 500-011
- 10 • P2.3 – Broadview 500-014

11 The capacitors have a 2240 amp 30 minute rating and overloads can be mitigated in real time by  
12 curtailing generation before the 30 minutes expires. As a backup, the series capacitors will  
13 automatically bypass if loaded above 2200 A for 1 hour. Therefore, these overloads are not viewed as  
14 an issue.

#### 15 ***Garrison – Anaconda BPA 230 kV line***

16 In the heavy summer base case, an overload was seen on the Garrison – Anaconda BPA 230 kV line for  
17 the loss of the parallel Garrison – Mill Creek 230 kV line. This overload was consistent across all three  
18 heavy summer scenario cases (p3a, p3b, and p3c) and is a function of system load and Path 18 flows.  
19 Path 8 has little-to-no impact on this overload situation as seen by the similar loading between the cases  
20 with and without Colstrip units 1 & 2 and corresponding reduction in Path 8 flows.

#### 21 ***Columbia Falls – Kalispell 115 kV line***

22 In the light summer base case, an overload was seen on the Columbia Falls – Kerr 115 kV line for a stuck  
23 breaker at the Hot Springs 230 kV substation. This overload is mostly a function of SKQ hydro  
24 generation levels and Flathead area loading and it's not uncommon to see the line section open at Kerr  
25 to prevent post-contingency violations. There is also relaying in place to open the Kerr end of the line  
26 for heavy loading on the line. The overload is seen as an issue not related to Path 8.

#### 27 ***Steamplant – South Huntley 230 kV & Colstrip – Hardin 230 kV lines***

28 In each of the cases with the replacement wind at Colstrip (p3c), loss of both Colstrip – Broadview 500  
29 kV lines can cause overloads on the parallel 230 kV system. This is considered an extreme event per  
30 TPL-001-4 standards, however, a RAS may be necessary to alleviate these overloads if Colstrip were ever  
31 to be replaced with wind generation.



## 1 **Low Voltages**

### 2 ***Butte Area***

3 A fault on any one of the 230 kV breakers at Garrison and subsequent loss of the Garrison 230 kV  
4 substation showed low voltages in the Butte, MT area in each of the heavy summer scenario cases. This  
5 is considered to be a very rare event. This is a function of system loading and Path 18 flows, and  
6 showed no appreciable difference between differing Path 8 flows.

### 7 ***Billings Area***

8 In each of the cases with the replacement wind at Colstrip (p3c), loss of both Colstrip – Broadview 500  
9 kV lines can cause low voltages in the Billings area. This is considered an extreme event per TPL-001-4  
10 standards, however, a RAS may be necessary to alleviate these voltage issues if Colstrip were ever to be  
11 replaced with wind generation.

## 12 **High Voltages**

### 13 ***Billings Area***

14 In the light winter base scenario with replacement wind at Colstrip (p3c), loss of both Colstrip –  
15 Broadview 500 kV lines can cause high voltages in the Colstrip area. This is considered an extreme event  
16 per TPL-001-4 standards, however, a RAS may be necessary to alleviate these voltage issues if Colstrip  
17 were ever to be replaced with wind generation.

## 18 **Transient Stability**

19 The transient stability analysis was performed in PSS®E and included all applicable RAS including the ATR  
20 simulator. Results of the transient stability study showed that there were no stability issues with any of  
21 the scenario cases.

## 22 **Impacts of Limiting ATR Tripping**

23 The impacts of limiting ATR tripping to 50%, or one unit, for Phases 3b and 3c was analyzed. Results  
24 showed that tripping of greater than 50% may be necessary to guarantee system stability. Analysis  
25 showed that in the heavy summer case with replacement wind generation (p3c), TPL violations would  
26 occur for a double Broadview – Garrison outage if the ATR was limited to 50%. A RAS that would trip the  
27 replacement wind generation may also prevent the TPL violations from occurring, however this was  
28 outside of the scope of this study.

29 The study also showed that even though ATR tripping was limited to 50%, there were many simulations  
30 in each of scenarios that triggered the Individual Unit Overspeed algorithm for the remaining unit. Since  
31 the Individual Unit Overspeed tripping was triggered and the contingencies resulted in two units being  
32 tripped, it is recommended that the ATR not be limited 50%. This would allow the ATR to take both  
33 units sooner, leading to better system stability.



## 1 **Short Circuit**

2 A short circuit analysis was run for each of the scenarios. The study showed no issues with total fault  
3 current or X/R ratio in any of the scenarios. Table 4 shows the results for each of the scenarios.

4 **Table 4: Short Circuit Results**

	Scenario 1 (p3a)		Scenario 2 (p3b)		Scenario 3 (p3c)	
	3PH I+ (Amps)	X/R	3PH I+ (Amps)	X/R	3PH I+ (Amps)	X/R
Colstrip 230 kV	20096	21.56	13313	18.13	15250	20.11
Colstrip 500 kV	13397	15.07	11230	12.83	12051	13.60
Broadview 230 kV	16244	7.84	15241	7.49	15787	7.59
Broadview 500 kV	11217	8.89	10167	8.47	10627	8.59
Garrison 230 kV	17383	7.15	16986	7.08	17261	7.04
Garrison 500 kV	10979	7.67	10675	7.60	10817	7.54
Taft 500 kV	14726	8.11	14575	8.06	14679	8.05
Bell 230 kV	29794	6.16	30262	6.11	29851	6.18
Bell 500 kV	15489	8.54	15530	8.56	15501	8.58
Dworshak 500 kV	12855	10.56	12726	10.41	12856	10.54
Hot Springs 230 kV	14992	8.13	14873	8.10	14995	8.09
Hot Springs 500 kV	7939	9.49	7873	9.45	7936	9.43
Grand Coulee 500 kV	36977	11.22	38957	11.74	38852	11.77
Hatwai 230 kV	19923	9.05	19878	9.01	19936	9.05
Hatwai 500 kV	14480	10.55	14400	10.47	1488	10.55
Lower Granite 500 kV	18322	13.74	18263	13.71	18340	13.78
Hardin 230 kV	8077	12.08	7561	12.28	7849	12.35
Crossover 230 kV	8156	12.60	7643	12.74	7914	12.83

5

6

## 7 **Conclusion**

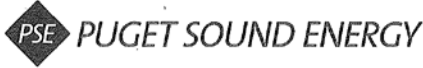
8 The results for Phase 3 showed that the system performed similarly between each scenario. The  
9 removal of Colstrip units 1 & 2, as well as the addition of a 610 MW type 4 wind farm showed zero new  
10 transient stability issues on the system. If a new 610 MW wind farm were to connect at Colstrip, a RAS  
11 may be required to trip the wind farm for the extreme event of the loss of both Colstrip – Broadview 500  
12 kV lines. The results also showed that modifications to the ATR to try to reduce tripping would not be  
13 advised. Additional studies may be required to determine the ability of any new generation to deliver  
14 electricity to any specific customer or Point of Delivery on a firm or non-firm basis. The additional  
15 studies may conclude, for example, that the new generation may be required to participate in a  
16 Remedial Action Scheme.

17 All three portions of the Phase 3 study showed that, from a typical operation perspective, the CTS can  
18 still be operated reliably regardless from where the power transferred across the system is coming.



# 1 Appendix 1 Puget Sound Energy Request

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Puget Sound Energy  
P.O. Box 97034  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734  
PSE.com

August 11, 2017

**Via Express Mail**

Mr. Michael McGowan  
NorthWestern Energy  
11 East Park  
Butte, MT 59701

**Re: Colstrip Transmission Agreement & Shutdown of Colstrip Units 1 & 2  
Operational Study Request**

Attn: Mr. Michael McGowan, Manager Transmission Services and Operations Support

Dear Mr. McGowan:

This letter is in regards to the Colstrip Transmission Agreement between NorthWestern Energy, Puget Sound Energy, Inc., Avista Corporation, Portland General Electric Company, and PacifiCorp (“Transmission Owners”). As you are aware Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (“PSE”) has announced that PSE plans to shut down Colstrip Units #1 and #2 no later than July 1, 2022.

Many of the studies conducted to date on the shutdown of Colstrip Units #1 and #2 incorporate replacement power scenarios and other mitigating assumptions. Further clarity is needed with respect to specific impacts, limitations, transfer capability, etc. of the shutdown of Colstrip Units #1 & #2 on the Colstrip Transmission System (“CTS”) without the assumption of any new generation on either the 500 kV or 230 kV systems. Additionally, when Colstrip Units #1 and #2 are retired, any transmission improvements that may be needed to maintain the reliability and stability of the transmission system in the area should be identified.

PSE is submitting this letter to NorthWestern Energy, the designated operator of the Colstrip Transmission System, as a written request to conduct an operational study of the shutdown of Colstrip #1 and #2. The study should be coordinated with the Transmission Owners for their input and concurrence on scope and timing.

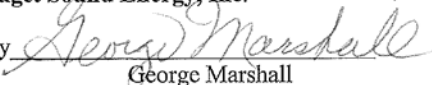


If you have any questions or comments in regards to this request, please feel free to direct them to myself at (425) 462-3706 or Laura Hatfield at (425) 462-3921. We look forward to working with you and the other Transmission Owners on this request.

Sincerely,

**Puget Sound Energy, Inc.**

By

  
George Marshall

Its: Manager Transmission Policy & Contracts

Cc: Transmission Owners