From: Russell Borgmann
To: UTC DL Records Center
Cc: Russell Borgmann
Subject: Docket UE-160918 Public Comments
Date: Thursday, July 27, 2017 8:07:55 PM

I request that the following comments and questions be entered into the record for the public hearing of Docket UE-160918. I look forward to dialogue and answers to the questions posed.

Thank you.

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Below are my comments and questions about ColumbiaGrid's ***2017 System Assessment*** and UE-160918.

ColumbiaGrid Draft 2017 System Assessment, **Page 12**:

Questions

1. Where can I find the load flow studies performed for the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Line rebuild to 230kV?
2. Table D1 indicates a cost of $80 million. Can you please provide a breakdown and more details of that cost and cost allocation?
3. ColumbiaGrid acknowledges BPA's decision to cancel the Castle Rock-Troutdale transmission project. Was that decision based on revised load flow studies and forecasts? Can you please provide those revised load flow study assumptions?
4. Are those revised assumptions applied to the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill project as well? Why or why not?

Page 22: The draft assessment specifies 1,350MW of firm transmission commitments to Canada and the PSAST has been planning to maintain a 1,500MW (north to south) transfer.

Questions

5. Can ColumbiaGrid please provide the official, binding documentation that supports the Firm Commitment to deliver electricity to Canada, as well as the amount of that Firm Commitment?
6. Has BC Hydro made a specific request to BPA to have its Canadian Entitlement delivered to the Canadian border on a Firm Basis?
7. Where is the documentation for that request, and where does this transfer occur – Blaine? Oliver? Further east? Elsewhere?
8. How will the PSAST provide 1,500MW to Canada during winter peak load? What are the sources of that generation and via what transmission path(s)?
9. Can ColumbiaGrid please provide load flow studies that show a converged solution

when 1,500 MW of transfer north to Canada occurs simultaneously during a winter peak load event? Please provide the assumptions for this load flow study to converge, including the status of all western WA gas-fired peak generation.

ColumbiaGrid's ***2013 System Assessment***, stated, *"…The Northwest to British Columbia transfer was increased to 1500MW and the West of Cascades North transfer was increased near its limit (10,200 MW) by reducing local west side gas generation. This case is being studied for informational purposes and mitigation is not required as it goes beyond what is required in the NERC Reliability Standards."* (pg 12) This was considered a hypothetical situation for information purposes. This scenario far exceeds NERC Reliability Standards. ColumbiaGrid states that mitigation is not required.

Questions

10. Can ColumbiaGrid please provide context for the informational study done for hypothetical purposes? What was the genesis of conducting that study? Why was this scenario studied? Who commissioned this study?
11. It appears that the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill transmission project uses these same assumptions as justification for the project. Does the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill transmission project provide mitigation for a hypothetical scenario?
12. Do ColumbiaGrid studies reflect the Remedial Action Schemes (RAS) and Schedule Adjustment Schemes that have been put in-place for Northern Intertie schedules? Why or why not?
13. Do ColumbiaGrid studies reflect the automated curtailment systems that BPA has put in-place since at least 2007? Why or why not?

Page 32: The Draft Assessment states that the 230kv transformer at Lakeside substation would support south to north transfer capability on the Northern Intertie.

Questions

14. Does the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill project serve a regional need to satisfy BPA's transfer capacity to Canada (winter)? Or BPAs transfer capacity south to California (summer)?
15. Will ColumbiaGrid please provide the studies that justify the regional needs for this project?
16. How was the cost allocation of the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill project derived?
17. Since the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill transmission project serves a regional purpose, why are PSE customers paying the majority of the cost, for this regional transfer capacity?
18. Since the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill transmission project serves a regional purpose, why are Bellevue residents paying for the majority of the environmental impact, taxes, fees, and mitigations for this regional transfer capacity?

Figure D1 shows a project "B14".

Question

19. Can ColumbiaGrid please provide details on that project "B14"?

Attachment A: ColumbiaGrid indicates the generation resources that are assumed in the load flow studies. ColumbiaGrid is running all PSE gas-fired generation in winter peak scenarios, as expected in peak load situations.

Question

20. Is ColumbiaGrid using those same assumptions for the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill project? Why or why not?

Attachment B: The Transmission Expansion Projects show an estimated cost of $65 to $80 million for the Sammamish-Lakeside-Talbot Hill rebuild to 230kV.

Questions

21. What is the basis for this cost estimate?
22. Can you please provide more cost details and cost allocation details between BPA, PSE, Seattle City Light, BC Hydro and any other affected parties?