

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

PacifiCorp

Docket No. ER16-193-000

**MOTION TO INTERVENE AND COMMENTS
OF THE WESTERN POWER TRADING FORUM**

Pursuant to Rules 211, 212 and 214 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (the “Commission” or “FERC”)¹ and the Commission’s October 30, 2015, “Combined Notice of Filings #1,” the Western Power Trading Forum (“WPTF”) submits this motion to intervene and comments on PacifiCorp’s filing to revise the Western Interconnection Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan (“Plan”).² PacifiCorp’s filing was made on behalf of itself and the following: Northwestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, NV Energy, Inc., Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (collectively, the “Filing Parties”).

I. COMMUNICATIONS

Communications in connection with this filing should be addressed to:

Caitlin Liotiris
Energy Strategies
215 South State Street, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Telephone: (801) 355-4365
Facsimile: (801) 521-9142
ccollins@energystrat.com

Daniel W. Douglass*
DOUGLASS & LIDDELL
4766 Park Granada, Suite 209
Calabasas, CA 91302
Telephone: (818) 961-3001
Facsimile: (818) 961-3001
douglass@energyattorney.com

* person designated to receive service

¹ 18 C.F.R. § 385.211, 212, 214.

² PacifiCorp, “Revisions to Western Electricity Coordinating Council Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan, Docket No. ER16-193-000, filed October 30, 2015 (“UFMP Filing”).

II. MOTION TO INTERVENE IN DOCKET ER15-1196-000

WPTF is a California nonprofit, public benefit corporation. It is a broad-based membership organization dedicated to enhancing competition in Western electric markets while maintaining the current high level of system reliability. WPTF supports development of competitive markets throughout the West and also supports the development of uniform rules to facilitate transactions among market participants. The membership of WPTF includes energy service providers, scheduling coordinators, generators, power marketers, financial institutions, energy consultants, and public utilities. WPTF's membership actively participates in electric power markets in the West and across the country. WPTF's intervention in this proceeding is in the public interest. WPTF's interests will not be adequately represented by any other party. Therefore, WPTF respectfully requests that this motion to intervene be granted.

III. BACKGROUND

The Western Interconnection Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan, or "Plan," was developed to address the concerns and problems associated with off-path or unscheduled flow³ in the Western Interconnection. The Plan results in significant cost savings and reliability benefits across the Western Interconnection. The Plan works in conjunctions with Reliability Standard IRO-006-WECC-2 to relieve unscheduled flow in the Western Interconnection.

Under the Plan, phase shifters and other facilities that can be used to mitigate unscheduled flow can be designated as "Controllable Devices." Entities whose facilities are approved as Controllable Devices ("Qualified Device Owners") may allocate a share of the costs

³ Off-path or unscheduled flow refers to the portion of actual flows on a given path or element that results from scheduled transactions that do not utilize transmission on the given path or element. This is calculated as the difference between actual flow and flow that is scheduled on that path.

of these facilities to “Applicable Entities,” as defined in the Plan. Cost allocation is based on the size of the entity’s exports, imports, generating resources and loads.

The Plan was first approved by the Commission on November 29, 1995.⁴ PacifiCorp filed the Plan with the Commission on December 20, 2013, in Docket No. ER14-778. The Plan was designated as PacifiCorp First Revised Rate Schedule No. 439. The Commission accepted the filing on May 16, 2014, via letter order.⁵

On October 30, 2015 PacifiCorp, on behalf of the Filing Parties, filed proposed revisions to the Plan with the Commission. The revisions to the Plan would remove financial caps in the cost allocation methodology, add sections on administration and non-payment of costs, and simplify the Plan to improve readability and clarity.

IV. COMMENTS OF WPTF

WPTF supports the use of the Plan in the Western Interconnection and supports the Plan’s reliability benefits and contribution to cost savings through reduced curtailments. In order for the Plan to work effectively, Qualified Device Owners should be fully compensated when Controllable Devices are used under the Plan to mitigate unscheduled flow. In previous years, WPTF understands that the Qualified Devices Owners have been compensated substantially less than the amount that was billed. The partial compensation of the Qualified Devices Owners is the result of financial caps that are currently imposed within the Plan’s cost allocation methodology. Most of these caps are referred to as “1995 caps” and serve to cap cost allocation

⁴ *S. Cal. Edison Co., et al.*, Docket No. ER95-215-000, 73 FERC ¶ 61,219 (1995). Later modifications to the plan prior to PacifiCorp’s filing of the Plan as its First Revised Rate Schedule No. 439 were accepted by the Commission in the following letter orders: *S. Cal. Edison Co., et al.*, Docket No. ER97-4724-000 (Nov. 12, 1997); *W. Sys. Coordinating Council*, Docket No. ER00-1670-000 (Mar. 24, 2000); *W. Sys. Coordinating Council*, Docket No. ER01-3085-000 (Nov. 20, 2001).

⁵ *PacifiCorp*, Letter Order, Docket No. ER14-778-000 (May 16, 2014).

based on an entity's size and/or structure in 1995. Capping costs based on an entity's profile in 1995 is arbitrary and, more importantly, may serve to degrade the Plan's effectiveness when these caps result in deficient payments to the Qualified Device Owners. WPTF supports the proposed removal of the financial caps in the Plan and full compensation of the Qualified Devices Owners. Full compensation to the Qualified Devices Owners should help ensure that the Controllable Devices currently used in the Plan maintain their participation and continue to provide significant cost savings and reliability benefits to the Western Interconnection. Therefore, WPTF supports the elimination of the financial caps, as proposed by the Filing Parties.

WPTF also supports the proposed modifications to simplify the Plan, improve readability and clarity and remove legacy notes and information duplication. The previous versions of the Plan have been lengthy and contained unnecessary and duplicative information, which can often lead to confusion about how the Plan is administered and how costs are allocated. The proposed rewrite of the Plan is a significant improvement in this regard. However, the Plan still contains very sparse details about the amount of compensation that Qualified Devices Owners are actually entitled to when Controllable Devices are called upon under the Plan. WPTF would appreciate additional specificity on the way compensation is calculated either within the Plan, or within an associated document. This is particularly important to understand given that the proposed revisions will remove any caps on the amount that could be allocated to Applicable Entities.

Finally, the revisions to the plan also propose to implement a 10% penalty on entities that do not pay assessments within six months. WPTF is not necessarily opposed to a "late penalty" of this nature, but believes the Filing Parties need to provide documentation describing how any funds collected from late payments will be used.

V. CONCLUSION

WPTF supports the Plan along with the cost savings and reliability benefits that are associated with it. WPTF supports the rewrite of the Plan, including lifting the financial caps within the cost allocation methodology to ensure Qualified Device Owners are appropriately compensated. However, WPTF seeks additional specificity from the Filing Parties on the amount of compensation that is provided for Qualified Devices Owners' participation in the Plan and on the use of any revenues collected from the proposed late penalty.

Respectfully submitted,



Caitlin Liotiris
Energy Strategies
215 South State Street, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Telephone: (801) 355-4365
Facsimile: (801) 521-9142
ccollins@energystrat.com

Daniel W. Douglass*
DOUGLASS & LIDDELL
4766 Park Granada, Suite 209
Calabasas, CA 91302
Telephone: (818) 961-3001
Facsimile: (818) 961-3001
douglass@energyattorney.com

November 20, 2015

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the *Motion to Intervene and Comments of the Western Power Trading Forum* on all parties of record in proceeding *ER16-193-000* by serving an electronic copy on their email addresses of record and by mailing a properly addressed copy by first-class mail with postage prepaid to each party for whom an email address is not available.

Executed on November 20, 2015, at Woodland Hills, California.



Michelle Dangott

SERVICE LIST ER16-193-000

douglass@energyattorney.com
ccollins@energystrat.com
richard.vail@pacificorp.com
patrick.cannon@pacificorp.com
SGoodwill@wecc.biz
Daniel.Ahrens@xcelenergy.com
rogerv@mid.org
smn@dwgp.com
GregS@mid.org
bkm@dwgp.com
jamesm@mid.org
mrc@dwgp.com