

DOCKET NOS. RR06-1-012 AND RR07-6-002

**COMPLIANCE FILING OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION
IN RESPONSE TO MARCH 21, 2008 ORDER**

ATTACHMENT 9

**REVISED AMENDED AND RESTATED DELEGATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN NERC AND
SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.**

ATTACHMENT 9A: CLEAN VERSION

ATTACHMENT 9B: REDLINED VERSION



415 N. McKinley, 140 Plaza West
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Michael Desselle
Vice President, Process Integrity and Chief Administrative Officer

July 16, 2008

Mr. David N. Cook
Vice President and General Counsel
North American Electric Reliability Corporation
116-390 Village Boulevard
Princeton, NJ 08540

RE: SPP Revised Delegation Agreement to be filed July 21, 2008

Dear David:

The SPP Regional Entity is prepared to execute the revised Delegation Agreement upon receipt of the FERC approval.

Thank you and we look forward to working with NERC and serving as a Regional Entity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Desselle'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Desselle

CC: Nick Brown
Stacy Duckett

ATTACHMENT 9A

CLEAN VERSION

**AMENDED AND RESTATED DELEGATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION
AND SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.**

AMENDED AND RESTATED DELEGATION AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) made as of _____, 2008, between the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”), an organization certified by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) pursuant to Section 215(c) of the Federal Power Act to establish and enforce Reliability Standards for the bulk power system, and the Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (“SPP”), an organization established to develop and enforce Reliability Standards within the geographic boundaries identified on **Exhibit A** to this Agreement, and for other purposes. NERC and SPP may be individually referred to herein as “Party” or collectively as “Parties.”

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Subtitle A of the Electricity Modernization Act of 2005 added Section 215 to the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. § 824n) (hereafter “the Act”) and, among other things, provides for the establishment of an electric reliability organization (“ERO”) to develop and enforce Reliability Standards applicable to all owners, operators, and users of the bulk power system;

WHEREAS, the Commission has adopted regulations for the implementation of the Act set forth at Chapter I, Title 18, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 39, as adopted by Commission Order No. 672 in Docket No. RM05-30-000 on February 3, 2006 (114 FERC ¶ 61, 104; hereafter “Order 672”);

WHEREAS, the Commission has certified NERC as the ERO that will, in accordance with the Act, establish and enforce Reliability Standards for the bulk power system, subject to certain delegation provisions described below;

WHEREAS, the Act recognizes the international interdependency of electric reliability within North America and envisions the ERO and such applicable Regional Entities as international organizations;

WHEREAS, the Act and Section 39.8 of the Commission’s regulations provide for the delegation by the ERO of authority to propose and enforce Reliability Standards to regional entities such as SPP provided that:

(A) The Regional Entity is governed by —

- (i) an independent board;
- (ii) a balanced stakeholder board; or
- (iii) a combination independent and balanced stakeholder board.

(B) The Regional Entity otherwise satisfies the provisions of Section 215(c)(1) and (2) of the Act; and

(C) The agreement promotes effective and efficient administration of bulk power system reliability;

WHEREAS, certain Regional Entities are organized on an Interconnection-wide basis and are therefore entitled to the presumption set forth in the Act that: “[t]he ERO and the Commission shall rebuttably presume that a proposal for delegation to a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis promotes effective and efficient administration of bulk power system reliability and should be approved”;

WHEREAS, the Act further provides that the ERO shall rebuttably presume that a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis for a Reliability Standard or modification to a Reliability Standard to be applicable on an Interconnection-wide basis is just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential, and in the public interest;

WHEREAS, SPP is not organized on an Interconnection-wide basis and therefore is not entitled to the rebuttable presumptions accorded such an entity;

WHEREAS, NERC will work through SPP to carry out certain of its activities in furtherance of its responsibilities as the electric reliability organization under the Act; and

WHEREAS, NERC has concluded that SPP meets all requirements of the Act, the Commission's regulations, and the NERC Rules of Procedure as approved by the Commission ("NERC Rules") necessary to qualify for delegation;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, NERC and SPP, agree as follows:

1. Definitions. The capitalized terms used in this Agreement shall be defined as set forth in the Act, the Commission's regulations, or the NERC Rules or, if not so defined, shall be defined as follows:

(a) Breach means (i) the failure of a Party to perform or observe any material term, condition or covenant of the Agreement or (ii) a representation in Section 2 of the Agreement shall have become materially untrue.

(b) Cross-Border Regional Entity means a Regional Entity that encompasses a part of the United States and a part of Canada or Mexico.

(c) Delegated Authority means the authority delegated by NERC to SPP to propose and enforce Reliability Standards pursuant to the Act.

(d) SPP Rules means the bylaws, a rule of procedure or other organizational rule or protocol of SPP.

(e) Reliability Standard means a requirement approved by the Commission under Section 215 of the Federal Power Act to provide for reliable operation of the bulk power system. The term includes requirements for the operation of existing bulk power system facilities, including cyber security protection, and the design of planned additions or modifications to such facilities to the extent necessary for reliable operation of the bulk power system; but the term does not include any requirement to enlarge such facilities or to construct new transmission capacity or generation capacity.

2. Representations.

(a) For purposes of its Delegated Authority, SPP hereby represents and warrants to NERC that:

(i) SPP is and shall remain during the term of this Agreement validly existing and in good standing pursuant to all applicable laws relevant to this Agreement and that no applicable law, contract or other legal obligation prevents it from executing this Agreement and fulfilling its obligations hereunder. SPP is governed in accordance with its bylaws by an independent board. Pursuant to these bylaws, no two industry sectors can control any SPP decision and no single industry sector can veto any SPP decision. The relevant portions of such bylaws are attached hereto in **Exhibit B**¹, and as so attached are in full force and effect. No other such corporate governance documents are binding upon SPP.

(ii) As set forth in **Exhibit C** hereto², SPP has developed a standards development procedure, which provides the process that SPP may use to develop Regional Reliability Standards [and Regional Variances, if the regional entity is organized on an Interconnection-wide basis] that are proposed to NERC for adoption.

(iii) As set forth in **Exhibit D** hereto³, SPP has developed a regional compliance enforcement program, which provides for the enforcement of Reliability Standards within its geographic boundaries.

(b) NERC hereby represents and warrants to SPP that:

(i) It is and shall remain during the term of this Agreement validly existing and in good standing pursuant all applicable laws relevant to this Agreement and that no applicable law, contract or other legal obligation prevents it from executing this Agreement and fulfilling its obligations hereunder; and

(ii) It has been certified as the ERO by the Commission pursuant to the Act.

3. Covenants.

¹ The **Exhibit B** from each Regional Entity shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit B** to this pro forma Agreement.

² The **Exhibit C** from each Regional Entity shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit C** to this pro forma Agreement.

³ The **Exhibit D** from each Regional Entity shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit D** to this pro forma Agreement.

(a) During the term of this Agreement, SPP shall maintain and preserve its qualifications for delegation pursuant to the Act and shall not amend the SPP Rules without NERC's approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed and which shall, in the case of a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, be governed by the presumptions provided for in Section 215(d)(2) and (e)(4)(C) of the Act, and be subject to any required Commission approval.

(b) During the term of this agreement, NERC shall maintain its qualification and status as the ERO pursuant to the Act and, subject to the provisions of Sections 16 and 17 of this Agreement, NERC shall not adopt amendments to the NERC Rules that conflict with the rights, obligations or programs of SPP under this Agreement without first obtaining the consent of SPP, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

(c) During the term of this agreement, NERC and SPP shall adhere to and require that all participants in their respective activities under this Agreement follow and comply with the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines.

4. Delegation of Authority.

(a) Based upon the representations, warranties and covenants of SPP in Sections 2 and 3 above, the corporate governance documents set forth in **Exhibit B**, the standards development process set forth in **Exhibit C**, and the regional compliance enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D**, NERC hereby delegates authority, pursuant to Section 215(e)(4) of the Act, to SPP for the purpose of proposing Reliability Standards to NERC, as set forth in Section 5 of this Agreement, and enforcing Reliability Standards, as set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement, within the geographic boundaries set forth on **Exhibit A**. No further redelegation of authority or responsibility, in total or in part, under this Agreement is allowed without NERC's express consent.

(b) For Cross-Border Regional Entities, the authority delegated by this Agreement shall extend only to the portion of the region identified on **Exhibit A** that is within the United States. Any delegation of authority by governmental authorities in Canada or Mexico shall be governed by a separate agreement and is outside the scope of this Agreement; provided, however, that both SPP and NERC shall endeavor to ensure that this Agreement and such separate agreements are compatible.

(c) As a condition to this delegation of authority and subject to the provisions of section 16 of this Agreement, SPP shall comply with the applicable provisions of NERC's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules of Procedure, and Reliability Standards, as from time to time adopted, approved, or amended.

5. Reliability Standards.

(a) In connection with its Delegated Authority, SPP shall be entitled to:

(i) propose Reliability Standards, Regional Variances, or modifications thereof to NERC, which shall be considered by NERC through an open and inclusive process for proposing and adopting Reliability Standards that affords SPP reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard; and

(ii) develop Regional Reliability Standards [and Regional Variances, if Regional Entity is organized on an Interconnection-wide basis] through SPP's process as set forth in **Exhibit C**. Proposals approved through SPP's process shall be reviewed by the NERC Board of Trustees after NERC provides notice and an opportunity for interested persons to comment. In the case of a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, comments shall be limited to the factors identified in NERC Rule 313, section 3.1 as it may be amended from time to time. The NERC board of trustees shall promptly thereafter consider such proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance, applying the rebuttable presumption described in subsection 5(b) if the proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance is from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, and either approve the proposed standard and submit it to the Commission for approval, or disapprove it in writing setting forth its reasons. SPP may appeal any disapproval of a proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance to the Commission.

(b) Pursuant to Section 215(d)(3) of the Act, NERC shall rebuttably presume that a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis for a Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance or modification thereof to be applicable on an Interconnection-wide basis is just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential, and in the public interest. Any person challenging such proposal from the INTERCONNECTION-WIDE REGIONAL ENTITY shall have the burden of proof. NERC shall not find that this presumption has been rebutted except based upon substantial evidence

that has been disclosed to, and been subject to comment by, the INTERCONNECTION-WIDE REGIONAL ENTITY during NERC's review of the proposal.

6. Enforcement.

(a) In connection with its delegated authority pursuant to this Agreement, SPP shall enforce Reliability Standards (including Regional Reliability Standards and Regional Variances) within the geographic boundaries set forth in **Exhibit A** through the compliance enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D**. NERC and SPP agree that this program meets all applicable requirements of the Act, Order 672 and the Commission's regulations, including, *inter alia*, the requirement for an audit program pursuant to Section 39.7(a) of the Commission's regulations, the assessment of penalties pursuant to Section 39.7(c) through 39.7(g) of the Commission's regulations and the requirements for due process. SPP may not change its compliance enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D** absent NERC's approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. Subject to the rights and limitations of Sections 16 and 17 of this Agreement, SPP agrees to comply with the NERC Rules in implementing this program.

(b) SPP shall report promptly to NERC any self-reported violation or investigation of a violation or an alleged violation of a Reliability Standard and its eventual disposition. Such report shall include the owner's, operator's, or user's name, which Reliability Standard or Reliability Standards were violated or allegedly violated, when the violation or alleged violation occurred, other pertinent facts about the violation including circumstances surrounding the violation with any known risk to the bulk power system, when the violation was or will be mitigated, the name of a person knowledgeable about the violation or alleged violation to serve as a point of contact with the Commission, and any other information required by NERC compliance program procedures. NERC shall promptly forward such report to the Commission. NERC and SPP shall cooperate in filing such periodic summary reports as the Commission shall from time to time direct on violations of Reliability Standards and summary analyses of such violations.

(c) Each violation or alleged violation shall be treated as nonpublic until the matter is filed with the Commission as a notice of penalty or resolved by an admission that the owner, operator, or user of the bulk power system violated a Reliability Standard or by a settlement or

other negotiated disposition. The disposition of each violation or alleged violation that relates to a Cybersecurity Incident or that would jeopardize the security of the bulk power system if publicly disclosed shall be nonpublic unless the Commission directs otherwise.

(d) All appeals of penalties imposed by SPP shall be filed with NERC, in accordance with the NERC Rules.

(e) SPP shall maintain the capability to conduct investigations of potential violations of Reliability Standards and to conduct such investigations in a confidential manner.

(f) SPP shall maintain a program of proactive enforcement audits including procedures for spot-checks of self-reported compliance and periodic audits of all responsible entities as defined in **Exhibit D**.

(g) As part of its compliance enforcement program, SPP shall maintain a conflict of interest policy that assures the integrity of such program and the independence of the compliance program staff from those subject to enforcement actions.

(h) As often as NERC deems necessary, but no less than every three years, NERC shall review SPP's compliance enforcement program to ensure that: (i) the program meets all applicable legal requirements; (ii) actual practices reflect the requirements; and (iii) the program administered pursuant to the Delegated Authority promotes consistent interpretations across North America of Reliability Standards and comparable levels of sanctions and penalties to violations of Reliability Standards constituting comparable levels of threat to reliability of the bulk power system.

(i) SPP shall modify its compliance enforcement program as needed to reflect additions to, deletions from, or modifications of Reliability Standards and, subject to the rights and limitations of Sections 16 and 17 of this Agreement, shall modify its compliance enforcement program as needed: (i) to reflect amendments to the NERC Rules; (ii) to comply with NERC directives resulting from the review of compliance enforcement programs as provided in Section 6(h) of this Agreement; or (iii) to resolve a conflict with a function, rule, order, tariff, rate schedule, or agreement accepted, approved, or ordered by the Commission.

(j) NERC shall conduct a review with the Regional Entities that provides for the exchange of information on practices, experiences, and lessons learned in the implementation of compliance enforcement programs.

7. **Delegation-Related Services.** NERC will engage SPP on its behalf to carry out certain of its activities that are in furtherance of its responsibilities as the ERO under the Act or in support of delegated functions, as specified in the NERC Rules and listed on **Exhibit E**.

8. **Funding.** SPP and NERC shall ensure that the delegated functions and related activities listed on **Exhibit E** have reasonable and adequate funding and resources by undertaking the following:

(a) NERC shall fund SPP activities necessary for SPP to carry out its Delegated Authority under this Agreement, including the functions listed on **Exhibit E**, and shall not impose any obligation or requirement regarding Delegated Authority upon SPP without providing appropriate funding to carry out such mandates;

(b) SPP and NERC agree that costs of carrying out SPP's responsibilities under the Delegation Agreement will be equitably allocated among end users within the geographic boundaries described in **Exhibit A** and recovered through a formula based on net energy for load, or through such other formula as is proposed by SPP and approved by NERC and the Commission. If SPP proposes to use a formula other than net energy for load beginning in the following year, SPP shall submit the proposed formula to NERC in sufficient time that NERC may review and approve the proposed formula and file it with the Commission for approval by May 15, and the proposed formula shall be effective for the following year if approved by the Commission on or before the date the Commission approves the annual business plan and budget submitted by NERC and SPP to the Commission pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §39.4 for such year;

(c) NERC will ensure that the costs for its responsibilities are first allocated fairly among the interconnections and regions according to the applicability of this work to those interconnections and regions, and then equitably among the end users of the applicable interconnections and regions as appropriate. Allocation on a net energy for load basis will be presumed to satisfy this equitability requirement.

(d) NERC shall provide SPP with the form for budget submittal no later than April 30 of the prior year.

(e) SPP shall submit its annual budget for carrying out its Delegated Authority functions and related activities listed on **Exhibit E**, as well as all other SPP activities and

funding to NERC no later than June 1 of the prior fiscal year such that NERC may submit its budget to the Commission 130 days in advance of the beginning of each fiscal year. The SPP budget submission shall include supporting materials, including SPP's complete business plan and organization chart, explaining the proposed collection of all dues, fees and charges, and the proposed expenditure of funds collected in sufficient detail to justify the requested funding collection and budget expenditures. NERC shall develop, in consultation with the Regional Entities, a reasonable and consistent system of accounts, with a level of detail and record keeping comparable to the Commission's Uniform System of Accounts and sufficient to allow the Commission to compare each Commission-approved NERC fiscal year budget with the actual results at the NERC and Regional Entity level. SPP shall follow NERC's prescribed system of accounts except to the extent that NERC permits a departure from the prescribed system of accounts. NERC shall make an informational filing with the Commission describing any such waiver it permits and providing an explanation supporting the permitted departure.

(f) SPP's funding system shall include reasonable reserve funding for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses and other contingencies, consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

(g) NERC shall review and approve SPP's budget for meeting its responsibilities under the Delegation Agreement.

(h) SPP shall submit unaudited quarterly interim financial statements in form provided by NERC no later than 20 days after the end of the fiscal quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31).

(i) SPP shall submit audited financial statements annually including supporting materials in a form provided by NERC no later than 150 days after the end of the fiscal year.

(j) NERC shall have the right to review from time to time, in reasonable intervals but no less than every three years, the financial records of SPP in order to ensure that the documentation fairly represents in all material respects appropriate funding under this Agreement.

(k) **Exhibit E** to this Agreement sets forth the mechanism through which SPP shall offset penalty monies it receives (other than penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity) against its next year's annual budget for carrying out

functions under this Agreement, and the mechanism by which SPP shall transmit to NERC any penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP.

9. Assignment. This Agreement may be assigned by either Party only with the prior written consent of the other, which consent shall be granted or withheld in such non-assigning Party's sole discretion, subject to approval by the Commission. Any assignment under this Agreement shall not relieve a Party of its obligations, nor shall a Party's obligations be enlarged, in whole or in part, by reason thereof. SPP may not delegate in whole or in part its Delegated Authority to any other entity; provided, however, that nothing in this provision shall prohibit SPP from contracting with other entities to assist it in carrying out its Delegated Authority, provided SPP retains control and responsibility for such Delegated Authority.

10. Default and Cure. Upon a Breach, the non-breaching Party shall give written notice of such Breach to the breaching Party (the "Default Notice"). Subject to a suspension of the following deadlines as specified below, the breaching Party shall have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of the Default Notice within which to cure such Breach; provided however, that if such Breach is not capable of cure within thirty (30) calendar days, the breaching Party shall commence such cure within thirty (30) calendar days after notice and continuously and diligently complete such cure within ninety (90) calendar days from receipt of the Default Notice; and, if cured within such time, the Breach specified in such notice shall cease to exist. Subject to the limitation specified in the following sentence, if a Breach is not cured as provided in this article, or if a Breach is not capable of being cured within the period provided for herein, the nonbreaching Party shall have the right to declare a default and terminate this Agreement by written notice at any time until cure occurs, and be relieved of any further obligation hereunder. The deadlines for cure and the right to declare a default and terminate this Agreement shall be suspended during the pendency of any efforts or proceedings in accordance with Section 17 of this Agreement to resolve a dispute as to whether a Breach has occurred. The provisions of this article will survive termination of this Agreement.

11. Term and Termination.

(a) This Agreement shall become effective April 5, 2008, pursuant to the March 21, 2008 Order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (122 FERC 61,245).

(b) The initial term of the Agreement shall be three (3) years from the original effective date of May 2, 2007, prior to which time NERC shall conduct an audit pursuant to subsections 6(e) and 7(i) to ensure that SPP continues to meet all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements necessary to maintain its eligibility for delegation. If SPP meets such requirements, this Agreement may be renewed for another five (5) year term. If this Agreement is not renewed or becomes subject to termination for any reason, the Parties shall work to ensure a transition of SPP's Delegated Authority to NERC or to another eligible entity. The termination of this Agreement shall not take effect until such transition has been effected, unless the transition period exceeds one year, at which time SPP may unilaterally terminate.

(c) If any provision of this Agreement, or the application thereof to any person, entity or circumstance, is held by a court or regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, or if a modification or condition to this Agreement is imposed by a regulatory authority exercising jurisdiction over this Agreement, the Parties shall endeavor in good faith to negotiate such amendment or amendments to this Agreement as will restore the relative benefits and obligations of the signatories under this Agreement immediately prior to such holding, modification or condition. If either Party finds such holding, modification or condition unacceptable and the Parties are unable to renegotiate a mutually acceptable resolution, either Party may unilaterally terminate this Agreement. Such termination shall be effective one year following written notice by either Party to the other Party and to the Commission, or at such other time as may be mutually agreed by SPP and NERC.

(d) Notwithstanding any termination of this Agreement, provisions contained in Limitation of Liability (Section 12), No Third Party Beneficiaries (Section 13) and Confidentiality (Section 14) shall survive this Agreement in accordance with their terms until sixty (60) days following the expiration of any applicable statute of limitations.

12. Limitation of Liability. SPP and NERC agree not to sue each other or their directors, officers, employees, and persons serving on their committees and subgroups based on any act or omission of any of the foregoing in the performance of duties pursuant to this Agreement or in conducting activities under the authority of Section 215 of the Act, other than seeking a review

of such action or inaction by the Commission. NERC and SPP shall not be liable to one another for any damages whatsoever, including without limitation, direct, indirect, incidental, special, multiple, consequential (including attorneys' fees and litigation costs), exemplary, or punitive damages arising out of or resulting from any act or omission associated with the performance of the SPP's or NERC's responsibilities under this Agreement or in conducting activities under the authority of Section 215 of the Act, except to the extent that the SPP or NERC is found liable for gross negligence or intentional misconduct, in which case SPP or NERC shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, special, multiple, consequential (including without limitation attorneys' fees and litigation costs), exemplary, or punitive damages.

13. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create any duty to, any standard of care with reference to, or any liability to any third party.

14. Confidentiality. During the course of the Parties' performance under this Agreement, a Party may receive Confidential Information, as defined in Section 1500 of NERC's Rules of Procedure. Except as set forth herein, the Parties agree to keep in confidence and not to copy, disclose, or distribute any Confidential Information or any part thereof, without the prior written permission of the issuing Party, unless disclosure is required by subpoena, law, or other directive of a court, administrative agency, or arbitration panel, in which event the recipient hereby agrees to provide the Party that provided the Confidential Information with prompt notice of such request or requirement in order to enable such issuing Party to (a) seek an appropriate protective order or other remedy, (b) consult with the recipient with respect to taking steps to resist or narrow the scope of such request or legal process, or (c) waive compliance, in whole or in part, with the terms of this Section. In the event a protective order or other remedy is not obtained or the issuing Party waives compliance with the provisions, the recipient agrees to furnish only that portion of the Confidential Information which the recipient's counsel advises is legally required and to exercise best efforts to obtain assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded to such Confidential Information. In addition, each Party shall ensure that its officers, trustees, directors, employees, subcontractors and subcontractors' employees, and agents to whom Confidential Information is exposed are under obligations of confidentiality that are at least as restrictive as those contained herein. This

confidentiality provision does not prohibit reporting and disclosure as directed by NERC, as set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement.

15. Amendment. Neither this Agreement nor any of the terms hereof, may be amended unless such amendment is made in writing, signed by the Parties, and filed with and approved by the Commission.

16. Amendments to the NERC Rules. NERC shall not adopt amendments to the NERC Rules that conflict with the rights, obligations, or programs of SPP under this Agreement without first obtaining the consent of SPP, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. To the extent SPP does not consent, NERC shall have the right to invoke the dispute resolution provisions of Section 17 and, if such effort fails to resolve the dispute, to petition the Commission to adopt the amendment to the NERC Rules. To the extent that the Commission issues an order amending or materially affecting the rights or obligations of SPP under this Agreement, SPP shall have the option, exercisable no later than 60 days after issuance of such order, to terminate this Agreement. Such termination shall be effective one year following written notice by SPP to NERC and the Commission, or at such other time as may be mutually agreed by SPP and NERC.

17. Dispute Resolution. In the event a dispute arises under this Agreement between NERC and SPP, representatives of the Parties with authority to settle the dispute shall meet and confer in good faith in an effort to resolve the dispute in a timely manner. In the event the designated representatives are unable to resolve the dispute within thirty (30) days or such other period as the Parties may agree upon, each Party shall have all rights to pursue all remedies, except as expressly limited by the terms of this Agreement. Neither Party shall have the right to pursue other remedies until the Dispute Resolution procedures of this Section 17 have been exhausted. This Section 17 shall not apply to enforcement actions against individual entities.

18. Notice. Whether expressly so stated or not, all notices, demands, requests, and other communications required or permitted by or provided for in this Agreement shall be given in writing to a Party at the address set forth below, or at such other address as a Party shall

designate for itself in writing in accordance with this Section, and shall be delivered by hand or reputable overnight courier:

If to NERC:

North American Electric
Reliability Corporation
116-390 Village Blvd.
Princeton, NJ 08540-5721

Attn: David Nevius
Facsimile: (609) 452-9550

If to SPP:

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
415 N. McKinley
Suite 140
Little Rock, AR 72205_____

Attn: Michael Desselle
Facsimile: (501) 664-9553

19. Governing Law. When not in conflict with or preempted by federal law, this Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of New Jersey without giving effect to the conflict of law principles thereof. The Parties recognize and agree not to contest the exclusive or primary jurisdiction of the Commission to interpret and apply this Agreement; provided however that if the Commission declines to exercise or is precluded from exercising jurisdiction of any action arising out of or concerning this Agreement, such action shall be brought in any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in New Jersey. All Parties hereby consent to the jurisdiction of any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in New Jersey for the purpose of hearing and determining any action not heard and determined by the Commission.

20. Headings. The headings and captions in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not define, limit, or otherwise affect any of the terms or provisions hereof.

21. Savings Clause. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to preempt or limit any authority that SPP may have to adopt reliability requirements or take other actions to ensure reliability of the bulk power system within the geographic boundaries described in **Exhibit A** that are outside the authority delegated from NERC, as long as such reliability requirements and actions are not inconsistent with Reliability Standards applicable to the region described in **Exhibit A** and do not result in a lessening of reliability outside the region described in **Exhibit A**.

22. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, among the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.

23. **Execution of Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and each shall have the same force and effect as the original.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized representatives, effective as of the date first above written.

NORTH AMERICAN
ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.

By: _____

By: _____

Name: David A. Whiteley

Name: Nicholas A. Brown

Title: Executive Vice President

Title: President

Date: _____, 2008

Date: _____, 2008

Regional Boundaries

Exhibit A Regional Boundaries

The geographic boundaries of Southwest Power Pool (SPP) are determined by the service areas of its membership, comprised of investor-owned utilities, municipal, cooperative, state and federal systems, merchant electricity generators and power marketers.

SPP covers an area of approximately 255,000 square miles of service territory (purple region depicted below) in all or part of eight states: Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Service provided by SPP members in areas which overlap with neighboring regions:

- ◆ The area in northeastern Oklahoma is served by Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company, Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, Grand River Dam Authority, and AEP West.
- ◆ The area in Arkansas is served by Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company, and AEP West.
- ◆ The area in western Missouri is served by Aquila, Empire District Electric Company, City Power & Light (Independence, MO), City Utilities (Springfield, MO), Grand River Dam Authority, Kansas City Power & Light Company, City Power & Light (Independence, MO), and Southwestern Power Administration.

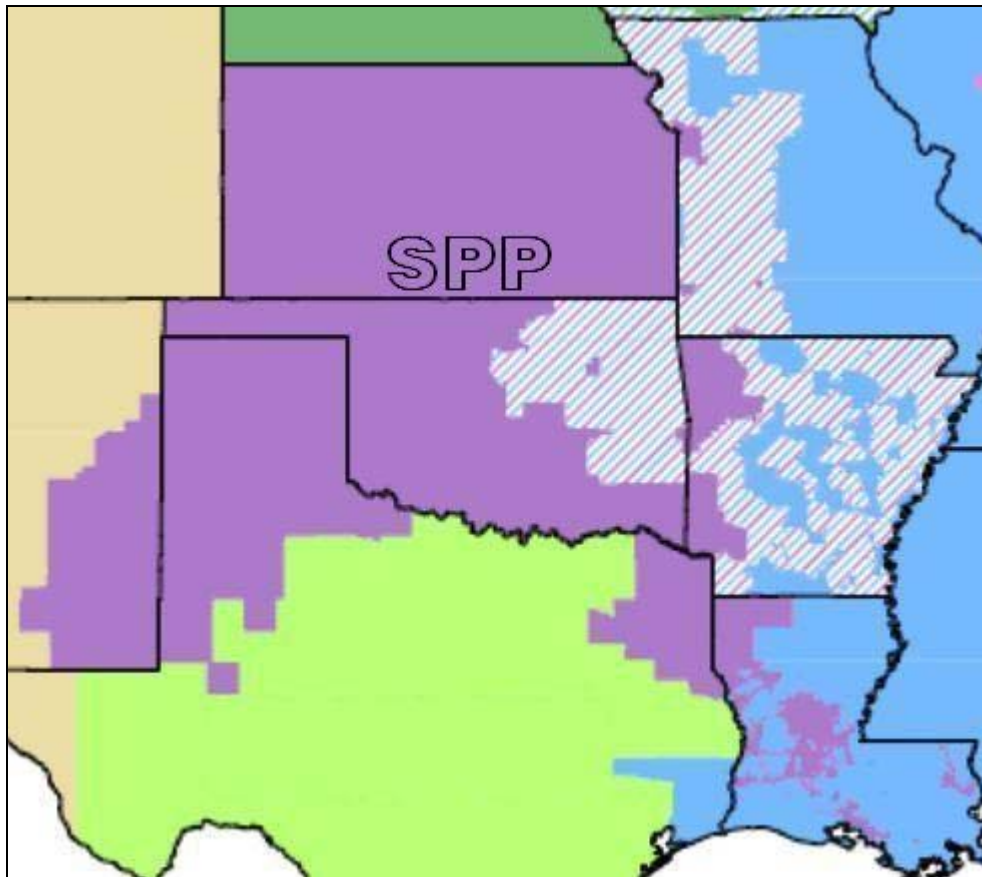


Exhibit B – Governance

Exhibit B shall set forth the Regional Entity’s bylaws, which NERC agrees demonstrate that the Regional Entity meets the following criteria:

CRITERION 1: The Regional Entity shall be governed by an independent board, a balanced stakeholder board, or a combination independent and balanced stakeholder board. (Federal Power Act § 215(e)(4)(A), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(1), Order No. 672 at ¶ 727.)

CRITERION 2: The Regional Entity has established rules that assure its independence of the users and owners and operators of the bulk power system, while assuring fair stakeholder representation in the selection of its directors. Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶¶ 699, 700.)

CRITERION 3: If the Regional Entity has members, the Regional Entity has established rules that assure that its membership is open, that it charges no more than a nominal membership fee and agrees to waive the fee for good cause shown, and that membership is not a condition for participating in the development of or voting on proposed Regional Reliability Standards. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶¶ 170-173.)

CRITERION 4: The Regional Entity has established rules that assure balance in its decision-making committees and subordinate organizational structures and assure no two industry sectors can control any action and no one industry sector can veto any action. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶ 728.)

CRITERION 5: The Regional Entity has established rules that provide reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment, due process, openness, and balance of interests in exercising its duties. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(D) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2).)

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
Bylaws
Original Volume No. 4

Prepared for Compliance Filing

July 21, 2008

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

BYLAWS

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Southwest Power Pool Bylaws
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B Y L A W S
of
Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

PREAMBLE

The values and principles upon which SPP is incorporated and formed include: a relationship-based organization; member-driven processes; independence through diversity of Organizational Group membership; recognition that reliability and economic/equity issues are inseparable; and, deliberate evolutionary, as opposed to revolutionary, implementation of new concepts. These values and principles should guide those serving this organization. The Board of Directors will endeavor to ensure equity to all Members while also assuring the continuous adaptation to controlling conditions within these stated values and principles.

1.0 DEFINITIONS

1.1 Affiliate Relationships

Affiliate Relationships are relationships between SPP Members that have one or more of the following attributes in common:

- (a) are subsidiaries of the same company;
- (b) one Member is a subsidiary of another Member;
- (c) have, through an agency agreement, turned control of a majority of their generation facilities over to another Member;
- (d) have, through an agency agreement, turned control of a majority of their transmission system over to another Member, except to the extent that the facilities are turned over to an independent transmission company recognized by FERC;
- (e) have an exclusive marketing alliance between Members; or
- (f) ownership by one Member of ten percent or greater of another Member.

1.2 Articles of Incorporation

SPP's articles of incorporation as filed with the state of Arkansas.

1.3 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of SPP, which shall manage the general business of SPP pursuant to these Bylaws.

1.4 Bylaws

These bylaws.

1.5 Existing Obligations

Certain financial obligations as defined in Section 8.7.1 of these Bylaws.

1.6 ERO

The Electric Reliability Organization under FERC jurisdiction that regulates reliability of the electric power grid.

1.7 Member

An entity that has met the requirements of Section 2.2 of these Bylaws.

1.8 Membership

The collective Members of SPP.

1.9 Membership Agreement

The contract, that specifies the rights and obligations of the parties, executed between SPP and an entity seeking to become an SPP member.

1.10 Net Energy for Load

The electrical energy requirements of an electric system are defined as system net generation plus energy received from others, less energy delivered to others through interchange. It includes system losses but excludes energy required for the storage at energy storage facilities.

1.11 Officers

The officers of SPP as elected by the Board of Directors. The Officers consist of the President and the Corporate Secretary, at a minimum. Any Officer must be independent of any Member organization.

1.12 Organizational Group

A group, other than the Board of Directors, comprising a committee or working group that is charged with specific responsibilities toward accomplishing SPP's mission.

1.13 Regional Criteria

SPP planning and operating standards and procedures as approved by the Board of Directors.

1.14 Regional Entity Trustees

A governing body of SPP, independent of the Board of Directors, which specifically oversees SPP's function as an ERO Regional Entity pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

1.15 Regional Reliability Standards

Electric reliability requirements submitted to the ERO by the Regional Entity Trustees; and once approved, implemented and enforced by SPP under authority as the Regional Entity.

1.16 Registered Entity(ies)

A bulk electric system owner, operator or user that is required to comply with ERO reliability standards pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

1.17 SPP

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

1.18 SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

1.19 SPP Regional Entity

That part of SPP responsible for the delegated functions pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

1.20 Staff

The technical and administrative staff of SPP as hired by the Officers to accomplish SPP's mission.

1.21 Standards Development Team

An SPP Organizational Group assigned or choosing to develop an SPP Regional Reliability Standard for submission to the ERO for approval for enforcement.

1.21 Transmission Owning Member

A Member that has placed more than 500 miles of non-radial facilities operated at or above 60 kV under the independent administration of SPP for the provision of regional transmission service as set forth in the Membership Agreement.

1.22 Transmission Using Member

A Member that does not meet the definition of a Transmission Owning Member.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Qualifications

Membership in SPP is voluntary and is open to any electric utility, Federal power marketing agency, transmission service provider, any entity engaged in the business of producing, selling and/or purchasing electric energy for resale, and any entity willing to meet the membership requirements, including execution of the Membership Agreement. Membership also is open to any entity eligible to take service under the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT). These entities desire the greater efficiency and service reliability gained through better coordination by voluntary association in SPP as constituted herein and in the SPP Articles of Incorporation. Members recognize that such association has a significant effect upon the availability and reliability of the bulk electric power supply of the region, and thereby affects the reliability of the nation's electric power supply.

2.2 Applications

Membership by an entity shall be obtained upon meeting the following requirements:

- (a) Meeting membership qualifications;
- (b) Providing an application for membership to the SPP President; and
- (c) Executing the Membership Agreement and delivering a signed copy to the President.

The President shall review applications, approve those meeting membership qualifications and promptly give written notice of the new Member to all other Members. The Board of Directors will review any disputes arising as to the qualifications of the new Member. Membership will commence at the beginning of the next calendar month following completion of these requirements.

2.3 Member Responsibilities and Obligations

Members recognize that SPP exists and operates for the benefit of the bulk electric transmission system and to ensure the reliability of the nation's power supply. As such, Members are required to act to further these goals by participating in projects, and complying with regulatory requirements. Failure to comply with these provisions will be considered a violation of these Bylaws and the Member may be removed in accordance with the provisions for *Removal of Members* in the Membership Agreement.

2.4 Termination, Removal and Reinstatement

The Board of Directors may terminate the membership of any Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement. The President shall promptly give written notice of the removal to all other Members. Any former Member seeking to rejoin SPP shall apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement. In its application for reinstatement, the former Member shall:

- (a) provide evidence that it has fully paid any accrued financial obligation to SPP;
- (b) demonstrate it has corrected the reason for its removal;
- (c) establish that it will be in compliance with SPP membership requirements; and
- (d) deliver an executed Membership Agreement to the President.

2.5 Participation in Regional Entity Activities

Participation in SPP Regional Entity activities is open to the public and does not require membership in SPP, Inc. nor any of the obligations of membership, including SPP, Inc.'s annual fee.

3.0 ORGANIZATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Structure

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Member input on decision-making shall be accomplished primarily through Membership participation in Organizational Groups. Members are expected to provide representation to Organizational Groups as requested. Working group representation will be appointed by the Board of Directors, who shall consider the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations, to achieve a widespread and effective representation of the Membership. The Chair of any Organizational Group may appoint any ad hoc task forces as necessary to fulfill its mission. Task force appointments shall be made with due consideration of the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations. Participation in certain sessions of Organizational Group meetings where market sensitive issues are discussed may be restricted to persons representing entities that have executed ERO's Confidentiality Agreement. Representatives on all Organizational Groups will be documented in the SPP directory maintained by the Staff. Organizational Group vacancies will be filled on an interim basis by appointment of the President unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.

3.2 Proxy

If a Member's designated representative is unable to attend an Organizational Group meeting, it may in writing appoint a substitute representative who shall have such rights to participate and vote as the Member specifies.

3.3 Leadership

3.3.1 Appointment

The Chair of all Organizational Groups shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration and appointment by the Board of Directors. A Vice Chair shall be elected by the members of an Organizational Group, unless provided otherwise in these Bylaws.

A Vice Chair shall act for a Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) if the Chair becomes incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the position; or
- (c) if the position of the Chair becomes vacant, until a new Chair takes office.

3.3.2 Terms

The terms of the Chair and Vice Chair of all Organizational Groups shall coincide with the two-year term of the Chair of the Board of Directors. Working Group representation will be reviewed for appropriateness by the Corporate Governance Committee.

3.3.3 Vacancies

Should any individual having been appointed as a Chair of any Organizational Group be unable to serve for the term specified, or be unable to serve on a NERC Organizational Group under provisions of these Bylaws, a replacement shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Directors for the unexpired term of office.

3.4 Executive Authority

The Officers shall carry out the rights, duties, and obligations of SPP pursuant to the authority granted by the Board of Directors. Officers will execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for all employees of SPP. The Officers shall be empowered to:

- (a) employ qualified technical and administrative employees;
- (b) engage office space;
- (c) employ outside technical and special service organizations;
- (d) execute contracts;
- (e) provide for independent regional reliability coordination and transmission service administration;
- (f) serve as SPP's representative before regulatory bodies, NERC, and in other public forums;
- (g) incur reasonable expenses; and
- (h) make Staff resources available to individual Members or groups of Members on a non-firm, non-priority, first-come-first-serve basis so as not to interfere with current or future needs and priorities established by SPP.

3.5 Meetings

Organizational Groups shall meet as necessary. SPP meetings shall be open, however, any Organizational Group may limit attendance at a meeting by an affirmative vote of the Organizational Group as necessary to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information, included but not limited to Order 889 Code of Conduct requirements, personnel, financial, or legal

matters. Representatives shall be given at least fifteen days written notice of the date, time, place and purpose of each regular or special meeting. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair of any Organizational Group with at least one-day prior notice.

3.6 Order of Business

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order will generally govern all SPP meetings on any point not specifically covered in these Bylaws.

3.7 Expenses

The expenses of a representative participating in the activities of SPP Organizational Groups and task forces shall be borne by that representative.

3.8 Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership shall be those Members present. The quorum for any other Organizational Group or task force shall be one-half of the membership thereof, but not less than three members; provided, that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time.

3.9 Voting

Except as provided for in Section 9.5 of these Bylaws, each participant in an Organizational Group shall have one vote. Upon joining, Members shall be assigned to one of two Membership sectors for the sole purpose of voting: Transmission Owning Members, or Transmission Using Members. Markets and Operations Policy Committee and Membership actions are taken in the following process. Each sector votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. Then the action is approved if the average of these two percentages is at least sixty-six percent. If no Members are present within a sector, the single present sector-voting ratio will determine approval. A simple majority of participants present or represented by proxy and voting shall be required for all other Organizational Group and task force action.

3.10 Appeal

Should any Member or group of Members disagree on an action taken or recommended by any Organizational Group, such Member(s) may, in writing, appeal and submit an alternate recommendation to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting at which consideration of the action by the Board of Directors is scheduled.

3.11 Staff Independence and Support

SPP Staff members will be required to execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment and annually thereafter. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for employees of SPP. The President shall assign to each Organizational Group an SPP Staff member, who shall attend all meetings and act as secretary to the Organizational Group and any ad hoc task forces of that group. Staff secretaries of all Organizational Groups and task forces shall be non-voting. Minutes shall be kept of pertinent discussion, business transacted, decisions reached, and actions taken at each meeting of SPP Organizational Groups or task forces by the secretary. Minutes shall be considered published documents upon their approval by the Organizational Group or task force.

3.12 Publications and Data Bases

SPP shall publish and distribute printed reports as necessary to fulfill the SPP mission. SPP shall also develop and maintain electronic databases of relevant technical information as approved by the Board of Directors. The release of information in databases containing member-specific technical data considered proprietary in nature will be governed by the Membership Agreement and related Criteria and administered by the Staff. In the event member specific non-proprietary technical data is being distributed, SPP will provide written notice of the specific data submitted, to whom it is being submitted and the purpose of such submittal to the respective Member at the same time the data is provided to the requesting party. Publications and technical data will be made available at no charge to Members, other regional councils and their members, and federal and state agencies. Other parties requesting SPP publications or technical data will be charged an amount equivalent to production, handling and delivery costs.

3.13 Dispute Resolution

These procedures are established for the equitable, efficient and expeditious resolution of disputes. These procedures are intended to cover disputes between any two or more Members, between Members and consenting non-members or between SPP and any Member(s) or

consenting non-member(s). SPP and Members are strongly encouraged to take part in the complete process herein described prior to litigation or the utilization of other dispute resolution processes. SPP administrative involvement in the proceeding is to coordinate assembly of a non-biased and independent dispute resolution panel to facilitate the resolution of the dispute and to provide meeting coordination and facilities. If SPP is a party to the dispute, its administrative duties shall be turned over to a contracted facilitator mutually selected by the disputing parties. These procedures do not apply to disputes that are covered by the dispute resolution procedures of the SPP OATT or the SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

3.13.1 Instigation

Any Member may begin these dispute resolution procedures by making a request in writing to the President. The President will forward copies of this request to the Board of Directors. This written request must contain the authorized signatures of all parties to the dispute. The request must contain:

- (a) a statement of the issues in dispute;
- (b) the positions of each of the parties relating to each of the issues;
- (c) the specific dispute resolution procedure desired; and
- (d) any agreed-upon modifications or specific additions to the proceedings described in these Bylaws by which the dispute may be resolved.

3.13.2 Dispute Resolution Panel

The President shall immediately provide to each party to the dispute a list of candidates to be used in forming a three-person dispute resolution panel. This list shall be maintained by SPP and can be added to at any time by any Member. This list shall contain at least seven persons meeting the requirements for directors. The President shall then call a telephone conference meeting. During this meeting, each party shall alternate striking names from the list until those remaining constitute the dispute resolution panel. This panel shall select a chair from its membership. Should any candidate decline to serve or resign from a current appointment for any reason, the candidate whose name was last struck from the list shall automatically be contacted to serve. The President shall assign a Staff representative to assist the panel as

secretary. The President shall manage the panel selection process to ensure its completion within one week from receipt of the request.

3.13.3 Resolution Procedures

The types of proceedings available for the resolution of disputes are:

- (a) An Advisory Proceeding to assist each party through discussion and advice, on a separate and individual basis without active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations, to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (b) A Mediation Proceeding to assist the parties through active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations (including specific recommendations of the issues in dispute) through which the parties indirectly attempt to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (c) A non-binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of fact, and issue specific written recommendations for resolution of each issue in dispute.
- (d) A binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of fact, and issue directives and awards for resolution of each issue in dispute.

The panel chair shall determine meeting arrangements and format necessary to efficiently expedite the resolution of the dispute, and the Staff secretary shall notify the parties of these details. Each party to the dispute must have at least one representative present at all related meetings with full authority to resolve the dispute. Upon conclusion of this process, the panel chair shall notify the President of its outcome. After consultation with the parties to the dispute and the panel chair to determine the completion of the process as described herein, and/or as modified by the parties, the President shall discharge the panel, and notify the Board of Directors of the results. The parties to the dispute agree to complete the process within 90 days from selection of the panel. The Staff secretary shall maintain minutes of the panel meetings, which shall become part of SPP's historical records.

3.13.4 Expenses

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The parties to the dispute shall share equally all reasonable charges for the meeting location, administrative costs, and related travel expenses of panel members. The parties to the dispute shall also share equally all reasonable compensation for time and service of panel members and related incremental expenses of the SPP Staff. The President shall determine reasonableness of time and service costs for panel members prior to process implementation. The SPP Staff secretary shall account for these expenses. Each party to the dispute shall be responsible for their respective associated expenses.

3.13.5 Liability

The parties to any dispute which is the subject of these dispute resolution procedures shall hold harmless SPP, its Members, Organizational Groups and each of their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives, and the panel members from any liabilities, claims, or damages resulting from any agreement or lack of agreement as a result of the dispute resolution proceedings. The foregoing hold harmless right shall not be extended to the parties to any given dispute or to their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives.

3.14 Meeting of Members

The Chair of the Board of Directors shall convene and preside over meetings of Members for the purpose of electing directors to positions becoming vacant in the ensuing year, and any other necessary business. The Membership shall meet at least once per calendar year.

3.15 Liability, Insurance and Indemnification

For purposes of this section “SPP” refers to SPP and its officers, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, employees or agents, and “Member” refers to the Members of SPP as defined in these Bylaws. None of the provisions of this section, including the waiver of liability in Section 3.15.1 below, absolving SPP or its Members, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officer, agents, employees or other representatives of liability or any provisions for insurance or indemnification apply to actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

3.15.1 Waiver of Liability

- (a) SPP shall not be liable to any Member for damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action, or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.

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- (b) No Member shall be liable to any other Member or to SPP for damages arising out of or related to any action by the Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (c) Each Member waives any future claim it might have against SPP or other Members arising out of or resulting from any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (d) SPP waives any future claim it might have against any Member arising out of or resulting from any actions taken by a Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.

3.15.2 Insurance

The President is authorized to procure insurance to protect SPP, its directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives against damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria or pursuant to the OATT.

3.15.3 Indemnification of Directors, Officers, Agents and Employees

Except for actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct, SPP shall indemnify its directors, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives to the maximum extent allowed by law consistent with these Bylaws. Each director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative of SPP shall be indemnified by SPP against all judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses, including legal fees, incurred as a result of, or in connection with, any threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative proceedings to which the incumbent may be made a party by reason of acting or having acted in official capacity as a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or representative of SPP, or in any other capacity which the incumbent may hold at the request of SPP, as its representative in any other organization, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative must have acted in good faith and, in the case of criminal

proceedings, must have had no reasonable cause to believe that conduct was unlawful; provided, that SPP shall not provide indemnification of any conduct judged unlawful in criminal proceedings. When acting in official capacity, the incumbent must have reasonably believed that conduct was in the best interests of SPP, and, when acting in any other capacity, must have reasonably believed that conduct was at least not opposed to the best interests of SPP.

- (b) If the proceeding was brought by or on behalf of SPP, however, indemnification shall be made only with respect to reasonable expenses referenced above. No indemnification of any kind shall be made in any such proceeding in which the director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have been adjudged liable to SPP.
- (c) In no event, however, will indemnification be made with respect to any described proceeding which charges or alleges improper personal benefit to a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative and where liability is imposed on the basis of the receipt of such improper personal benefit.
- (d) In order for any director, Regional Entity Trustee, agent, employee, or other representative to receive indemnification under this provision, the person shall vigorously assert and pursue any and all defenses to those claims, charges, or proceedings covered herein which are reasonable and legally available and shall fully cooperate with SPP or any attorneys involved in the defense of any such claim, charges, or proceedings on behalf of SPP.
- (e) No indemnification shall be made in any specific instance until it has been determined by SPP that indemnification is permissible in that specific case, under the standards set forth herein and that any expenses claimed or to be incurred are reasonable. These two (2) determinations shall be made by a majority vote of at least a quorum of the Board of Directors consisting solely of directors who were not parties to the proceeding for which indemnification or reimbursement of expenses is claimed. If such a quorum cannot be obtained, a majority of at least a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including directors who are parties to said

proceeding, shall designate a special legal counsel who shall make said determinations on behalf of SPP.

- (f) Any reasonable expenses, as shall be determined above, that have been incurred by a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative who has been made a party to a proceeding as defined herein, may be paid or reimbursed in advance upon a majority vote of a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including those who may be a party to the same proceeding. However, such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have provided SPP with (i) a written affirmation under oath that the incumbent, in good faith, believes the conditions of indemnification herein have been met; and (ii) a written undertaking that the incumbent shall repay any amounts advanced, with interest accumulated at a reasonable rate, if it is ultimately determined that such conditions are not met.

3.15.4 Limitations

The provisions of this section 3.15 are subject to applicable state and federal laws, if any, which limit the ability of a Member to waive liability or enter into agreements of indemnity. Any benefits under this Section 3.15 shall not extend to any Member so limited by state or federal law in complying with the provisions thereof.

3.16 Compliance with Membership Requirements

Monitoring of Members and Staff shall be performed to ensure compliance with all requirements of Membership. Certain SPP compliance monitoring functions, as detailed in Section 9.0, shall be performed in concert with related ERO programs, and will be overseen by the Regional Entity Trustees. Other monitoring functions shall be provided by appropriate SPP staff under the oversight of the Oversight Committee and the Board of Directors. Compliance monitoring shall be an after-the-fact investigative and assessment function performed by appropriate SPP staff.

Monitoring functions shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved Bylaws, Regional Criteria, OATT, and agreements between SPP and its Members;

- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible non-compliance with Membership requirements;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in order to investigate non-compliance with Membership requirements upon approval from the Oversight Committee;
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of Membership requirements are determined and documented;
- (e) Imposition of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance associated with the results of investigations or audits pursuant to approved policies and/or Criteria;
- (f) Confirmation that SPP is conforming to its own Regional Criteria, OATT, business practices, and reliability operations in a manner that does not stifle the efficiency of the energy markets;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and
- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define requirements, and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance with Membership requirements.

3.17 Market Monitoring

SPP shall establish and provide appropriate support to a market monitoring function through an independent contractor possessing the requisite experience and qualifications. Market monitoring functions shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the SPP transmission system, the operation of a robust, competitive and non-discriminatory electric power market, and the principle that a Member or group of Members shall not have undue influence or impact.

The market monitoring entity shall be selected by and report to the Board of Directors. Any reports submitted shall be concurrently provided to the Board of Directors and the appropriate regulatory body or bodies. The President shall ensure that the market monitoring entity has adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of its duties.

Market monitoring functions shall include but are not limited to:

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- (a) Monitoring and reporting on compliance and market power issues relating to transmission services, including compliance and market power issues involving congestion management and ancillary services and the potential of any market participant(s) to exercise market power within the region by affecting available transmission capacity;
- (b) Evaluation and recommendation of any required modifications to the OATT, standards or Criteria
- (c) Ensuring that the monitoring program is conducted in an independent and objective manner;
- (d) Development of reporting procedures to inform governmental agencies and others concerning market monitoring activities;
- (e) Monitoring the behavior of market participants to determine whether there is any behavior that hinders the reliable, efficient and non-discriminatory provision of transmission service by SPP;
- (f) Ensuring that SPP's involvement in markets does not discriminate in favor of any market participant or its own interests; and
- (g) Developing plans for mitigating market power, subject to appropriate regulatory approval.

4.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.1 Duties

The Board of Directors shall at all times act in the best interest of SPP in its management, control and direction of the general business of SPP. The Board of Directors shall solicit and consider a straw vote from the Members Committee as an indication of the level of consensus among Members in advance of taking any actions other than those occurring in executive session. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Direct activities of all SPP Organizational Groups;
- (b) Serve on SPP Organizational Groups;
- (c) Remove Members, and approve the re-entry of Members that have been removed;
- (d) Authorize all major contracts and debt instruments;

- (e) Select and review the performance of Officers, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors;
- (f) Determine positions, duties, qualifications, salaries, benefits and other necessary matters pertaining to the SPP Staff;
- (g) Review, approve, disapprove or recommend revision to the actions of any Organizational Group;
- (h) Act on appeals pursuant to Section 3.10;
- (i) Approve and implement Regional Criteria for enforcement under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement.
- (j) Provide input with the Members Committee to the Regional Entity Trustees, on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval.
- (k) Approve or revise the operating and capital budgets and any additional expenditures;
- (l) Convene a meeting of Members at least annually;
- (m) Approve amendments to these Bylaws;
- (n) Approve amendments to the Membership Agreement;
- (o) Approve Regional Criteria pertaining to planning and operating standards and policies and penalties for non-compliance with such Regional Criteria; and
- (p) Authorize filings with regulatory bodies.

4.2 Composition and Qualifications

4.2.1 Composition

The Board of Directors shall consist of seven persons. The seven directors shall be independent of any Member; one director shall be the President of SPP. A Director shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve. The President shall be excluded from voting on business related to the office of President or the incumbent of that office. No other Staff member shall be permitted to serve as a director.

4.2.2 Qualifications

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Directors shall have recent and relevant senior management expertise and experience in one or more of the following disciplines: finance, accounting, electric transmission or generation planning or operation, law and regulation, commercial markets, and trading and associated risk management.

4.2.3 Conflicts of Interest

Directors shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member or customer of services provided by SPP. Directors may indirectly own securities through a mutual fund or similar arrangement (other than a fund or arrangement specifically targeted toward the electric industry or any segments thereof) under which the director does not control the purchase or sale of such securities. Participation in a pension plan of a Member or customer shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's or customer's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

4.3 Term and Election

Except for the President, a director shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. Initial staggering of terms will be decided by lottery with two directors' terms to expire in the first year, two in the second year, and two in the third year. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least three months prior to the meeting of Members when election of new directors is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons equal in number to the directors to be elected;
- (b) At least one month prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall notify the President in writing of the persons it nominates for election as directors, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The President shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;

- (c) For purposes of electing or removing directors only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee or nominees may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded by Members; and
- (e) At the meeting of Members, the required number of directors shall be elected by written ballot. Each sector of the Membership votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. Each Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidates receiving the highest percent of the average of approving vote ratios within each Membership sector will fill vacancies.

4.4 Resignation and Removal of Directors

Any director may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a director with cause by the vote of a majority of each Membership sector at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A director who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

4.5 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will present to the Board of Directors for consideration and election an interim director to serve until a replacement director is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement director shall take office immediately following the election.

4.6 Functioning of the Board of Directors

In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of any Organizational Group or task force, the Board of Directors shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws.

4.6.1 Meetings and Notice of Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet at least three times per calendar year and additionally upon the call of the Chair or upon concurrence of at least four directors. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the President to each director, the Members Committee, and the Regional State Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting of the Board of Directors, unless such notice is waived by the Board of Directors. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair with at least one-day prior notice. Board of Directors' meetings shall include the Members Committee and a representative from the Regional State Committee (as defined in Section 7.2) for all meetings except when in executive session; provided however, the failure of representatives of the Members Committee and/or of the Regional State Committee to attend, in whole or in part, shall not prevent the Board of Directors from convening and conducting business, and taking binding votes. The Chair shall grant any Member's request to address the Board of Directors.

4.6.2 Chair and Vice Chair; Election and Terms

The Board of Directors shall elect from its membership a Chair and Vice Chair for two-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office or until their term as a director expires without re-election. The President of SPP may not serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Vice Chair shall act for the Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) in the event the Chair should become incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the office; or
- (c) if the office of Chair becomes vacant, until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. The Chair shall appoint a director to fill a vacant Vice Chair position until the next meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Vice Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy.

4.6.3 Quorum and Voting

Five of the directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors; provided that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time. Decisions of the Board of Directors shall

be by simple majority vote of the directors present and voting. Directors must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. Voting will be by secret ballot. The Secretary will collect and tally the ballots, and announce the results of a vote. Only voting results will be announced and recorded in the minutes; individual votes will not be announced or recorded.

4.6.4 Compensation of Directors

Directors shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, and approved by the Membership, and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

4.6.5 Executive Session

Executive sessions (open only to directors and to parties invited by the Chair) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Board of Directors to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial, or legal matters.

5.0 COMMITTEES ADVISING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5.1 Members Committee

The Members Committee shall work with the Board of Directors to manage and direct the general business of SPP. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Provide individual and collective input to the Board of Directors, including but not limited to a straw vote from the Members Committee representatives as an indication of the level of consensus among Members, on all actions pending before the Board of Directors; and
- (b) Serve on committees reporting to the Board of Directors as appointed by the Board of Directors.
- (c) Provide input with the Board of Directors to the Regional Entity Trustees on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval.

5.1.1 Composition and Qualifications

5.1.1.1 Composition

Provided that Membership is sufficient to accommodate these provisions, the Members Committee shall consist of up to 18 persons. Four representatives shall be investor owned utilities Members; four representatives shall be cooperatives Members; two representatives shall be municipals Members (including municipal joint action agencies); three representatives shall be independent power producers/marketers Members; one representative shall be a state/federal power agencies Member; two representatives shall be alternative power/public interest Members; one representative shall be a large retail customer Member; defined as non-residential end-use customers with individual or aggregated loads of 1-MW or more; and one representative shall be a small retail customer Member, defined as residential customers and other customers with individual or aggregated loads of less than 1-MW. Representatives will be elected in accordance with Section 5.1.2 of these Bylaws.

5.1.1.2 Qualifications

A representative shall be an officer or employee of a Member with decision-making responsibility over SPP related activities, and must be the Member's representative to the Membership.

5.1.2 Term and Election

Representatives shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee and elected each year at the meeting of Members to staggered three-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office. Initial staggering of terms will be decided by lottery. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least three months prior to the meeting of Members at which election of new representatives is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall nominate persons equal in number to the representatives to be elected;
- (b) At least one month prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall notify the President in writing of the persons it nominates for election as representatives, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The President shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional

names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;

- (c) For purposes of electing and removing representatives only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single vote;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee or nominees may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded to add such nominee or nominees; and
- (e) At the meeting of Members, the required number of representatives shall be elected by written ballot. A Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of representatives to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidates in each sector receiving the greatest number of votes will fill vacancies.

5.1.3 Resignation and Removal of Members Committee Representatives

Any representative may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. A representative may be removed, with cause, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A representative who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

5.1.4 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee may elect an interim representative from the same sector to serve until a replacement representative from the same sector is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement representative shall take office immediately following the election.

5.1.5 Meetings

The Members Committee shall meet only with the Board of Directors.

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6.0 COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This section describes the general scopes and responsibilities of the Organizational Groups reporting directly to the Board of Directors. Nothing in this section is meant to limit these responsibilities or activities in the effort to fulfill SPP's mission.

6.1 Markets and Operations Policy Committee

Each SPP Member shall appoint a representative to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative designated shall be an officer or employee of the Member. The Board of Directors will appoint the Chair and Vice Chair of the MOPC. Each member of the MOPC may continue to be a member thereof until the appropriate Member appoints a successor.

The MOPC shall meet at least three times per calendar year, and additionally as needed. The MOPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each MOPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the MOPC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Markets and Operations Policy Committee shall include:

- (a) Recommend practices for system design, planning, adequacy, regional transmission service tariff, interconnections, operation, reliability, market designs and efficiency, and market power mitigation that will help to assure efficient and reliable power supply among the systems in SPP and SPP transmission customers;
- (b) Coordinate and review ERO Policies and Standards and their applicability to SPP, its Members, and Registered Entities in the SPP footprint;
- (c) Present any Regional Reliability Standards for ERO adoption in accordance with SPP's Standards Development Process;
- (d) Coordinate and oversee the work of any Standards Development Team(s);
- (e) Report to the Trustees on all standards recommended by working groups reporting to the MOPC;
- (f) Make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors and Regional Entity Trustees regarding SPP's compliance with ERO Policies and Standards;

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- (g) Review Member operating plans and problems that are pertinent to SPP planning and operation;
- (h) Maintain an annual series of load flow and short circuit models and associated stability data bases representing the current and planned electric network of the region, and maintain a data base of all transmission, generation, and supporting facilities within SPP;
- (i) Review and assess the current and planned electric system of the region;
- (j) Make use of studies available from other regions;
- (k) Recommend to the Board of Directors criteria for planning, operations, and to assist in the efficiency and vitality of the wholesale electricity market;
- (l) Coordinate inter-regional and intra-regional plans and facilitate planning, information exchange, and operations between inter-regional and intra-regional groups;
- (m) Develop a coordinated plan for intra-regional transmission for greater efficiency and reliability of electric power supply;
- (n) Recommend to the Board of Directors and Members individual or joint action to improve the operation of the systems comprising SPP;
- (o) Respond to activities as requested by the Strategic Planning Committee and the Board of Directors;
- (p) Monitor the current state and evolution of the electric energy supply industry and proactively recommend commercial practices that meet industry needs and promote commerce;
- (q) Work with all SPP Organizational Groups to promote a high standard of operational reliability;
- (r) Continue coordination of its efforts with the efforts of North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) and the ISO/RTO Council (IRC), including periodic review of NAESB business practices and IRC policies and their applicability to SPP and its Members;
- (s) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the MOPC is meeting its responsibilities; and

- (t) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.2 Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) shall be comprised of eleven members. Three representatives shall be from the Board of Directors; four representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and four representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the SPC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the SPC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The SPC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The SPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each SPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the SPC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Strategic Planning Committee shall include:

- (a) Gather information from SPP Members, customers, Staff, regulatory jurisdictions, market monitors, and legislative bodies on industry trends, forecasts and directions;
- (b) Assess the industry environment in which SPP will be operating;
- (c) Assess SPP's capabilities and competencies against the industry environment, including coordination with neighboring entities;
- (d) Develop and recommend to the Board of Directors a mission and vision statement and accompanying goals and objectives;
- (e) Formulate strategies to ensure achievement of SPP's mission statement, goals, objectives, and responsibilities, and recommend necessary modifications to SPP processes to carry out these strategies;

- (f) Work with other Organizational Groups in developing related action plans, schedules and budgets;
- (g) Review annually the structure of the Organizational Groups, and together with the Organizational Group Chairs, the charters of each Organizational Group, and recommend changes to the Board of Directors, as appropriate;
- (f) Review the self-assessments of the Organizational Groups to assure that they are being done on a consistent basis;
- (h) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the SPC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (j) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.3 Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee (HRC) shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the HRC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the HRC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The HRC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The HRC shall report to the Board of Directors following each HRC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the HRC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Human Resources Committee shall include assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibility to the Members, and investment community with respect to the oversight of:

- (a) The development and administration of employee benefit programs;
- (b) The effectiveness of SPP's compensation plan for employees and directors;
- (c) The activities of investment managers charged with managing employee benefit assets, including evaluation of performance;
- (d) Approve and monitor SPP staffing structure to ensure it accomplishes organizational mission;
- (e) Maintain current job description for the President and conduct annual performance evaluation;
- (f) Other duties and responsibilities detailed in the Human Resources Committee charter; and
- (g) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.4 Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee (OC) shall be comprised of three members from the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the OC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the OC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Board of Directors will fill the vacancy.

The OC shall meet as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The OC shall report to the Board of Directors following each OC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the OC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Oversight Committee shall include:

- (a) Oversee the process of monitoring compliance to SPP policies other than that assigned to the Regional Entity Trustees under these Bylaws;
- (b) Independently review activities of the Staff;
- (c) Hear and rule on appeals from Members regarding penalty assessment or fine distribution prior to dispute resolution proceedings;
- (d) Recommend Regional Criteria changes necessary for enforcement of mandatory compliance and in response to unclear enforcement provisions of Regional Criteria;

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- (e) Grant specific additional authority to the Staff responsible for the oversight monitoring function when needed to perform challenging investigations;
- (f) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the OC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (g) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.5 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee (FC) shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the FC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the FC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The FC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The FC shall report to the Board of Directors following each FC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the FC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Finance Committee shall include assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibility to the Members, and investment community with respect to its oversight of:

- (a) The quality and integrity of SPP's financial statements;
- (b) SPP's compliance with financially-based legal and regulatory requirements;
- (c) The independent auditor's qualifications, selection, and independence;
- (d) The performance of SPP's internal audit function and independent auditors;
- (e) The development and implementation of annual and long-term operating and capital budgets;

- (f) The management of risk;
- (g) Develop policies for management of debt financing and for long-term contracting;
- (h) Monitoring methodology for cost recovery to ensure continuing equity for Members;
- (i) Other duties and responsibilities detailed in the Finance Committee charter; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.6 Corporate Governance Committee

To the extent that the membership allows, the Corporate Governance Committee (CGC) shall be comprised of nine members. One representative shall be the President of SPP who will serve as the Chair; the Chairman of the Board, unless his/her position is under consideration, in which case the Vice Chairman of the Board; one representative shall be representative of and selected by investor owned utilities Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by co-operatives Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by municipals Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by independent power producers/marketers Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by state/federal power agencies Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by alternative power/public interest Members; and one representative shall be representative of and selected by large/small retail Members.

Where a vacancy occurs with respect to a representative of a sector, the representatives from the appropriate sector will fill the vacancy.

The CGC shall meet at least once per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The CGC shall report to the Board of Directors following each CGC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the CGC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Corporate Governance Committee shall include:

- (a) Seek input from the Board of Directors, the Members Committee, or the Trustees as to the skills needed to fill any vacancy under consideration;

- (b) In the event of a vacancy or the replacement of an existing director, provide candidates identified by an independent executive search firm for consideration to the Members for election to the Board of Directors;
- (c) In the event of a vacancy or the replacement of an existing Trustee, provide candidates for consideration to the Members for election to the Regional Entity Trustees;
- (d) Monitor the composition of the Board of Directors to ensure balance, independence, maintenance of qualifications under any applicable laws, avoidance of conflict of interest, and periodic review of the criteria for independence set out in the Bylaws and appropriate regulatory bodies, recommending changes, as appropriate;
- (e) Recommend to the Board of Directors the appointment of Organizational Group representatives and leadership except for the Corporate Governance Committee, the Members Committee, whose representatives are elected by the Members, and the Market and Operations Policy Committee, whose representatives are appointed by the Members;
- (f) Develop criteria governing the overall composition of the Board of Directors for recommendation to the Board of Directors;
- (g) Develop criteria governing the overall composition of the Regional Entity Trustees for recommendation to the Membership;
- (h) Coordinate an annual review and assessment of the effectiveness of the Board of Directors, its structure, and process;
- (i) Coordinate an annual review and assessment of the effectiveness of the Regional Entity Trustees, its structure, and process;
- (j) Develop recommendations for the Board of Directors regarding a director succession policy;
- (k) Recommend compensation levels for the Board of Directors and Regional Entity Trustees to the Membership.
- (l) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the CGC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (m) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

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7.0 REGULATORY INVOLVEMENT AND REGIONAL STATE COMMITTEE

Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member may participate fully in all SPP activities, including participation at the SPP Board of Directors meetings. These representatives shall have all the same rights as Members except the right to vote. Participation includes the designation of representatives by each of the regulatory jurisdictions to participate in any type of committee, working group, task force, and Board of Directors meetings.

7.1 Retention of State Regulatory Jurisdiction

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish existing state regulatory jurisdiction and authority. Each state regulatory agency is expressly reserved the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

7.2 Regional State Committee

An RSC, to be comprised of one designated commissioner from each state regulatory commission having jurisdiction over an SPP Member, shall be established to provide both direction and input on all matters pertinent to the participation of the Members in SPP. This direction and input shall be provided within the context of SPP's organizational group meetings as well as Board of Directors meetings. The SPP Staff will assist the RSC in its collective responsibilities and requests by providing information and analysis. SPP will fund the costs of the RSC pursuant to an annual budget developed by the RSC and submitted to SPP as part of its budgeting process, which budget must ultimately be approved by the Board of Directors.

The RSC has primary responsibility for determining regional proposals and the transition process in the following areas:

- (a) whether and to what extent participant funding will be used for transmission enhancements;
- (b) whether license plate or postage stamp rates will be used for the regional access charge;
- (c) FTR allocation, where a locational price methodology is used; and

- (d) the transition mechanism to be used to assure that existing firm customers receive FTRs equivalent to the customers' existing firm rights.

The RSC will also determine the approach for resource adequacy across the entire region. In addition, with respect to transmission planning, the RSC will determine whether transmission upgrades for remote resources will be included in the regional transmission planning process and the role of transmission owners in proposing transmission upgrades in the regional planning process.

As the RSC reaches decisions on the methodology that will be used to address any of these issues, SPP will file this methodology pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act. However, nothing in this section prohibits SPP from filing its own related proposal(s) pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act.

7.3 Retention of Other Regulatory Jurisdiction

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish the jurisdiction or authority of any other regulatory body. Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member or the regional transmission organization reserves the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

8.0 FISCAL ADMINISTRATION

The fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year.

8.1 Operating Budget

SPP Staff and the Finance Committee will prepare an annual budget of expenditures for the next fiscal year and an estimate for an additional two years. The proposed budget shall be submitted to the Board of Directors not less than two weeks prior to the meeting at which the budget is to be considered for approval. Once approved by the Board of Directors, the budget shall constitute the authority required by the Officers for expenditures for the ensuing year. Modifications to the budget during the fiscal year must be recommended to the Board of Directors by the Finance Committee. The President shall have the authority to approve unbudgeted expenditures of up to \$250,000 individually or in the aggregate during the fiscal

year. The President may approve unbudgeted expenditures in excess of \$250,000 but less than \$1,000,000 with the concurrence of the Finance Committee. Unbudgeted expenditures in excess of \$1,000,000 require prior approval of the Board of Directors.

8.2 Annual Membership Fee

All SPP Members will be subject to an annual membership fee in the amount of \$6,000, or other amount established by the Board of Directors. Membership fees are not subject to refund. The Board of Directors shall determine the annual membership fee for the upcoming year in advance of the last meeting of Members in a calendar year. Legitimate public interest groups (e.g. consumer advocates, environmental groups, or citizen participation groups) may seek a waiver of the annual membership fee. The request for waiver must be directed to the President in writing 90 days in advance of the start of each fiscal year.

8.3 ERO and Regional Entity Costs

SPP is a Regional Entity of the Electric Reliability Organization and is subject to the terms of the Delegation Agreement executed by SPP and the ERO. SPP will have certain functions as signatory to the Delegation Agreement related to the establishment and submission of annual budgets related to fulfillment of Regional Entity functions as well as participation in the costs incurred by ERO. The Delegation Agreement may specify SPP's responsibility to collect ERO costs from SPP's Regional Entity footprint, and may specify ERO's responsibility to fund SPP's Regional Entity budget.

SPP will clearly set out the costs associated with its operation as a Regional Entity within SPP's annual budget.

8.4 Monthly Assessments

SPP will assess certain Members described herein on a monthly basis all costs not otherwise collected. Costs recovered under the assessment will include but are not limited to all operating costs, financing costs, debt repayment, and capital expenditures associated with the performance of SPP's functions as assigned by the Board of Directors. Significant among these are costs associated with regional reliability coordination and the provision of transmission service. SPP shall determine the assessment rate based on its annual budgeted net expenditures

divided by estimated annual Schedule 1 billing units for service sold under SPP's OATT and Member load eligible to take, but not taking, Network Integration Transmission Service under SPP's OATT. The Board of Directors may review the assumptions used in determining the assessment rate at any time and may adjust the assessment rate appropriately should conditions warrant. Each load-serving Member shall then be assessed the monthly assessment rate applied to its load eligible to take Network Integration Transmission Service under the SPP OATT. Further, each load-serving Member shall receive a credit against the monthly assessment for that month's Schedule 1 fees paid for Network Integration Transmission Service and for Point-to-Point Transmission Service that had a delivery point within the SPP region, under the SPP OATT.

8.5 Fiscal Agent

The President shall serve as the fiscal agent of SPP. The President shall keep an up-to-date record of receipts and disbursements and furnish reports to the Board of Directors and the Finance Committee.

8.6 Auditors

The Board of Directors shall annually engage an independent certified public accounting firm to perform an annual audit of SPP's financial records and prepare a report on the financial condition of SPP. The Finance Committee shall present the audit report to the Board of Directors upon completion.

8.7 Financial Obligation of Withdrawing Members

8.7.1 Existing Obligations

"Existing Obligations" are the following:

- a. Member's unpaid annual membership fee.
- b. Member's unpaid dues, assessments, and other amounts charged under Section 3.8 or otherwise under the Bylaws, plus the Member's share of costs SPP customarily includes in such dues, assessments or other charges, but which as of the Termination Date SPP had not included in such dues, assessments or other charges.

- c. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of the entire principal amounts of all SPP Financial Obligations outstanding as of the Termination Date. "Financial Obligations" are all long-term (in excess of six (6) months) financial obligations of SPP, including but not limited to the following:
 - i. debts under all loans, loan agreements, borrowings, promissory notes, bonds, and credit lines, under which SPP is obligated, including principal and interest;
 - ii. all payment obligations under equipment leases, financing leases, capital leases, real estate and office space leases, consulting contracts, and contracts for outsourced services;
 - iii. any unfunded liabilities of any SPP employee pension funds, whether or not liquidated or demanded; and
 - iv. the general and administrative overhead of SPP for a period of three (3) months.
- d. Any costs, expenses or liabilities incurred by SPP directly due to the Termination, regardless of when incurred or payable, and including without limitation prepayment premiums or penalties arising under SPP Financial Obligations.
- e. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of all interest that will become due for payment with respect to all interest bearing Financial Obligations after the Termination Date and until the maturity of all Financial Obligations in accordance with their respective terms ("Future Interest"). In the event that a Financial Obligation carries a variable interest rate, the interest rate in effect at the Termination Date shall be used to calculate the applicable Future Interest. In determining the Member's share of Future Interest, SPP shall take into account any reduction of Financial Obligations due to mitigation under this Section.

8.7.2 Computation of a Member's Existing Obligations

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For purposes of computing the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or terminated Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement, such “Member’s share” is a percentage calculated as follows:

$$A = 100 [0.25(1/N) + 0.75(B/C)]$$

Where: A = Member’s share (expressed as a percentage)

N = Total number of Members

B = The Member's previous year Net Energy for Load within SPP

C = Total of factor B for all Members

The Finance Committee shall have the discretion to reduce the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or terminated Member, to reflect any SPP costs or expenses that may be mitigated in connection with such Member’s withdrawal or termination.

9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION

9.1 Regional Entity

SPP operates as a Regional Entity under FERC jurisdiction with oversight powers delegated to it by the ERO. The Regional Entity Trustees shall appoint representatives to ERO organizational groups as necessary to represent the interests of the SPP Regional Entity. SPP may pay appropriate associated travel expenses of those appointed representatives upon receipt by the Secretary to the Trustees of an expense report as normally filed within the representative’s system.

9.2 Regional Entity Staff

The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee staffing requirements for the SPP Regional Entity. All SPP Regional Entity compliance enforcement staff shall report through the Executive Director of Compliance to the Trustees.

9.3 Executive Director of Compliance

The Executive Director of Compliance shall be elected by and report to the SPP Regional Entity Trustees. The President shall ensure that the Executive Director of Compliance has

adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of his/her duties.

9.4 Duties of Compliance Staff

Compliance functions shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved ERO policies and standards;
- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible non-compliance with ERO policies and standards;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in conjunction with the Compliance Enforcement Program;
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of ERO policies and standards are determined and documented;
- (e) Recommendation of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance with ERO policies and standards pursuant to ERO guidelines;
- (f) Assist the Regional Entity Trustees with third party audits to confirm that SPP is conforming to ERO policies and standards;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and
- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define ERO requirements, and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance.

9.5 Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

When an SPP working group or task force is considering an SPP Regional Reliability Standard, it will be designated the Standards Development Team (SDT) for that Standard in accordance with the SPP Regional Entity Standards Development Process Manual. For purposes of an SDT, participation and voting will be open to any interested party in accordance with the Standards Development Process and without regard to membership status in SPP.

9.6 Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

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The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee SPP's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP). The CMEP will enforce compliance according to ERO reliability standards for Registered Entities. Regional Entity Compliance staff shall oversee compliance auditing of registered entities, and will report audit results to the Regional Entity Trustees.

All audits of SPP's compliance with ERO reliability standards will be performed by external third party auditors as coordinated and managed by the Regional Entity Trustees.

9.7 Regional Entity Trustees

9.7.1 Functions and Duties of the Regional Entity Trustees

The Regional Entity Trustees shall at all times act in the best interests of SPP's role as the SPP Regional Entity in its management, control, and direction of the general business of the Regional Entity functions. In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of any appropriate entity, the Regional Entity Trustees shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws.

Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Monitor all Registered Entities in the SPP footprint for compliance with ERO/FERC requirements, including auditing and issuance of official findings.
- (b) Administer SPP's Compliance Enforcement Program.
- (c) Coordinate and manage third party audits to confirm that SPP is conforming to ERO policies and standards;
- (d) Impose penalties as prescribed and approved by ERO/FERC.
- (e) Regional Entity staff administration.
- (f) Regional Entity budget decisions.
- (g) Track and review Regional Standards from MOPC for submission to the ERO and FERC for approval and implementation.
- (h) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the Regional Entity Trustees are meeting their responsibilities; and
- (i) Provide an annual report to the Board of Directors regarding the effectiveness of the Regional Entity function and processes.

9.7.2 Composition and Qualifications

9.7.2.1 Composition

The Regional Entity Trustees shall consist of three (3) persons. The trustees shall be independent of the SPP Board of Directors, any Member, industry stakeholder, or SPP organizational group. Regional Entity Trustees do not serve as members of the SPP Board of Directors. A trustee shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve.

9.7.2.2 Qualifications

Regional Entity Trustees shall have relevant senior management expertise and experience in the reliable operation of the bulk electric transmission system in North America.

9.7.2.3 Conflicts of Interest

Regional Entity Trustees shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member, a customer of services provided by SPP, or a Registered Entity in the SPP footprint. Trustees may indirectly own securities through a mutual fund or similar arrangement (other than a fund or arrangement specifically targeted toward the electric industry or any segments thereof) under which the trustee does not control the purchase or sale of such securities. Participation in a pension plan of a Member, customer, or Registered Entity in the SPP footprint shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's, customer's, or Registered Entity's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

9.7.3 Term and Election

Regional Entity Trustees shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. Initial staggering of terms will be decided by lottery with one trustee's term to expire in the first year, one in the second year, and one in the third year. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least three months prior to the meeting of Members when election of a new trustee is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons for the position to be elected;
- (b) At least one month prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall notify the President in writing of the person it nominates for election as a trustee, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The

President shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;

- (c) For purposes of electing or removing trustees only, Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee(s) may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded by Members; and
- (e) At the meeting of Members, the required number of trustees shall be elected by written ballot. Each sector of the Membership votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. Each Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of trustees to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidate(s) receiving the highest percent of the average of approving vote ratios within each Membership sector will fill vacancy(ies).

9.7.4 Resignation and Removal of Regional Entity Trustees

Any Regional Entity Trustee may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a trustee with cause by the vote of a majority of each Membership sector at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A trustee who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

9.7.5 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will appoint an interim trustee to serve until a replacement trustee is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement trustee shall take office immediately following the election.

9.7.6 Meetings and Notice of Meetings

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Regular Regional Entity Trustees' meetings will be scheduled in conjunction with the regularly scheduled SPP Board of Directors meetings, and additionally upon the call of the chair or upon concurrence of at least two trustees. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, all meetings will be open to any interested party. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the chair to each trustee, the Board of Directors, and the Members Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting, unless such notice is waived by the trustees. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the chair with at least one-day prior notice. The chair shall grant any party's request to address the Regional Entity Trustees.

9.7.7 Chair

The Regional Entity Trustees shall elect from its membership a chair for a two-year term commencing upon election and continuing until the chair's duly elected successor takes office or until the chair's term as a trustee expires without re-election. The panel may elect to rotate the chair to the senior member of the panel when the initial, or subsequent, chair's term expires.

9.7.8 Quorum and Voting

Two trustees shall constitute a quorum of the Regional Entity Trustees necessary for a binding vote. Decisions of the Regional Entity Trustees require two affirmative votes. Trustees must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. All Regional Entity Trustee decisions regarding the Regional Entity are final except as subject to oversight by the ERO and FERC.

9.7.9 Compensation of Regional Entity Trustees

Regional Entity Trustees shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, approved by the Membership, and submitted for approval as part of the ERO budget process. Trustees shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

9.7.10 Executive Session

Executive sessions (open only to Trustees and parties invited by the chair of the Regional Entity Trustees) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Regional Entity Trustees to

safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial or legal matters, or confidential information related to compliance matters.

10.0 AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS, THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, AND MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

Except for modifications to Section 4.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 5.0 COMMITTEES ADVISING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION, and Section 10.0 AMENDMENTS, these Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or added to by the Board of Directors only upon 30 days written notice to the Membership of the proposed modification(s). Approval of amendments to the Bylaws by the Board of Directors must be by an affirmative vote of at least five directors. Sections 4.0, 5.0, 9.0, and 10.0 of these Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation may be amended, repealed, or added to only by approval of the Membership. All amendments are subject to the requisite regulatory approval(s).

11.0 EFFECTIVE DATE AND TRANSITION PROVISIONS

These Bylaws shall become effective the day following acceptance at FERC and remain in force thereafter as may be amended. These Bylaws hereby cancel and supersede all previous SPP Bylaws; provided that these Bylaws do not relieve any Member from any financial obligation incurred thereunder. Binding obligations entered into by authority of Officers, the Board of Directors, or the Regional Entity Trustees under these Bylaws are hereby assumed and confirmed as obligations of SPP under these Bylaws.

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Exhibit C – Regional Standard Development Procedure

Exhibit C shall set forth the Regional Entity’s standards development procedure, which NERC agrees meets the following common attributes:

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 1

Proposed regional reliability standards shall be subject to approval by NERC, as the electric reliability organization, and by FERC before becoming mandatory and enforceable under Section 215 of the FPA [add reference to any applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico]. No regional reliability standard shall be effective within the SPP area unless filed by NERC with FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico] and approved by FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico].

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 2

SPP regional reliability standards shall provide for as much uniformity as possible with reliability standards across the interconnected bulk power system of the North American continent. A SPP reliability standard shall be more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the continent-wide reliability standard does not, or shall be a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the bulk power system. A regional reliability standard that satisfies the statutory and regulatory criteria for approval of proposed North American reliability standards, and that is more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, would generally be acceptable.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 3

SPP regional reliability standards, when approved by FERC [add applicable authorities in Canada], shall be made part of the body of NERC reliability standards and shall be enforced upon all applicable bulk power system owners, operators, and users within the SPP area, regardless of membership in the region.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 4

Requester — The requester is the sponsor of the regional reliability standard request may assist in the development of the standard. Any member of SPP, or group within SPP shall be allowed to request that a regional reliability standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn. Additionally, any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) that is directly and materially affected by the reliability of the bulk power system in the SPP area shall be allowed to request a regional reliability standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 5

[Standards or other named] committee — The SPP [standards] committee manages the standards development process. The [standards] committee will consider which requests for new or revised standards shall be assigned for development (or existing standards considered for deletion). The [standards] committee will advise the SPP board on standards presented for adoption.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 6

[Registered ballot body] — The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that a) qualify for one of the stakeholder segments; are registered with SPP as potential ballot participants in the voting on standards; and are current with any designated fees. Each member of the registered ballot body is eligible to vote on standards. [Each standard action has its own ballot pool formed of interested members of the registered ballot body. Each ballot pool comprises those members of the registered ballot body that respond to a pre-ballot survey for that particular standard action indicating their desire to participate in such a ballot pool.] The representation model of the registered ballot body is provided in Appendix A.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 7

SPP will coordinate with NERC such that the acknowledgement of receipt of a standard request identified in step 1, notice of comment posting period identified in step 4, and notice for vote identified in step 5 below are concurrently posted on both the SPP and NERC websites.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 8

An acceptable standard request shall contain a description of the proposed regional reliability standard subject matter containing sufficiently descriptive detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information of the proposed standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 9

Within [no greater than 60] days of receipt of a completed standard request, the [standards] committee shall determine the disposition of the standard request.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 10

The [standards] committee may take one of the following actions:

- Accept the standard request as a candidate for development of a new standard, revision of an existing standard, or deletion of an existing standard. The [standards] committee may, at its discretion, expand or narrow the scope of the standard request under consideration. The [standards] committee shall prioritize the development of standard in relation to other proposed standards, as may be required based on the volume of requests and resources.
- Reject the standard request. If the [standards] committee rejects a standard request, a written explanation for rejection will be delivered to the requester within [no greater than 30] days of the decision.
- Remand the standard request back to the requester for additional work. The standards process manager will make reasonable efforts to assist the requester in addressing the deficiencies identified by the [standards] committee. The requester may then resubmit the modified standard request using the process above. The requester may choose to withdraw the standard request from further consideration prior to acceptance by the [standards] committee.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 11

Any standard request that is accepted by the [standards] committee for development of a standard (or modification or deletion of an existing standard) shall be posted for public viewing on the SPP website within [no greater than 30] days of acceptance by the committee.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 12

The standards process manager shall submit the proposed members of the drafting team to the [standards] committee. The [standards] committee shall approve the drafting team membership within 60 days of accepting a standard request for development, modifying the recommendations of the standards process manager as the committee deems appropriate, and assign development of the proposed standard to the drafting team.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 13

At the direction from the [standards] committee, the standards process manager shall facilitate the posting of the draft standard on the SPP website, along with a draft implementation plan and supporting documents, for a no less than a [30]-day] comment period. The standards process manager shall provide notice to SPP stakeholders and other potentially interested entities, both within and outside of the SPP area, of the posting using communication procedures then currently in effect or by other means as deemed appropriate.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 14

The drafting team shall prepare a summary of the comments received and the changes made to the proposed standard as a result of these comments. The drafting team shall summarize comments that were rejected by the drafting team and the reason(s) that these comments were rejected, in part or whole. The summary, along with a response to each comment received will be posted on the SPP website no later than the next posting of the proposed standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 15

Upon recommendation of the drafting team, and if the [standards] committee concurs that all of the requirements for development of the standard have been met, the standards process manager shall post the proposed standard and implementation plan for ballot and shall announce the vote to approve the standard, including when the vote will be conducted and the method for voting. Once the notice for a vote has been issued, no substantive modifications may be made to the proposed standard unless the revisions are posted and a new notice of the vote is issued.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 16

The standards process manager shall schedule a vote by the SPP [registered ballot body/[standards] committee]. The vote shall commence no sooner than [15] days and no later than [30] days following the issuance of the notice for the vote.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 17

The SPP registered ballot body shall be able to vote on the proposed standard during a period of [not less than 10] days.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 18

All members of SPP are eligible to participate in voting on proposed new standards, standard revisions or standard deletions. [Alternatively: Each standard action requires formation of a ballot pool of interested members of the registered ballot body.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 19

Approval of the proposed regional reliability standard shall require a [two thirds] majority in the affirmative (affirmative votes divided by the sum of affirmative and negative votes). Abstentions and non-responses shall not count toward the results, except that abstentions may be used in the determination of a quorum. A quorum shall mean [XX%] of the members of the [registered ballot body/ballot pool] submitted a ballot.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 20

Under no circumstances may the board substantively modify the proposed regional reliability standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 21

Once a regional reliability standard is approved by the board, the standard will be submitted to NERC for approval and filing with FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 22

- **Open** - Participation in the development of a regional reliability standard shall be open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by the SPP bulk power system reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in SPP, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of drafting teams shall be open to the SPP members and others.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 23

- **Balanced** - The SPP standards development process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests and shall not be dominated by any two interest categories and no single interest category shall be able to defeat a matter.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 24

- **Inclusive** — Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the bulk power system in the SPP area shall have a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, and c) having the right to appeal.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 25

- **Fair due process** — The regional reliability standards development procedure shall provide for reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At a minimum, the procedure shall include public notice of the intent to develop a standard, a public comment period on the proposed standard, due consideration of those public comments, and a ballot of interested stakeholders.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 26

- **Transparent** — All actions material to the development of regional reliability standards shall be transparent. All standards development meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the regional entity's Web site.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 27

- Does not unnecessarily delay development of the proposed reliability standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 28

Each standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that each standard serves a purpose in support of the reliability of the regional bulk power system. Each standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 29

While reliability standards are intended to promote reliability, they must at the same time accommodate competitive electricity markets. Reliability is a necessity for electricity markets, and robust electricity markets can support reliability. Recognizing that bulk power system reliability and electricity markets are inseparable and mutually interdependent, all regional reliability standards shall be consistent with NERC's market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure that standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 30

To ensure uniformity of regional reliability standards, a regional reliability standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of the procedure. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of standards. This discipline is necessary to achieving standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 31

All mandatory requirements of a regional reliability standard shall be within the standard. Supporting documents to aid in the implementation of a standard may be referenced by the standard but are not part of the standard itself.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 32

Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions. If not applicable to the entire SPP area, then a clear identification of the portion of the bulk power system to which the standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 33

Measure(s)

Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measures. Measures are used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measure will identify to whom the measure applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required demonstrating compliance. Each measure shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. It is important to realize that measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measure should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirement(s) to which it applies.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 34

Compliance Monitoring Process

Defines for each measure:

- The specific data or information that is required to measure performance or outcomes.
- The entity that is responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes.
- The process that will be used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes.
- The entity that is responsible for evaluating data or information to assess performance or outcomes.
- The time period in which performance or outcomes is measured, evaluated, and then reset.
- Measurement data retention requirements and assignment of responsibility for data archiving.
- Violation severity levels.



Southwest Power Pool
Regional Entity
Standards Development Process
Manual

October 2, 2007

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I. Introduction

This manual defines the fair and open process for adoption, approval, revision, reaffirmation, and deletion of a regional reliability standard (Standard) by Southwest Power Pool, a regional entity (RE). Standards provide for the reliable regional and sub-regional planning and operation of the Bulk Power System (BPS), consistent with Good Utility Practice within an RE's geographical footprint.

Due process is the key to ensuring that Standards are developed in an environment that is equitable, accessible and responsive to the requirements of all interested and affected parties. An open and fair process ensures that all interested and affected parties have an opportunity to participate in a Standard's development.

Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the Bulk Power System has a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, c) voting on a proposed regional reliability standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and d) having the right to appeal.

II. Background

An RE may develop, through its own processes, separate Standards that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or otherwise address issues that are not addressed in NERC reliability standards.

NERC reliability standards and the RE's Standards are all to be included within the RE's Compliance Program.

RE Standards are developed consistent with the following philosophies and according to the process defined in this manual:

- A fair and open process that provides an opportunity for all interested parties to participate;
- Avoid any impact on commerce that is not necessary for reliability;
- Provide a level of BPS reliability that is adequate to protect public health, safety, welfare, and national security and do not have a significant adverse impact on reliability; and
- A justifiable difference between regions or between sub-regions within the Regional geographic area.

The NERC Board of Trustees has adopted reliability principles and market interface principles to define the purpose, scope, and nature of reliability standards. These principles are fundamental to reliability and the market interface, and provide a constant beacon to guide the development of reliability standards. The NERC Board of Trustees may modify these principles from time to time, as necessary, to adapt its vision for reliability standards. Persons and committees that are responsible for the RE Standards process shall consider these NERC principles in the execution of those duties.

NERC reliability standards are based on certain reliability principles that define the foundation of reliability for the North American BPS. Each Standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that it serves a purpose in support of reliability of the North American BPS. Each Standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no Standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

While NERC reliability standards are intended to promote reliability, they must at the same time accommodate competitive electricity markets. Reliability is a necessity for electricity markets, and robust electricity markets can support reliability. Recognizing that BPS reliability and electricity markets are inseparable and mutually interdependent, all Standards shall be consistent with the market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure that Standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

III. Regional Reliability Standard Definition, Characteristics, and Elements

A. Definition of a Regional Reliability Standard

A NERC reliability standard defines certain obligations or requirements of entities that operate, plan, and use the Bulk Power Systems of North America. The obligations or requirements must be material to reliability and measurable. Each obligation and requirement shall support one or more of the stated reliability principles and shall be consistent with all of the stated reliability and market interface principles in the NERC Standards Process Manual.

SPP RE may develop, through the process described in this manual, separate SPP Regional Reliability Standards (Standard) that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or that cover matters not addressed in NERC continent-wide reliability standards. SPP Regional Reliability Standards may be developed and exist separately from NERC continent-wide reliability standards, or may be proposed as NERC reliability standards. Standards that exist separately from NERC reliability standards shall be more stringent than a NERC continent-wide reliability standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the NERC continent-wide reliability standard does not, or shall be a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the bulk power system. These regional reliability standards, if approved by the RE Trustees, are forwarded to NERC for review and submittal to FERC for approval.

B. Definition of SPP Criteria

SPP Criteria are those requirements used by SPP members that are for purposes others than those specified for SPP Regional Reliability Standards (Standards). SPP Criteria are enforceable only under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement. SPP Criteria may be developed in accordance with SPP Bylaws outside the process described within this manual since these criteria are not intended to be used by the SPP Regional Entity for compliance and enforcement under the authority delegated under the NERC – SPP Regional Delegation Agreement.

C. Characteristics of a Regional Reliability Standard

Standards define obligations or requirements for the operation and planning of interconnected systems and market interface practices that will be enforceable under the authority of the SPP RE. The format and process defined by this manual applies to all Standards.

A Standard shall have the following characteristics:

- **Material to Reliability** - A Standard shall be material to the reliability of bulk power systems of the RE's region. If the reliability of the bulk power systems could be compromised without a particular standard or by a failure to comply with that standard, then the standard is material to reliability.
- **Measurable** - A Standard shall establish technical or performance requirements that can be practically measured.

- **Relative to NERC Reliability Standards** - A Standard must go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or cover matters not addressed in NERC reliability standards.

D. Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

An RE Standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of this manual. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of Standards. This discipline is necessary to achieve standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent. The format allows a clear statement of the purpose, requirements, measures, and penalties for non-compliance associated with each Standard. Supporting documents to aid in the implementation of a Standard may be referenced by the Standard but are not part of the Standard itself. All mandatory requirements of a Standard shall be within an element of the standard.

Performance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

Identification Number	A unique identification number assigned in accordance with an administrative classification system to facilitate tracking and reference RE documentation. Format for Regional Standard Request will be: RSR-000
Title	A brief, descriptive phrase identifying the topic of the Standard.
Effective Date and Status	The effective date of the Standard or, prior to adoption of the Standard by the RE through its own processes, the proposed effective date. The status of the standard will be indicated as active or by reference to one of the numbered steps in the standards process.
Purpose	The purpose of the Standard. The purpose shall explicitly state what outcome will be achieved or is expected by this Standard. The purpose is agreed to early in the process as a step toward obtaining approval to proceed with the development of the standard. The purpose should link the standard to the relevant principle(s).
Requirement(s)	Explicitly stated technical, performance, and preparedness requirements. Each requirement identifies the responsible entity and the action to be performed or outcome to be achieved. Each statement in the requirements section shall be a statement for which compliance is mandatory. Any additional comments or statements for which compliance is not mandatory such as background or explanatory information should be placed in a separate document and referenced. (See Supporting References).

Applicability	<p>Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions.</p> <p>If not applicable to the entire SPP area, then a clear identification of the portion of the bulk power system to which the standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.</p>
Risk Factor(s)	<p>The potential reliability significance of each requirement, designated as a High, Medium, or Lower Risk Factor in accordance with the criteria listed below:</p> <p>A High Risk Factor requirement (a) is one that, if violated, could directly cause or contribute to bulk power system instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the bulk power system at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly cause or contribute to bulk power system instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the bulk power system at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures, or could hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Medium Risk Factor requirement (a) is a requirement that, if violated, could directly affect the electrical state or the capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the bulk power system, but is unlikely to lead to bulk power system instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the bulk power system, but is unlikely, under emergency, abnormal, or restoration conditions anticipated by the preparations, to lead to bulk power system instability, separation, or cascading failures, nor to hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Lower Risk Factor requirement is administrative in nature and (a) is a requirement that, if violated, would not be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the bulk power system; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, would not, under the emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the bulk power system.</p>

Measure(s)	Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measurements. Measurements will be used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measurement identifies to whom the measurement applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required to demonstrate compliance. Each measurement shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. Measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measures should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirements(s) to which it applies.
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Compliance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

Compliance Monitoring Process	<p>The following compliance elements, which are part of the standard and are balloted with the standard are developed for each measure in a standard by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the standard drafting team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific data or information required to measure performance or outcomes. • The entity responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes. • The process used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes. • The entity responsible for evaluating data or information to assess performance or outcomes. • The time period in which performance or outcomes is measured, evaluated, and then reset. • Measurement data retention requirements and assignment of responsibility for data archiving.
Violation Severity Levels	Defines the degree to which compliance with a requirement was not achieved. The violation severity levels, are part of the standard and are balloted with the standard, and developed by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the standard drafting team.

Supporting Information Elements

Interpretations	Formally approved interpretations of the reliability standard. Interpretations are temporary, as the standard should be revised to incorporate the interpretation. Interpretations are developed and approved through a process described in the section Interpretations of Standards.
Implementation Plan	Each standard shall have an associated implementation plan describing the effective date of the standard or effective dates if there is a phased implementation. The implementation plan may also describe the implementation of the standard in the compliance program and other considerations in the initial use of the standard, such as necessary tools, training, etc. The implementation plan must be posted for at least one public comment period and is approved as part of the ballot of the standard.
Supporting References	This section references related documents that support reasons for, or otherwise provide additional information related to, the Standard. Examples include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development history of the Standard and prior versions• Notes pertaining to implementation or compliance• Standard references• Standard supplements• Procedures• Practices• Training references• Technical references• White papers• Internet links to related information

IV. Roles in the Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

Any member of NERC, including any member of a regional reliability organization, regional entity, or group within NERC shall be allowed to request that a Standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn. Additionally, any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) who is directly and materially affected by the reliability of the North American Bulk Power Systems shall be allowed to request a Standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn.

Originator - Any entity (person, organization, company, governmental agency, individual, etc.) that is directly and materially affected by the operation of an RE's BPS, is allowed to request a Standard be developed or an existing Standard be modified, or deleted.

Registered ballot body — The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that qualify for one of the voting segments and are registered with SPP as a ballot participant in the voting of a proposed standard. Membership in SPP is not a requirement for registration. Registration in a ballot body must be done via the SPP website by close of business the day prior to the day voting begins on the standard. [Each standard action has its own registered ballot body.] The representation model of the registered ballot body is provided in Sec V. B. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps, Step 5 – Open Voting.] The outcome of the vote of the registered ballot body is forwarded to the RE Trustees regardless of advisory voting outcomes at the MOPC or SPP Board level.

SPP Regional Entity Trustees (RE Trustees) – The SPP Regional Entity Trustees shall act on any proposed Standard that has gone through the process contained in this manual. Upon approval by the RE Trustees, the Standard will be submitted to NERC for approval under the ERO. RE Trustees are notified of all proposed regional reliability standards requests and receive progress reports from the RE Staff. They also receive notice of the outcome of votes by the ballot body and any recommendations and reports on proposed standards made by the SDT, MOPC and SPP Board.

Regional Entity Staff (RE Staff)- RE Staff shall support the RE Trustees in their oversight authority over the Standards Development Process and any other function or responsibility ascribed to them in the NERC- Southwest Power Pool, Inc. Delegation Agreement.

SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) - The SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee will assign Standards to a Standards Development Team for development or revision

SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee (BOD/MC) – The SPP Board of Directors in conjunction with the Members Committee provides advisory votes to the RE Trustees on reliability matters as they pertain to the RE. The BOD/MC votes on proposed regional standards or changes to regional standards for the sole purpose of providing an additional stakeholder forum for review, and valuable input to the RE Trustees decision on a regional standard based on the groups expertise on reliability, operations and market matters as well as its wide diverse representation of the SPP membership.

Compliance Director – The RE office responsible for the administration of the SPP Compliance Program. The duties of this office includes but are not limited to, providing inputs and comments during the standards development process to ensure the measures will be effective and can be practically implemented.

Standard Drafting Team (SDT) – Usually an existing SPP Working Group or Task Force that is comprised of technical experts. Any interested party may attend meetings, provide input and comments, and vote under provisions of the SPP Regional Standards Process Manual.

V. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

A. Assumptions and Prerequisites

The process for developing and approving Standards is similar to procedures accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), like that employed by the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB). The Standards development process has the following characteristics:

- **Inclusive** - Any entity (person, organization, company, governmental agency, individual, etc.) representing an organization with a direct and material interest has a right to participate by:
 - a) Expressing an opinion and its basis,
 - b) Having that position considered,
 - c) Voting on a proposed regional reliability standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and
 - d) Appealing any negative decision
- **Openness** - Participation is open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by the RE's BPS reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in the RE, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of SDT's are open to all interested parties and are noticed on the SPP website at least 15 days in advance. Since pre-existing SPP committees, working groups, or task forces may be assigned the responsibilities of a SDT, the agenda for meetings will note that an SDT activity is being undertaken to distinguish such activity from other non-SDT related agenda items. The openness provisions of this manual apply only and explicitly to the SDT activities. Meetings of subcommittees and working groups serving as a SDT shall follow the SPP Bylaws Sec 3.5 Meetings.
- **Balance** - The RE Standards development process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests. The process prevents any two voting sectors from dominating voting outcomes and no single voting sectors from defeating a proposed reliability standard.
- **Due Process** – The SPP Regional Reliability Standards Development Process provides reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At the minimum, the procedure shall include public notice of the intent to develop a standard, a public comment period on the proposed standard, due consideration of those public comments, and a ballot of interested stakeholders.
- **Transparent** – All actions material to the development of a SPP regional reliability standard shall be transparent. All standards development meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the SPP website.

B. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps

Note: The term “days” below refers to calendar days.

Step 1 – Request to Develop, Revise or Delete a Regional Reliability Standard

Any individual representing an organization (Originator) that is directly or materially impacted by the operation of the BPS within the geographical footprint of the RE may submit a request to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) for the development, modification, or deletion of an RE Standard. Any such request shall be submitted to the MOPC Chairman, or his/her designee, or by another process as otherwise posted on the SPP website. The request should be made using the SPP Regional Standard Request Form (RSR) in Appendix B.

The MOPC or a designee will work with the Originator to develop a description of the proposed Standard subject matter containing sufficient detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information related to the proposed Standard.

Step 2 – Notification to Regional Entity Trustees & Public Notice

The Chairman of the MOPC or his/her designee will forward the request to the RE Trustees. SPP staff will also post the request on the SPP website for public notice and may utilize any appropriate SPP email distribution lists within 30 days. The request is not to be judged as appropriate or useful at this stage.

The MOPC will assign the drafting and scoping responsibility to an appropriate SPP Working Group or Task Force. This group will become the Standards Drafting Team (SDT) for this particular Standard request. The assignment will include any necessary deadlines and due dates for the Standard.

Any documentation of the deliberations of the SDT concerning the Standard shall be made available in accordance with the SPP Bylaws requirements for meeting and organizational groups then in effect. Meetings of the SDT are open to any interested party. Meeting dates and actions on the regional reliability standard are publicly noticed on SPP's public Web site.

The SDT shall provide a report to the RE Trustees and the MOPC on a periodic basis (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) noting the status of the Standard that has been assigned to it for consideration.

Step 3 – Scoping and Drafting

The SDT will draft the language of the Standard per the Standard description provided by the MOPC and the Originator. The SDT may recommend changes to the scope, purpose, need or other relevant aspects of the Standard through consultation with the MOPC.

The SDT develops a work plan for completing the Standard development work, including the establishment of milestones for completing critical elements of the work in sufficient detail to ensure that the SDT will meet the date objective in the assignment, or an alternative date. This plan will be provided to the RE Trustees and the MOPC.

The SDT may meet in person or via electronic means as necessary; may establish sub-work teams (made up of members of the SDT) as necessary; and perform other activities to address the parameters of the Standard and the established milestone date(s).

The SDT should consider:

- The impact of the Standard on neighboring regions, and seek appropriate input from the neighboring regions if the Standard is determined to have such an impact.
- An implementation plan, including the nature, extent and duration of field-testing, if any.
- The need for any existing Standard to be deleted, in part or whole, or otherwise impacted by the implementation of the draft Standard.
- Technical reports, white papers and/or work papers that provide technical support for the draft Standard under consideration.
- Documenting the perceived reliability impact should the Standard be approved.

The SDT will regularly (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) report to the RE Trustees and the MOPC on its progress in meeting a timely completion of the draft Standard. The SDT may request consideration of scope changes of the Standard at any point in the Standard development process.

The RE Trustees or the MOPC may, at any time direct the SDT move to Step 4 and post for comment the current work product, or to terminate the activity if there is no further need for the Standard. If the activity is terminated RE Staff will notify the Originator and the RE Trustees within 30 days.

If there are competing drafts all will be posted on the SPP website for comment. The MOPC may take this step at any time after a SDT has been commissioned to develop the Standard.

For Standards in progress, the MOPC must take action to move to Step 4. *Public Comments*, or to reject the proposal. If the MOPC votes to terminate the activity, the RE Trustees must be notified with supporting reasons provided to them. The proposed standard would then go directly to Step 11. (See Step 11. *RE Trustees Action*)

Step 4 – Post Draft for 30 Day Public Comments

RE Staff will post the draft Standard on the SPP website, along with any supporting documents, for a 30-day comment period. RE Staff shall also inform registered entities and other potentially interested stakeholders of the posting using available SPP communication resources, or by other means deemed appropriate. Comments may be submitted using the RSR Comment Form in Appendix B available on the SPP internet website.

Within 30 days of the conclusion of 30-day comment posting period the SDT shall convene and consider changes to the draft Standard, the implementation plan and/or supporting technical documents. The SDT may elect to return to Step 3. *Scoping and Drafting* to revise the draft Standard, and/or any supporting documentation. The SDT shall summarize the comments received and any changes made as a result. This summary will be and posted on the SPP website when completed.

Step 5 – Open Voting

The SDT shall direct the RE Staff to post the revised draft Standard and other relevant documents including, implementation plan, supporting technical documentation, and summary of comments.

RE Staff will schedule a vote by interested parties to commence no sooner than 15 days and no later than 30 days following the posting of the revised draft.

Members of the ballot body shall be allowed to vote over a period of 15 days. Voting will be through electronic means or other means provided by SPP.

SPP Segment Weighted Voting

Registration in a ballot body created for a specific proposed regional standard is required to vote. Registration for a proposed Standard is noticed on the SPP website and through a Standards email exploder for a period of 15 days prior to the start of the ballot (subscription to the Standards email exploder is open to any interested party through the SPP website). All interested parties who register with the ballot body may vote on the proposed new Standard, Standard revision or Standard deletion. An interested party may only register in one segment.

The five SPP voting segments for Regional Reliability Standards are:

- 1) Transmission
- 2) Generation
- 3) Marketer/Broker
- 4) Distribution/Load Serving Entity
- 5) End User and Public Interest

RE Staff will accept votes any time during the 15-day ballot period for the Standard. Votes will be counted by voting segment. Each voting segment will receive 20% of the vote. A weighted vote of 2/3 affirmative of those voting will pass a Standard for further consideration (Step 7). If the vote fails to achieve a 2/3 majority of those voting, the Standard will be returned to the SDT for consideration for future action (Step 3). The SDT may: revise the Standard; post the Standard again for comments; reballot the Standard; ask the RE Trustees to terminate the request; or any other action it deems appropriate.

The RE Trustees are notified of the outcome of the vote and any actions taken by the SDT as a result of the vote. The RE Trustees will determine any additional action to be taken. (See Step 11. *RE Trustees Action*)

Step 6 – Prepare Consensus Draft & Minority Report

When a Standard is approved, the SDT will prepare a consensus draft representing the version of the Standard to be presented to the MOPC and the BOD/MC before final action by the RE Trustees.

Minority Report and Appeals

- A minority report will be prepared if there are significant issues that cannot be resolved within the SDT during the drafting phase (Step 3) or from the public comments (Step 4).
- A minority report will include any appeals from interested parties that the SPP Standards Procedure Manual was violated in the development of the Standard.
- The minority report remains a part of the record of the Standard and is available to any interested party during any subsequent steps.
- The consensus draft and any minority reports are presented to the MOPC for its consideration and an advisory vote.

Step 7 – Post Draft Standard for Action on the MOPC Agenda

A recommended Standard is noticed for consideration on the MOPC agenda. The agenda materials are made available per the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.5.

If a Standard requires consideration by the MOPC prior to a regularly scheduled meeting, the RE Staff will notify the MOPC Chairman who will notice a special meeting in accordance with the SPP Bylaws.

Step 8 – MOPC Review

The MOPC will provide an advisory vote on the Standard under the governance provisions of the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.9 Voting.

If the MOPC opposes the Standard, the MOPC may request revision of the Standard or termination of further activity on the Standard. If the Standard is terminated, notice is provided (described in Step 9) to the RE Trustees for further action (Step 11).

If the MOPC concurs with the Standard, the Standard proceeds to the SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee for review (Step 9).

The RE Trustees are notified of the outcome of the MOPC review.

Step 9 – SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee Review

A draft Standard submitted to the SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee (BOD/MC) for review must be publicly posted at least 10 days prior to consideration by the BOD/MC. The BOD/MC may consider the Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting, or as determined by the Chairman of the BOD/MC.

The BOD/MC shall be provided:

- The consensus draft Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)

- Technical Documentation supporting the draft Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the votes including a Minority Report if applicable.
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any comments
- Any other information relevant to the Standard

The BOD/MC will:

- Provide an advisory vote to the RE Trustees on the Standard (Step 10); or
- Return the Standard to the MOPC with comments

In the case of a second return of a Standard, the proposed Standard is forwarded to the RE Trustees for action. (The proposed Standard would go directly to Step 11).

Step 10 –Presentation to RE Trustees

A draft Standard submitted to the RE Trustees for action must be publicly posted at least 10 days prior to consideration by the RE Trustees.

The RE Trustees shall be provided:

- The consensus draft Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)
- Technical Documentation supporting the draft Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the vote including a Minority Report if applicable
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any comments
- The result of the BOD/MC advisory vote and any comments
- Any other information relevant to the Standard

Step 11 - RE Trustees Action

The RE Trustees will:

- Recommend NERC approve the Standard through the NERC process; or
- Remand the Standard to the SDT through the MOPC with comments and instructions; or
- Determine there is no need for the Standard and terminate any future activity.

The RE Trustees may consider the Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting, or as determined by the Chairman of the RE Trustees.

If a Standard is forwarded to the RE Trustees for action as a result of an opposing MOPC vote (Step 8), or if automatically forwarded to them as a result of two or more returns by the MOPC

or SPP Board (Step 9), the RE Trustees will take definitive action, including initiating the process from Step 3, Scoping and Drafting. The RE Trustees may not submit a Standard to NERC for approval without a positive outcome from open and balanced voting in Step 5.

Advisory votes of the MOPC and the BOD/MC do not impact the RE Trustees' authority to submit a Standard to NERC.

Step 12 – Submit to NERC for Approval as Regional Standard

RE Staff will notify interested parties of submission of Standard to NERC by the RE Trustees through the normal and customary communication procedures and processes then in effect.

The RE Staff will publicly notice any further steps necessary to have a Standard reviewed and/or approved through the NERC or any successor organization standards process.

C. Filing of Regional Reliability Standards with Regulatory Agencies

The development of Standards must be administered in coordination with the NERC Standards Development Procedure. At the discretion of the NERC Board of Trustees, adopted Standards may be filed with applicable regulatory agencies in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Regional Reliability Standards once approved by FERC, are made part of the NERC standards and shall be enforced accordingly.

Appendix A

I. Maintenance of the Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Manual

Any interested party may propose changes to this Manual. Such Process Manual change requests will follow all the steps of the Regional Reliability Standards Process outlined in Section V., Part B of this Manual.

II. Appeals

Persons who have directly and materially affected interests and who have been or will be adversely affected by any substantive or procedural action or inaction related to the development, approval, revision, reaffirmation, or withdrawal of a Standard shall have the right to appeal. This appeals process applies only to the Standards process as defined in this procedure.

The burden of proof to show adverse effect shall be on the appellant. Appeals shall be made within 30 days of the date of the action purported to cause the adverse effect, except appeals for inaction, which may be made at any time. In all cases, the request for appeal must be made prior to the next step in the process.

The appeal will be addressed by the RE Trustees. The appeal is included in a Minority Report of the Standard which remains a part of the record for the Standard throughout the SPP Regional Standards Procedure.

The final decisions of any appeal shall be documented in writing and made public.

A complaint will be noted in a Minority Report including the substantive or procedural action or inaction associated with a reliability standard or the standards process. The complaint should describe the actual or potential adverse impact to the appellant. The RE Trustees will provide a written response to the complaint. The appellants response to the RE Trustees determination will be included in the Minority Report.

The RE Trustees shall provide a response to any remaining open complaints.

Appendix B: SPP Regional Standard Request Form

RSR Number		RSR Title	
SPP Regional Standard Name (include Section No., Title, and existing Standard Version if any)			
Requested Resolution Date (if applicable)			
Description			
Reliability Need or Purpose – Try to identify if known: Technical requirements, reliability risk factor, measurements (refer to SPP Standards Process Manual for descriptions).			
Tariff Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes)			
Criteria Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes)			
NERC Standard Implications (Yes or No, and summary of impact)			

Sponsor	
Name	
E-mail Address	
Company	
Company Address	
Phone Number	
Fax Number	

Proposed Regional Standard Language
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Appendix C: SPP Regional Standard Request Comment Form

RSR Number		RSR Title	
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Date	
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Submitter's Information	
Name	
E-mail Address	
Company	
Company Address	
Phone Number	
Fax Number	

Comment Form Instructions (please delete before submitting comments):

Comments are to be submitted electronically and are due by close of business of the comment due date. Please follow this file naming convention:
 ###PRR <Company Name> Comments<date>.doc.

Comments

Revised Regional Standard Language

Appendix D: SPP Standards Development Procedure

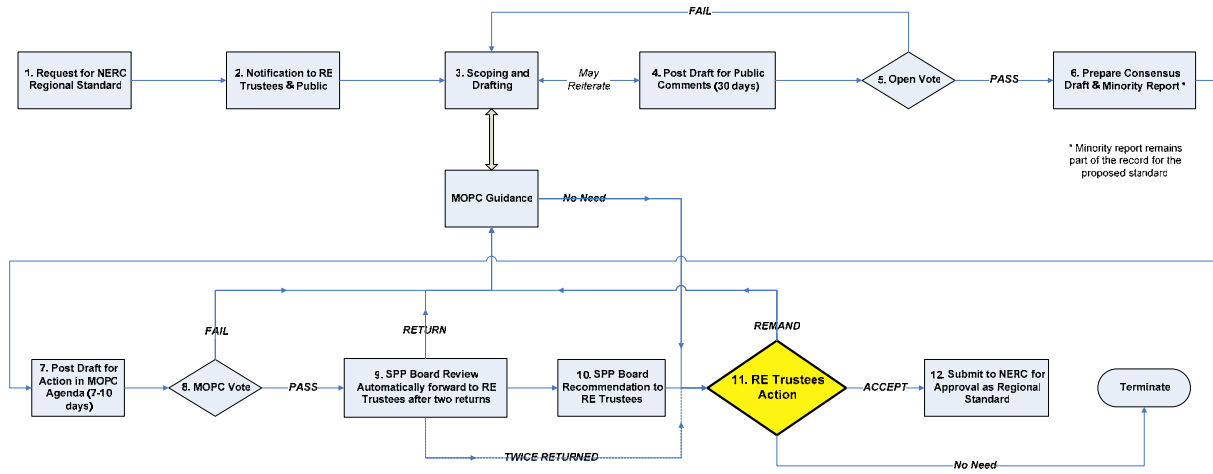


EXHIBIT D – COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

1.0 REGIONAL COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

1.1 Obligations of SPP

SPP will implement the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (Appendix 4C to the NERC Rules of Procedure) to monitor and enforce compliance with Reliability Standards by the owners, operators, and users within **SPP's** geographic boundaries set forth on **Exhibit A** of this Agreement, subject to any deviations from the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program described in Section 1.2 below (the "Compliance Program").

1.2 Deviations from the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

SPP's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program has no deviations from the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

2.0 REGIONAL HEARING OF COMPLIANCE MATTERS

SPP shall establish and maintain a hearing body with authority to conduct and render decisions in compliance hearings in which a Registered Entity may contest a finding of alleged violation, proposed penalty or sanction, or a proposed mitigation plan, which shall be **SPP's** Regional Entity Trustees.

3.0 OTHER DECISION-MAKING BODIES

SPP does not use any other decision-making bodies for its Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

Exhibit E — Funding

1. Scope of activities funded through the ERO funding mechanism

SPP shall include in its annual budget submission to NERC amounts for costs it will incur in support of delegated activities and activities that are in furtherance of NERC's responsibilities as the ERO under the Act, as specified in the NERC Rules. These activities shall include:

- Reliability Standard Development (Section 300)
- Compliance Enforcement (Section 400)
- Organization Registration and Certification (Section 500)
- Reliability Readiness Audit and Improvement (Section 700)
- Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis (Section 800) (including necessary data gathering activities)
- Training and Education (Section 900)
- Situational Awareness and Infrastructure Security (Section 1000)

2. Allocation of Costs

SPP shall allocate its dues, fees and other charges for its activities pursuant to the delegation agreement among all load-serving entities on the basis of net-energy-for load, unless a different method(s) of allocating and calculating such dues, fees and charges has been submitted to and approved by NERC and the Commission in accordance with Section 8(b) of the delegation agreement. SPP shall submit to NERC annually at the same time it submits its budget request a list of the load-serving entities within its geographic boundaries and their proportionate net energy for load, and such other data and information as is necessary to allocate and calculate SPP's dues, fees and charges under any such different method(s) of allocation and calculation that will be used.

3. Collection of Funding

(a) NERC shall submit invoices to the load-serving entities identified by SPP covering the NERC and SPP budgets approved for collection.

NERC shall pursue any non-payments and shall request assistance from applicable governmental authorities as necessary to secure collection.

(b) Upon approval of the annual funding requirements by applicable governmental authorities, NERC shall fund SPP's costs identified in Section 1 of this Exhibit E in four equal quarterly payments.

4. Application of Penalties

All penalty monies received by SPP, other than penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP shall be applied as a general offset to the entity's budget requirements for U.S.-related activities under this Agreement for the

subsequent fiscal year. Funds from financial penalties shall not be directly applied to any program maintained by the investigating entity. Any penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP shall be transmitted to or retained by NERC and shall be used by NERC as a general offset to NERC's budget for its activities as the ERO under the Act for the following year.

5. Budget and Funding for SPP's Non-Statutory Activities

In addition to SPP's delegated activities and activities that are in furtherance of NERC's responsibilities as the ERO under the Act, as specified in Section 1 of this **Exhibit E** (such functions and activities referred to in this Section 5 as "statutory activities"), SPP performs the following other functions and activities (such other functions and activities being referred to herein as "non-statutory activities"):

SPP's performs non-statutory activities as a Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO"). As a RTO, SPP is mandated by the Commission to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure, and competitive wholesale prices of electricity. In furtherance of this mandate, SPP's specific non-statutory activities are the following primary services:

1. Tariff Administration: Independent administration of the Open Access Transmission Tariff that provides one-stop shopping for regional transmission service with consistent rates and terms.
2. Reliability Coordination: SPP monitors power flow throughout our footprint. We anticipate problems and take preemptive action to mitigate operating limit violations. SPP coordinates regional response in emergency situations or blackouts.
3. Regional Scheduling: SPP ensures that the amount of power sent is coordinated and matched with power received. SPP's regional scheduling service reduces the number of entities with which SPP members and customers have to coordinate.
4. Market Operations: SPP administers an Energy Imbalance Marketplace, monitors resource/load balance and ensures that less expensive power is used to serve load before expensive power, all while ensuring system reliability is met.
5. Expansion Planning: SPP's planning process seeks to identify system limitations and develop transmission upgrades for increased capacity.
6. Contract Services: SPP provides reliability, tariff administration, and scheduling for non-members on a contract basis.

SPP shall employ the following methods and procedures to (i) keep its funding mechanisms for its statutory activities separate from its funding mechanisms for its non-statutory activities and (ii) record the costs it incurs in the performance of its non-statutory activities separate from the costs it incurs in the performance of its statutory activities:

(i) Separation of funding sources for statutory activities and non-statutory activities. As a RTO, SPP is a public utility under the Federal Power Act, and is required to submit its budget to the Commission. The Commission already has approved SPP's RTO activities and has ordered that SPP's budgets be filed with the Commission.

SPP's non-statutory activities are funded separately from its Regional Entity statutory activities through the imposition of a Commission-approved Tariff Administration Fee charged by SPP to all load under the SPP Open Access Tariff, except for Contract Services activities, which are funded by contract fees. Additionally, SPP's members are assessed an annual membership fee.

SPP shall provide its budget for such non-statutory activities to NERC at the same time that SPP submits its annual budget to FERC. SPP agrees that no costs of non-statutory activities are to be included in the calculation of SPP's dues, fees, and other charges for its statutory activities.

As provided in section 3(b) of this Exhibit E, on a quarterly basis, SPP will invoice NERC, an amount equal to one-fourth of the current year approved annual funding amount for SPP's statutory activities. Upon receipt of payment from NERC, SPP will deposit these funds into an account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC pursuant to SPP's performance of statutory activities under the Delegation Agreement. On a monthly basis, all expenses incurred by SPP for statutory activities and for non-statutory activities are recorded and paid from the SPP operating account. Throughout the year, as expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities are paid from the SPP operating account, transfers are made from the account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC to the SPP operating account in the amounts of payments made for expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities.

(ii) Separation of costs of statutory activities and non-statutory activities. All employees performing functions directly attributed to SPP's delegated responsibilities who also perform functions related to SPP's non-statutory activities will utilize a time tracking system to accurately reflect their time spent on statutory activities. Periodically, but no less frequently than annually, SPP will input the time associated with its direct function staff performing statutory activities into a cost calculation model. Specific, direct costs attributable to the direct function staff performing statutory activities are salary, SPP-paid medical insurance, Medicare and Social Security taxes, and other SPP-paid benefits. These costs are then combined with other directly assignable costs of statutory activities, such as travel, meetings, contractors, professional services, fees and expenses of Regional Entity independent trustees, and other direct administrative expenses, and reported on the NERC Statement of Activities (formerly the NERC Treasurer's Report).

In addition, an allocation of SPP overhead costs to statutory activities is calculated and the allocated overhead costs are recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities. These overhead costs are shared throughout the SPP organization and include costs for payroll and accounts payable processing, human resources and benefits management, accounting, information technology, executive leadership, corporate affairs and communications, office costs and

other support services and expenditures. This allocation is calculated using a standard hourly rate multiplied by the number of SPP staff hours spent directly performing SPP's statutory activities. The hourly rate for allocated overhead costs is developed using SPP's current year operating budget, by separating SPP's shared services support costs which support all of SPP's functions (*i.e.*, the costs for the activities identified in the second sentence of this paragraph) from SPP's operational resource pool. The total shared services support costs are then divided by estimated total annual available work hours for SPP's operational resource pool. The average annual employee utilization rate assumes each employee works an eight-hour work day with adjustments to reflect SPP's employment policies related to vacation allotment, SPP holidays and other non-productive leave.

The total expenses for statutory activities in a month as recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities are used to determine the amount of transfer to be made to the SPP operating account to reimburse the SPP operating account for the payment of expenses of SPP's statutory activities.

ATTACHMENT 9B
REDLINED VERSION

**AMENDED AND RESTATED DELEGATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION
AND SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.**

AMENDED AND RESTATED DELEGATION AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) made as of April 5, 2008, between the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”), an organization certified by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) pursuant to Section 215(c) of the Federal Power Act to establish and enforce Reliability Standards for the bulk power system, and the Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (“SPP”), an organization established to develop and enforce Reliability Standards within the geographic boundaries identified on **Exhibit A** to this Agreement, and for other purposes. NERC and SPP may be individually referred to herein as “Party” or collectively as “Parties.”

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Subtitle A of the Electricity Modernization Act of 2005 added Section 215 to the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. § 824n) (hereafter “the Act”) and, among other things, provides for the establishment of an electric reliability organization (“ERO”) to develop and enforce Reliability Standards applicable to all owners, operators, and users of the bulk power system;

WHEREAS, the Commission has adopted regulations for the implementation of the Act set forth at Chapter I, Title 18, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 39, as adopted by Commission Order No. 672 in Docket No. RM05-30-000 on February 3, 2006 (114 FERC ¶ 61, 104; hereafter “Order 672”);

WHEREAS, the Commission has certified NERC as the ERO that will, in accordance with the Act, establish and enforce Reliability Standards for the bulk power system, subject to certain delegation provisions described below;

WHEREAS, the Act recognizes the international interdependency of electric reliability within North America and envisions the ERO and such applicable Regional Entities as international organizations;

WHEREAS, the Act and Section 39.8 of the Commission’s regulations provide for the delegation by the ERO of authority to propose and enforce Reliability Standards to regional entities such as SPP provided that:

(A) The Regional Entity is governed by —

- (i) an independent board;
- (ii) a balanced stakeholder board; or
- (iii) a combination independent and balanced stakeholder board.

(B) The Regional Entity otherwise satisfies the provisions of Section 215(c)(1) and (2) of the Act; and

(C) The agreement promotes effective and efficient administration of bulk power system reliability;

WHEREAS, certain Regional Entities are organized on an Interconnection-wide basis and are therefore entitled to the presumption set forth in the Act that: “[t]he ERO and the Commission shall rebuttably presume that a proposal for delegation to a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis promotes effective and efficient administration of bulk power system reliability and should be approved”;

WHEREAS, the Act further provides that the ERO shall rebuttably presume that a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis for a Reliability Standard or modification to a Reliability Standard to be applicable on an Interconnection-wide basis is just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential, and in the public interest;

WHEREAS, SPP is not organized on an Interconnection-wide basis and therefore is not entitled to the rebuttable presumptions accorded such an entity;

WHEREAS, NERC will work through SPP to carry out certain of its activities in furtherance of its responsibilities as the electric reliability organization under the Act; and

WHEREAS, NERC has concluded that SPP meets all requirements of the Act, the Commission's regulations, and the NERC Rules of Procedure as approved by the Commission ("NERC Rules") necessary to qualify for delegation;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, NERC and SPP, agree as follows:

1. Definitions. The capitalized terms used in this Agreement shall be defined as set forth in the Act, the Commission's regulations, or the NERC Rules or, if not so defined, shall be defined as follows:

(a) Breach means (i) the failure of a Party to perform or observe any material term, condition or covenant of the Agreement or (ii) a representation in Section 2 of the Agreement shall have become materially untrue.

(b) Cross-Border Regional Entity means a Regional Entity that encompasses a part of the United States and a part of Canada or Mexico.

(c) Delegated Authority means the authority delegated by NERC to SPP to propose and enforce Reliability Standards pursuant to the Act.

(d) SPP Rules means the bylaws, a rule of procedure or other organizational rule or protocol of SPP.

(e) Reliability Standard means a requirement approved by the Commission under Section 215 of the Federal Power Act to provide for reliable operation of the bulk power system. The term includes requirements for the operation of existing bulk power system facilities, including cyber security protection, and the design of planned additions or modifications to such facilities to the extent necessary for reliable operation of the bulk power system; but the term does not include any requirement to enlarge such facilities or to construct new transmission capacity or generation capacity.

2. Representations.

(a) For purposes of its Delegated Authority, SPP hereby represents and warrants to NERC that:

(i) SPP is and shall remain during the term of this Agreement validly existing and in good standing pursuant to all applicable laws relevant to this Agreement and that no applicable law, contract or other legal obligation prevents it from executing this Agreement and fulfilling its obligations hereunder. SPP is governed in accordance with its bylaws by an independent board. Pursuant to these bylaws, no two industry sectors can control any SPP decision and no single industry sector can veto any SPP decision. The relevant portions of such bylaws are attached hereto in **Exhibit B**¹, and as so attached are in full force and effect. No other such corporate governance documents are binding upon SPP.

(ii) As set forth in **Exhibit C** hereto², SPP has developed a standards development procedure, which provides the process that SPP may use to develop Regional Reliability Standards [and Regional Variances, if the regional entity is organized on an Interconnection-wide basis] that are proposed to NERC for adoption.

(iii) As set forth in **Exhibit D** hereto³, SPP has developed a regional compliance enforcement program, which provides for the enforcement of Reliability Standards within its geographic boundaries.

(b) NERC hereby represents and warrants to SPP that:

(i) It is and shall remain during the term of this Agreement validly existing and in good standing pursuant all applicable laws relevant to this Agreement and that no applicable law, contract or other legal obligation prevents it from executing this Agreement and fulfilling its obligations hereunder; and

(ii) It has been certified as the ERO by the Commission pursuant to the Act.

3. Covenants.

¹ The **Exhibit B** from each Regional Entity shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit B** to this pro forma Agreement.

² The **Exhibit C** from each Regional Entity shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit C** to this pro forma Agreement.

³ The **Exhibit D** from each Regional Entity shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit D** to this pro forma Agreement.

(a) During the term of this Agreement, SPP shall maintain and preserve its qualifications for delegation pursuant to the Act and shall not amend the SPP Rules without NERC's approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed and which shall, in the case of a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, be governed by the presumptions provided for in Section 215(d)(2) and (e)(4)(C) of the Act, and be subject to any required Commission approval.

(b) During the term of this agreement, NERC shall maintain its qualification and status as the ERO pursuant to the Act and, subject to the provisions of Sections 16 and 17 of this Agreement, NERC shall not adopt amendments to the NERC Rules that conflict with the rights, obligations or programs of SPP under this Agreement without first obtaining the consent of SPP, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

(c) During the term of this agreement, NERC and SPP shall adhere to and require that all participants in their respective activities under this Agreement follow and comply with the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines.

4. Delegation of Authority.

(a) Based upon the representations, warranties and covenants of SPP in Sections 2 and 3 above, the corporate governance documents set forth in **Exhibit B**, the standards development process set forth in **Exhibit C**, and the regional compliance enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D**, NERC hereby delegates authority, pursuant to Section 215(e)(4) of the Act, to SPP for the purpose of proposing Reliability Standards to NERC, as set forth in Section 5 of this Agreement, and enforcing Reliability Standards, as set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement, within the geographic boundaries set forth on **Exhibit A**. No further redelegation of authority or responsibility, in total or in part, under this Agreement is allowed without NERC's express consent.

(b) For Cross-Border Regional Entities, the authority delegated by this Agreement shall extend only to the portion of the region identified on **Exhibit A** that is within the United States. Any delegation of authority by governmental authorities in Canada or Mexico shall be governed by a separate agreement and is outside the scope of this Agreement; provided, however, that both SPP and NERC shall endeavor to ensure that this Agreement and such separate agreements are compatible.

(c) As a condition to this delegation of authority and subject to the provisions of section 16 of this Agreement, SPP shall comply with the applicable provisions of NERC's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules of Procedure, and Reliability Standards, as from time to time adopted, approved, or amended.

5. Reliability Standards.

(a) In connection with its Delegated Authority, SPP shall be entitled to:

(i) propose Reliability Standards, Regional Variances, or modifications thereof to NERC, which shall be considered by NERC through an open and inclusive process for proposing and adopting Reliability Standards that affords SPP reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard; and

(ii) develop Regional Reliability Standards [and Regional Variances, if Regional Entity is organized on an Interconnection-wide basis] through SPP's process as set forth in **Exhibit C**. Proposals approved through SPP's process shall be reviewed by the NERC Board of Trustees after NERC provides notice and an opportunity for interested persons to comment. In the case of a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, comments shall be limited to the factors identified in NERC Rule 313, section 3.1 as it may be amended from time to time. The NERC board of trustees shall promptly thereafter consider such proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance, applying the rebuttable presumption described in subsection 5(b) if the proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance is from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, and either approve the proposed standard and submit it to the Commission for approval, or disapprove it in writing setting forth its reasons. SPP may appeal any disapproval of a proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance to the Commission.

(b) Pursuant to Section 215(d)(3) of the Act, NERC shall rebuttably presume that a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis for a Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance or modification thereof to be applicable on an Interconnection-wide basis is just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential, and in the public interest. Any person challenging such proposal from the INTERCONNECTION-WIDE REGIONAL ENTITY shall have the burden of proof. NERC shall not find that this presumption has been rebutted except based upon substantial evidence

that has been disclosed to, and been subject to comment by, the INTERCONNECTION-WIDE REGIONAL ENTITY during NERC's review of the proposal.

6. Enforcement.

(a) In connection with its delegated authority pursuant to this Agreement, SPP shall enforce Reliability Standards (including Regional Reliability Standards and Regional Variances) within the geographic boundaries set forth in **Exhibit A** through the compliance enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D**. NERC and SPP agree that this program meets all applicable requirements of the Act, Order 672 and the Commission's regulations, including, *inter alia*, the requirement for an audit program pursuant to Section 39.7(a) of the Commission's regulations, the assessment of penalties pursuant to Section 39.7(c) through 39.7(g) of the Commission's regulations and the requirements for due process. SPP may not change its compliance enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D** absent NERC's approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. Subject to the rights and limitations of Sections 16 and 17 of this Agreement, SPP agrees to comply with the NERC Rules in implementing this program.

(b) SPP shall report promptly to NERC any self-reported violation or investigation of a violation or an alleged violation of a Reliability Standard and its eventual disposition. Such report shall include the owner's, operator's, or user's name, which Reliability Standard or Reliability Standards were violated or allegedly violated, when the violation or alleged violation occurred, other pertinent facts about the violation including circumstances surrounding the violation with any known risk to the bulk power system, when the violation was or will be mitigated, the name of a person knowledgeable about the violation or alleged violation to serve as a point of contact with the Commission, and any other information required by NERC compliance program procedures. NERC shall promptly forward such report to the Commission. NERC and SPP shall cooperate in filing such periodic summary reports as the Commission shall from time to time direct on violations of Reliability Standards and summary analyses of such violations.

(c) Each violation or alleged violation shall be treated as nonpublic until the matter is filed with the Commission as a notice of penalty or resolved by an admission that the owner, operator, or user of the bulk power system violated a Reliability Standard or by a settlement or

other negotiated disposition. The disposition of each violation or alleged violation that relates to a Cybersecurity Incident or that would jeopardize the security of the bulk power system if publicly disclosed shall be nonpublic unless the Commission directs otherwise.

(d) All appeals of penalties imposed by SPP shall be filed with NERC, in accordance with the NERC Rules.

(e) SPP shall maintain the capability to conduct investigations of potential violations of Reliability Standards and to conduct such investigations in a confidential manner.

(f) SPP shall maintain a program of proactive enforcement audits including procedures for spot-checks of self-reported compliance and periodic audits of all responsible entities as defined in **Exhibit D**.

(g) As part of its compliance enforcement program, SPP shall maintain a conflict of interest policy that assures the integrity of such program and the independence of the compliance program staff from those subject to enforcement actions.

(h) As often as NERC deems necessary, but no less than every three years, NERC shall review SPP's compliance enforcement program to ensure that: (i) the program meets all applicable legal requirements; (ii) actual practices reflect the requirements; and (iii) the program administered pursuant to the Delegated Authority promotes consistent interpretations across North America of Reliability Standards and comparable levels of sanctions and penalties to violations of Reliability Standards constituting comparable levels of threat to reliability of the bulk power system.

(i) SPP shall modify its compliance enforcement program as needed to reflect additions to, deletions from, or modifications of Reliability Standards and, subject to the rights and limitations of Sections 16 and 17 of this Agreement, shall modify its compliance enforcement program as needed: (i) to reflect amendments to the NERC Rules; (ii) to comply with NERC directives resulting from the review of compliance enforcement programs as provided in Section 6(h) of this Agreement; or (iii) to resolve a conflict with a function, rule, order, tariff, rate schedule, or agreement accepted, approved, or ordered by the Commission.

(j) NERC shall conduct a review with the Regional Entities that provides for the exchange of information on practices, experiences, and lessons learned in the implementation of compliance enforcement programs.

7. **Delegation-Related Services.** NERC will engage SPP on its behalf to carry out certain of its activities that are in furtherance of its responsibilities as the ERO under the Act or in support of delegated functions, as specified in the NERC Rules and listed on **Exhibit E**.

8. **Funding.** SPP and NERC shall ensure that the delegated functions and related activities listed on **Exhibit E** have reasonable and adequate funding and resources by undertaking the following:

(a) NERC shall fund SPP activities necessary for SPP to carry out its Delegated Authority under this Agreement, including the functions listed on **Exhibit E**, and shall not impose any obligation or requirement regarding Delegated Authority upon SPP without providing appropriate funding to carry out such mandates;

(b) SPP and NERC agree that costs of carrying out SPP's responsibilities under the Delegation Agreement will be equitably allocated among end users within the geographic boundaries described in **Exhibit A** and recovered through a formula based on net energy for load, or through such other formula as is [proposed by SPP and approved by NERC and the Commission](#). [If SPP proposes to use a formula other than net energy for load beginning in the following year, SPP shall submit the proposed formula to NERC in sufficient time that NERC may review and approve the proposed formula and file it with the Commission for approval by May 15, and the proposed formula shall be effective for the following year if approved by the Commission on or before the date the Commission approves expressly provided for in the annual business plan and budget submitted by NERC and SPP to the Commission pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §39.4 for such years set forth in **Exhibit E**;](#)

(c) NERC will ensure that the costs for its responsibilities are first allocated fairly among the interconnections and regions according to the applicability of this work to those interconnections and regions, and then equitably among the end users of the applicable interconnections and regions as appropriate. Allocation on a net energy for load basis will be presumed to satisfy this equitability requirement.

(d) NERC shall provide SPP with the form for budget submittal no later than April 30 of the prior year.

(e) SPP shall submit its annual budget for carrying out its Delegated Authority functions and related activities listed on **Exhibit E**, as well as all other SPP activities and

funding to NERC no later than June 1 of the prior fiscal year such that NERC may submit its budget to the Commission 130 days in advance of the beginning of each fiscal year. The SPP budget submission shall include supporting materials, including SPP's complete business plan and organization chart, explaining the proposed collection of all dues, fees and charges, and the proposed expenditure of funds collected in sufficient detail to justify the requested funding collection and budget expenditures. NERC shall develop, in consultation with the Regional Entities, a reasonable and consistent system of accounts, with a level of detail and record keeping comparable to the Commission's Uniform System of Accounts and sufficient to allow the Commission to compare each Commission-approved NERC fiscal year budget with the actual results at the NERC and Regional Entity level. SPP shall follow NERC's prescribed system of accounts except to the extent that NERC permits a departure from the prescribed system of accounts. [NERC shall make an informational filing with the Commission describing any such waiver it permits and providing an explanation supporting the permitted departure.](#)

(f) SPP's funding system shall include reasonable reserve funding for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses and other contingencies, consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

(g) NERC shall review and approve SPP's budget for meeting its responsibilities under the Delegation Agreement.

(h) SPP shall submit unaudited quarterly interim financial statements in form provided by NERC no later than 20 days after the end of the fiscal quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31).

(i) SPP shall submit audited financial statements annually including supporting materials in a form provided by NERC no later than 150 days after the end of the fiscal year.

(j) NERC shall have the right to review from time to time, in reasonable intervals but no less than every three years, the financial records of SPP in order to ensure that the documentation fairly represents in all material respects appropriate funding under this Agreement.

(k) **Exhibit E** to this Agreement sets forth the mechanism through which SPP shall offset penalty monies it receives (other than penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity) against its next year's annual budget for carrying out

functions under this Agreement, and the mechanism by which SPP shall transmit to NERC any penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP.

9. Assignment. This Agreement may be assigned by either Party only with the prior written consent of the other, which consent shall be granted or withheld in such non-assigning Party's sole discretion, subject to approval by the Commission. Any assignment under this Agreement shall not relieve a Party of its obligations, nor shall a Party's obligations be enlarged, in whole or in part, by reason thereof. SPP may not delegate in whole or in part its Delegated Authority to any other entity; provided, however, that nothing in this provision shall prohibit SPP from contracting with other entities to assist it in carrying out its Delegated Authority, provided SPP retains control and responsibility for such Delegated Authority.

10. Default and Cure. Upon a Breach, the non-breaching Party shall give written notice of such Breach to the breaching Party (the "Default Notice"). Subject to a suspension of the following deadlines as specified below, the breaching Party shall have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of the Default Notice within which to cure such Breach; provided however, that if such Breach is not capable of cure within thirty (30) calendar days, the breaching Party shall commence such cure within thirty (30) calendar days after notice and continuously and diligently complete such cure within ninety (90) calendar days from receipt of the Default Notice; and, if cured within such time, the Breach specified in such notice shall cease to exist. Subject to the limitation specified in the following sentence, if a Breach is not cured as provided in this article, or if a Breach is not capable of being cured within the period provided for herein, the nonbreaching Party shall have the right to declare a default and terminate this Agreement by written notice at any time until cure occurs, and be relieved of any further obligation hereunder. The deadlines for cure and the right to declare a default and terminate this Agreement shall be suspended during the pendency of any efforts or proceedings in accordance with Section 17 of this Agreement to resolve a dispute as to whether a Breach has occurred. The provisions of this article will survive termination of this Agreement.

11. Term and Termination.

(a) This Agreement shall become effective April 5, 2008, pursuant to the March 21, 2008 Order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (122 FERC 61,245).

(b) The initial term of the Agreement shall be three (3) years [from the original effective date of May 2, 2007](#), prior to which time NERC shall conduct an audit pursuant to subsections 6(e) and 7(i) to ensure that SPP continues to meet all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements necessary to maintain its eligibility for delegation. If SPP meets such requirements, this Agreement may be renewed for another five (5) year term. If this Agreement is not renewed or becomes subject to termination for any reason, the Parties shall work to ensure a transition of SPP's Delegated Authority to NERC or to another eligible entity. The termination of this Agreement shall not take effect until such transition has been effected, unless the transition period exceeds one year, at which time SPP may unilaterally terminate.

(c) If any provision of this Agreement, or the application thereof to any person, entity or circumstance, is held by a court or regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, or if a modification or condition to this Agreement is imposed by a regulatory authority exercising jurisdiction over this Agreement, the Parties shall endeavor in good faith to negotiate such amendment or amendments to this Agreement as will restore the relative benefits and obligations of the signatories under this Agreement immediately prior to such holding, modification or condition. If either Party finds such holding, modification or condition unacceptable and the Parties are unable to renegotiate a mutually acceptable resolution, either Party may unilaterally terminate this Agreement. Such termination shall be effective one year following written notice by either Party to the other Party and to the Commission, or at such other time as may be mutually agreed by SPP and NERC.

(d) Notwithstanding any termination of this Agreement, provisions contained in Limitation of Liability (Section 12), No Third Party Beneficiaries (Section 13) and Confidentiality (Section 14) shall survive this Agreement in accordance with their terms until sixty (60) days following the expiration of any applicable statute of limitations.

12. Limitation of Liability. SPP and NERC agree not to sue each other or their directors, officers, employees, and persons serving on their committees and subgroups based on any act or omission of any of the foregoing in the performance of duties pursuant to this Agreement or in conducting activities under the authority of Section 215 of the Act, other than seeking a review

of such action or inaction by the Commission. NERC and SPP shall not be liable to one another for any damages whatsoever, including without limitation, direct, indirect, incidental, special, multiple, consequential (including attorneys' fees and litigation costs), exemplary, or punitive damages arising out of or resulting from any act or omission associated with the performance of the SPP's or NERC's responsibilities under this Agreement or in conducting activities under the authority of Section 215 of the Act, except to the extent that the SPP or NERC is found liable for gross negligence or intentional misconduct, in which case SPP or NERC shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, special, multiple, consequential (including without limitation attorneys' fees and litigation costs), exemplary, or punitive damages.

13. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create any duty to, any standard of care with reference to, or any liability to any third party.

14. Confidentiality. During the course of the Parties' performance under this Agreement, a Party may receive Confidential Information, as defined in Section 1500 of NERC's Rules of Procedure. Except as set forth herein, the Parties agree to keep in confidence and not to copy, disclose, or distribute any Confidential Information or any part thereof, without the prior written permission of the issuing Party, unless disclosure is required by subpoena, law, or other directive of a court, administrative agency, or arbitration panel, in which event the recipient hereby agrees to provide the Party that provided the Confidential Information with prompt notice of such request or requirement in order to enable such issuing Party to (a) seek an appropriate protective order or other remedy, (b) consult with the recipient with respect to taking steps to resist or narrow the scope of such request or legal process, or (c) waive compliance, in whole or in part, with the terms of this Section. In the event a protective order or other remedy is not obtained or the issuing Party waives compliance with the provisions, the recipient agrees to furnish only that portion of the Confidential Information which the recipient's counsel advises is legally required and to exercise best efforts to obtain assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded to such Confidential Information. In addition, each Party shall ensure that its officers, trustees, directors, employees, subcontractors and subcontractors' employees, and agents to whom Confidential Information is exposed are under obligations of confidentiality that are at least as restrictive as those contained herein. This

confidentiality provision does not prohibit reporting and disclosure as directed by NERC, as set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement.

15. Amendment. Neither this Agreement nor any of the terms hereof, may be amended unless such amendment is made in writing, signed by the Parties, and filed with and approved by the Commission.

16. Amendments to the NERC Rules. NERC shall not adopt amendments to the NERC Rules that conflict with the rights, obligations, or programs of SPP under this Agreement without first obtaining the consent of SPP, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. To the extent SPP does not consent, NERC shall have the right to invoke the dispute resolution provisions of Section 17 and, if such effort fails to resolve the dispute, to petition the Commission to adopt the amendment to the NERC Rules. To the extent that the Commission issues an order amending or materially affecting the rights or obligations of SPP under this Agreement, SPP shall have the option, exercisable no later than 60 days after issuance of such order, to terminate this Agreement. Such termination shall be effective one year following written notice by SPP to NERC and the Commission, or at such other time as may be mutually agreed by SPP and NERC.

17. Dispute Resolution. In the event a dispute arises under this Agreement between NERC and SPP, representatives of the Parties with authority to settle the dispute shall meet and confer in good faith in an effort to resolve the dispute in a timely manner. In the event the designated representatives are unable to resolve the dispute within thirty (30) days or such other period as the Parties may agree upon, each Party shall have all rights to pursue all remedies, except as expressly limited by the terms of this Agreement. Neither Party shall have the right to pursue other remedies until the Dispute Resolution procedures of this Section 17 have been exhausted. This Section 17 shall not apply to enforcement actions against individual entities.

18. Notice. Whether expressly so stated or not, all notices, demands, requests, and other communications required or permitted by or provided for in this Agreement shall be given in writing to a Party at the address set forth below, or at such other address as a Party shall

designate for itself in writing in accordance with this Section, and shall be delivered by hand or reputable overnight courier:

If to NERC:

North American Electric
Reliability Corporation
116-390 Village Blvd.
Princeton, NJ 08540-5721

Attn: David Nevius
Facsimile: (609) 452-9550

If to SPP:

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
415 N. McKinley
Suite 140
Little Rock, AR 72205_____

Attn: Michael Desselle
Facsimile: (501) 664-9553

19. Governing Law. When not in conflict with or preempted by federal law, this Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of New Jersey without giving effect to the conflict of law principles thereof. The Parties recognize and agree not to contest the exclusive or primary jurisdiction of the Commission to interpret and apply this Agreement; provided however that if the Commission declines to exercise or is precluded from exercising jurisdiction of any action arising out of or concerning this Agreement, such action shall be brought in any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in New Jersey. All Parties hereby consent to the jurisdiction of any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in New Jersey for the purpose of hearing and determining any action not heard and determined by the Commission.

20. Headings. The headings and captions in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not define, limit, or otherwise affect any of the terms or provisions hereof.

21. Savings Clause. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to preempt or limit any authority that SPP may have to adopt reliability requirements or take other actions to ensure reliability of the bulk power system within the geographic boundaries described in **Exhibit A** that are outside the authority delegated from NERC, as long as such reliability requirements and actions are not inconsistent with Reliability Standards applicable to the region described in **Exhibit A** and do not result in a lessening of reliability outside the region described in **Exhibit A**.

22. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, among the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.

23. **Execution of Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and each shall have the same force and effect as the original.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized representatives, effective as of the date first above written.

NORTH AMERICAN
ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.

By: _____

By: _____

Name: David A. Whiteley

Name: Nicholas A. Brown

Title: Executive Vice President

Title: President

Date: ~~March 28~~ _____, 2008

Date: ~~March 28~~ _____, 2008

Regional Boundaries

Exhibit A Regional Boundaries

The geographic boundaries of Southwest Power Pool (SPP) are determined by the service areas of its membership, comprised of investor-owned utilities, municipal, cooperative, state and federal systems, merchant electricity generators and power marketers.

SPP covers an area of approximately 255,000 square miles of service territory (purple region depicted below) in all or part of eight states: Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Service provided by SPP members in areas which overlap with neighboring regions:

- ◆ The area in northeastern Oklahoma is served by Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company, Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, Grand River Dam Authority, and AEP West.
- ◆ The area in Arkansas is served by Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company, and AEP West.
- ◆ The area in western Missouri is served by Aquila, Empire District Electric Company, City Power & Light (Independence, MO), City Utilities (Springfield, MO), Grand River Dam Authority, Kansas City Power & Light Company, City Power & Light (Independence, MO), and Southwestern Power Administration.

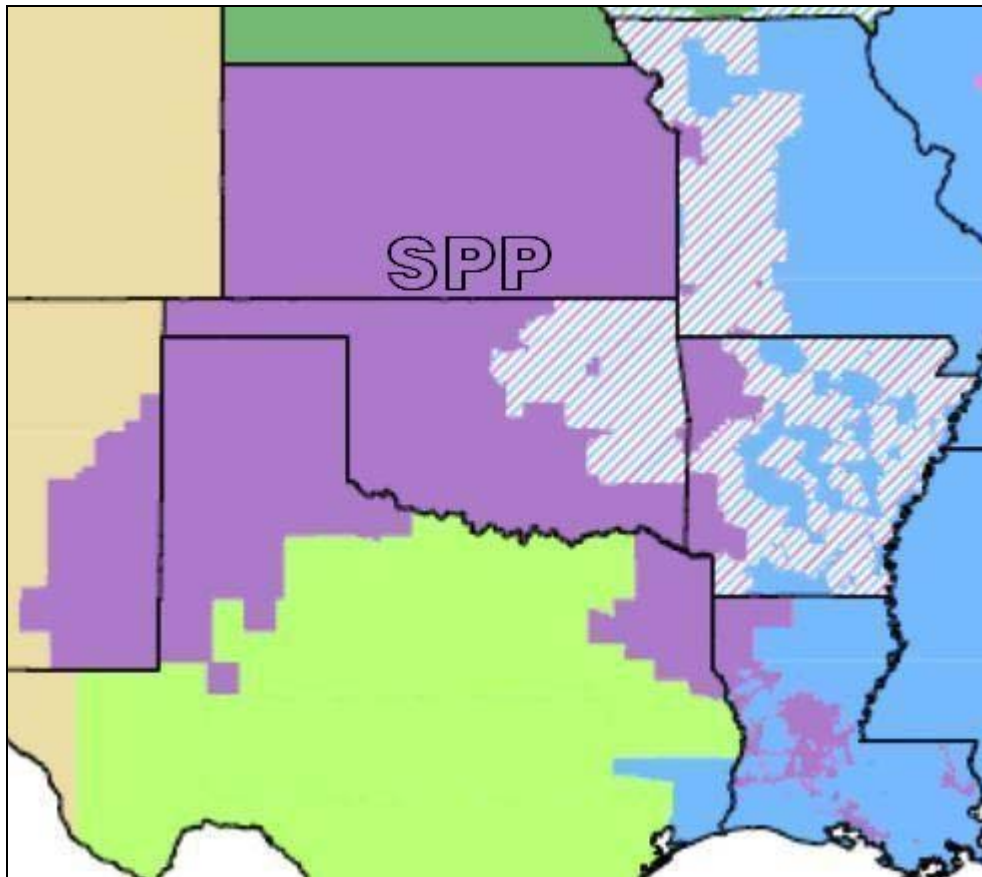


Exhibit B – Governance

Exhibit B shall set forth the Regional Entity’s bylaws, which NERC agrees demonstrate that the Regional Entity meets the following criteria:

CRITERION 1: The Regional Entity shall be governed by an independent board, a balanced stakeholder board, or a combination independent and balanced stakeholder board. (Federal Power Act § 215(e)(4)(A), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(1), Order No. 672 at ¶ 727.)

CRITERION 2: The Regional Entity has established rules that assure its independence of the users and owners and operators of the bulk power system, while assuring fair stakeholder representation in the selection of its directors. Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶¶ 699, 700.)

CRITERION 3: If the Regional Entity has members, the Regional Entity has established rules that assure that its membership is open, that it charges no more than a nominal membership fee and agrees to waive the fee for good cause shown, and that membership is not a condition for participating in the development of or voting on proposed Regional Reliability Standards. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶¶ 170-173.)

CRITERION 4: The Regional Entity has established rules that assure balance in its decision-making committees and subordinate organizational structures and assure no two industry sectors can control any action and no one industry sector can veto any action. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶ 728.)

CRITERION 5: The Regional Entity has established rules that provide reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment, due process, openness, and balance of interests in exercising its duties. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(D) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2).)

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
Bylaws
Original Volume No. 4

Prepared for Compliance Filing

July 21, 2008

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

BYLAWS

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Transmission and Regulatory Policy

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Southwest Power Pool Bylaws
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B Y L A W S
of
Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

PREAMBLE

The values and principles upon which SPP is incorporated and formed include: a relationship-based organization; member-driven processes; independence through diversity of Organizational Group membership; recognition that reliability and economic/equity issues are inseparable; and, deliberate evolutionary, as opposed to revolutionary, implementation of new concepts. These values and principles should guide those serving this organization. The Board of Directors will endeavor to ensure equity to all Members while also assuring the continuous adaptation to controlling conditions within these stated values and principles.

1.0 DEFINITIONS

1.1 Affiliate Relationships

Affiliate Relationships are relationships between SPP Members that have one or more of the following attributes in common:

- (a) are subsidiaries of the same company;
- (b) one Member is a subsidiary of another Member;
- (c) have, through an agency agreement, turned control of a majority of their generation facilities over to another Member;
- (d) have, through an agency agreement, turned control of a majority of their transmission system over to another Member, except to the extent that the facilities are turned over to an independent transmission company recognized by FERC;
- (e) have an exclusive marketing alliance between Members; or
- (f) ownership by one Member of ten percent or greater of another Member.

1.2 Articles of Incorporation

SPP's articles of incorporation as filed with the state of Arkansas.

1.3 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of SPP, which shall manage the general business of SPP pursuant to these Bylaws.

1.4 Bylaws

These bylaws.

1.5 Existing Obligations

Certain financial obligations as defined in Section 8.7.1 of these Bylaws.

1.6 ERO

The Electric Reliability Organization under FERC jurisdiction that regulates reliability of the electric power grid.

1.7 Member

An entity that has met the requirements of Section 2.2 of these Bylaws.

1.8 Membership

The collective Members of SPP.

1.9 Membership Agreement

The contract, that specifies the rights and obligations of the parties, executed between SPP and an entity seeking to become an SPP member.

1.10 Net Energy for Load

The electrical energy requirements of an electric system are defined as system net generation plus energy received from others, less energy delivered to others through interchange. It includes system losses but excludes energy required for the storage at energy storage facilities.

1.11 Officers

The officers of SPP as elected by the Board of Directors. The Officers consist of the President and the Corporate Secretary, at a minimum. Any Officer must be independent of any Member organization.

1.12 Organizational Group

A group, other than the Board of Directors, comprising a committee or working group that is charged with specific responsibilities toward accomplishing SPP's mission.

1.13 Regional Criteria

SPP planning and operating standards and procedures as approved by the Board of Directors.

1.14 Regional Entity Trustees

A governing body of SPP, independent of the Board of Directors, which specifically oversees SPP's function as an ERO Regional Entity pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

1.15 Regional Reliability Standards

Electric reliability requirements submitted to the ERO by the Regional Entity Trustees; and once approved, implemented and enforced by SPP under authority as the Regional Entity.

1.16 Registered Entity(ies)

A bulk electric system owner, operator or user that is required to comply with ERO reliability standards pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

1.17 SPP

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

1.18 SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

1.19 SPP Regional Entity

That part of SPP responsible for the delegated functions pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

1.20 Staff

The technical and administrative staff of SPP as hired by the Officers to accomplish SPP's mission.

1.21 Standards Development Team

An SPP Organizational Group assigned or choosing to develop an SPP Regional Reliability Standard for submission to the ERO for approval for enforcement.

1.21 Transmission Owning Member

A Member that has placed more than 500 miles of non-radial facilities operated at or above 60 kV under the independent administration of SPP for the provision of regional transmission service as set forth in the Membership Agreement.

1.22 Transmission Using Member

A Member that does not meet the definition of a Transmission Owning Member.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Qualifications

Membership in SPP is voluntary and is open to any electric utility, Federal power marketing agency, transmission service provider, any entity engaged in the business of producing, selling and/or purchasing electric energy for resale, and any entity willing to meet the membership requirements, including execution of the Membership Agreement. Membership also is open to any entity eligible to take service under the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT). These entities desire the greater efficiency and service reliability gained through better coordination by voluntary association in SPP as constituted herein and in the SPP Articles of Incorporation. Members recognize that such association has a significant effect upon the availability and reliability of the bulk electric power supply of the region, and thereby affects the reliability of the nation's electric power supply.

2.2 Applications

Membership by an entity shall be obtained upon meeting the following requirements:

- (a) Meeting membership qualifications;
- (b) Providing an application for membership to the SPP President; and
- (c) Executing the Membership Agreement and delivering a signed copy to the President.

The President shall review applications, approve those meeting membership qualifications and promptly give written notice of the new Member to all other Members. The Board of Directors will review any disputes arising as to the qualifications of the new Member. Membership will commence at the beginning of the next calendar month following completion of these requirements.

2.3 Member Responsibilities and Obligations

Members recognize that SPP exists and operates for the benefit of the bulk electric transmission system and to ensure the reliability of the nation's power supply. As such, Members are required to act to further these goals by participating in projects, and complying with regulatory requirements. Failure to comply with these provisions will be considered a violation of these Bylaws and the Member may be removed in accordance with the provisions for *Removal of Members* in the Membership Agreement.

2.4 Termination, Removal and Reinstatement

The Board of Directors may terminate the membership of any Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement. The President shall promptly give written notice of the removal to all other Members. Any former Member seeking to rejoin SPP shall apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement. In its application for reinstatement, the former Member shall:

- (a) provide evidence that it has fully paid any accrued financial obligation to SPP;
- (b) demonstrate it has corrected the reason for its removal;
- (c) establish that it will be in compliance with SPP membership requirements; and
- (d) deliver an executed Membership Agreement to the President.

2.5 Participation in Regional Entity Activities

Participation in SPP Regional Entity activities is open to the public and does not require membership in SPP, Inc. nor any of the obligations of membership, including SPP, Inc.'s annual fee.

3.0 ORGANIZATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Structure

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Member input on decision-making shall be accomplished primarily through Membership participation in Organizational Groups. Members are expected to provide representation to Organizational Groups as requested. Working group representation will be appointed by the Board of Directors, who shall consider the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations, to achieve a widespread and effective representation of the Membership. The Chair of any Organizational Group may appoint any ad hoc task forces as necessary to fulfill its mission. Task force appointments shall be made with due consideration of the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations. Participation in certain sessions of Organizational Group meetings where market sensitive issues are discussed may be restricted to persons representing entities that have executed ERO's Confidentiality Agreement. Representatives on all Organizational Groups will be documented in the SPP directory maintained by the Staff. Organizational Group vacancies will be filled on an interim basis by appointment of the President unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.

3.2 Proxy

If a Member's designated representative is unable to attend an Organizational Group meeting, it may in writing appoint a substitute representative who shall have such rights to participate and vote as the Member specifies.

3.3 Leadership

3.3.1 Appointment

The Chair of all Organizational Groups shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration and appointment by the Board of Directors. A Vice Chair shall be elected by the members of an Organizational Group, unless provided otherwise in these Bylaws.

A Vice Chair shall act for a Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) if the Chair becomes incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the position; or
- (c) if the position of the Chair becomes vacant, until a new Chair takes office.

3.3.2 Terms

The terms of the Chair and Vice Chair of all Organizational Groups shall coincide with the two-year term of the Chair of the Board of Directors. Working Group representation will be reviewed for appropriateness by the Corporate Governance Committee.

3.3.3 Vacancies

Should any individual having been appointed as a Chair of any Organizational Group be unable to serve for the term specified, or be unable to serve on a NERC Organizational Group under provisions of these Bylaws, a replacement shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Directors for the unexpired term of office.

3.4 Executive Authority

The Officers shall carry out the rights, duties, and obligations of SPP pursuant to the authority granted by the Board of Directors. Officers will execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for all employees of SPP. The Officers shall be empowered to:

- (a) employ qualified technical and administrative employees;
- (b) engage office space;
- (c) employ outside technical and special service organizations;
- (d) execute contracts;
- (e) provide for independent regional reliability coordination and transmission service administration;
- (f) serve as SPP's representative before regulatory bodies, NERC, and in other public forums;
- (g) incur reasonable expenses; and
- (h) make Staff resources available to individual Members or groups of Members on a non-firm, non-priority, first-come-first-serve basis so as not to interfere with current or future needs and priorities established by SPP.

3.5 Meetings

Organizational Groups shall meet as necessary. SPP meetings shall be open, however, any Organizational Group may limit attendance at a meeting by an affirmative vote of the Organizational Group as necessary to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information, included but not limited to Order 889 Code of Conduct requirements, personnel, financial, or legal

matters. Representatives shall be given at least fifteen days written notice of the date, time, place and purpose of each regular or special meeting. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair of any Organizational Group with at least one-day prior notice.

3.6 Order of Business

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order will generally govern all SPP meetings on any point not specifically covered in these Bylaws.

3.7 Expenses

The expenses of a representative participating in the activities of SPP Organizational Groups and task forces shall be borne by that representative.

3.8 Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership shall be those Members present. The quorum for any other Organizational Group or task force shall be one-half of the membership thereof, but not less than three members; provided, that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time.

3.9 Voting

Except as provided for in Section 9.5 of these Bylaws, each participant in an Organizational Group shall have one vote. Upon joining, Members shall be assigned to one of two Membership sectors for the sole purpose of voting: Transmission Owning Members, or Transmission Using Members. Markets and Operations Policy Committee and Membership actions are taken in the following process. Each sector votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. Then the action is approved if the average of these two percentages is at least sixty-six percent. If no Members are present within a sector, the single present sector-voting ratio will determine approval. A simple majority of participants present or represented by proxy and voting shall be required for all other Organizational Group and task force action.

3.10 Appeal

Should any Member or group of Members disagree on an action taken or recommended by any Organizational Group, such Member(s) may, in writing, appeal and submit an alternate recommendation to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting at which consideration of the action by the Board of Directors is scheduled.

3.11 Staff Independence and Support

SPP Staff members will be required to execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment and annually thereafter. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for employees of SPP. The President shall assign to each Organizational Group an SPP Staff member, who shall attend all meetings and act as secretary to the Organizational Group and any ad hoc task forces of that group. Staff secretaries of all Organizational Groups and task forces shall be non-voting. Minutes shall be kept of pertinent discussion, business transacted, decisions reached, and actions taken at each meeting of SPP Organizational Groups or task forces by the secretary. Minutes shall be considered published documents upon their approval by the Organizational Group or task force.

3.12 Publications and Data Bases

SPP shall publish and distribute printed reports as necessary to fulfill the SPP mission. SPP shall also develop and maintain electronic databases of relevant technical information as approved by the Board of Directors. The release of information in databases containing member-specific technical data considered proprietary in nature will be governed by the Membership Agreement and related Criteria and administered by the Staff. In the event member specific non-proprietary technical data is being distributed, SPP will provide written notice of the specific data submitted, to whom it is being submitted and the purpose of such submittal to the respective Member at the same time the data is provided to the requesting party. Publications and technical data will be made available at no charge to Members, other regional councils and their members, and federal and state agencies. Other parties requesting SPP publications or technical data will be charged an amount equivalent to production, handling and delivery costs.

3.13 Dispute Resolution

These procedures are established for the equitable, efficient and expeditious resolution of disputes. These procedures are intended to cover disputes between any two or more Members, between Members and consenting non-members or between SPP and any Member(s) or

consenting non-member(s). SPP and Members are strongly encouraged to take part in the complete process herein described prior to litigation or the utilization of other dispute resolution processes. SPP administrative involvement in the proceeding is to coordinate assembly of a non-biased and independent dispute resolution panel to facilitate the resolution of the dispute and to provide meeting coordination and facilities. If SPP is a party to the dispute, its administrative duties shall be turned over to a contracted facilitator mutually selected by the disputing parties. These procedures do not apply to disputes that are covered by the dispute resolution procedures of the SPP OATT or the SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

3.13.1 Instigation

Any Member may begin these dispute resolution procedures by making a request in writing to the President. The President will forward copies of this request to the Board of Directors. This written request must contain the authorized signatures of all parties to the dispute. The request must contain:

- (a) a statement of the issues in dispute;
- (b) the positions of each of the parties relating to each of the issues;
- (c) the specific dispute resolution procedure desired; and
- (d) any agreed-upon modifications or specific additions to the proceedings described in these Bylaws by which the dispute may be resolved.

3.13.2 Dispute Resolution Panel

The President shall immediately provide to each party to the dispute a list of candidates to be used in forming a three-person dispute resolution panel. This list shall be maintained by SPP and can be added to at any time by any Member. This list shall contain at least seven persons meeting the requirements for directors. The President shall then call a telephone conference meeting. During this meeting, each party shall alternate striking names from the list until those remaining constitute the dispute resolution panel. This panel shall select a chair from its membership. Should any candidate decline to serve or resign from a current appointment for any reason, the candidate whose name was last struck from the list shall automatically be contacted to serve. The President shall assign a Staff representative to assist the panel as

secretary. The President shall manage the panel selection process to ensure its completion within one week from receipt of the request.

3.13.3 Resolution Procedures

The types of proceedings available for the resolution of disputes are:

- (a) An Advisory Proceeding to assist each party through discussion and advice, on a separate and individual basis without active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations, to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (b) A Mediation Proceeding to assist the parties through active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations (including specific recommendations of the issues in dispute) through which the parties indirectly attempt to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (c) A non-binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of fact, and issue specific written recommendations for resolution of each issue in dispute.
- (d) A binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of fact, and issue directives and awards for resolution of each issue in dispute.

The panel chair shall determine meeting arrangements and format necessary to efficiently expedite the resolution of the dispute, and the Staff secretary shall notify the parties of these details. Each party to the dispute must have at least one representative present at all related meetings with full authority to resolve the dispute. Upon conclusion of this process, the panel chair shall notify the President of its outcome. After consultation with the parties to the dispute and the panel chair to determine the completion of the process as described herein, and/or as modified by the parties, the President shall discharge the panel, and notify the Board of Directors of the results. The parties to the dispute agree to complete the process within 90 days from selection of the panel. The Staff secretary shall maintain minutes of the panel meetings, which shall become part of SPP's historical records.

3.13.4 Expenses

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The parties to the dispute shall share equally all reasonable charges for the meeting location, administrative costs, and related travel expenses of panel members. The parties to the dispute shall also share equally all reasonable compensation for time and service of panel members and related incremental expenses of the SPP Staff. The President shall determine reasonableness of time and service costs for panel members prior to process implementation. The SPP Staff secretary shall account for these expenses. Each party to the dispute shall be responsible for their respective associated expenses.

3.13.5 Liability

The parties to any dispute which is the subject of these dispute resolution procedures shall hold harmless SPP, its Members, Organizational Groups and each of their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives, and the panel members from any liabilities, claims, or damages resulting from any agreement or lack of agreement as a result of the dispute resolution proceedings. The foregoing hold harmless right shall not be extended to the parties to any given dispute or to their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives.

3.14 Meeting of Members

The Chair of the Board of Directors shall convene and preside over meetings of Members for the purpose of electing directors to positions becoming vacant in the ensuing year, and any other necessary business. The Membership shall meet at least once per calendar year.

3.15 Liability, Insurance and Indemnification

For purposes of this section “SPP” refers to SPP and its officers, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, employees or agents, and “Member” refers to the Members of SPP as defined in these Bylaws. None of the provisions of this section, including the waiver of liability in Section 3.15.1 below, absolving SPP or its Members, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officer, agents, employees or other representatives of liability or any provisions for insurance or indemnification apply to actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

3.15.1 Waiver of Liability

- (a) SPP shall not be liable to any Member for damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action, or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.

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- (b) No Member shall be liable to any other Member or to SPP for damages arising out of or related to any action by the Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (c) Each Member waives any future claim it might have against SPP or other Members arising out of or resulting from any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (d) SPP waives any future claim it might have against any Member arising out of or resulting from any actions taken by a Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.

3.15.2 Insurance

The President is authorized to procure insurance to protect SPP, its directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives against damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria or pursuant to the OATT.

3.15.3 Indemnification of Directors, Officers, Agents and Employees

Except for actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct, SPP shall indemnify its directors, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives to the maximum extent allowed by law consistent with these Bylaws. Each director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative of SPP shall be indemnified by SPP against all judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses, including legal fees, incurred as a result of, or in connection with, any threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative proceedings to which the incumbent may be made a party by reason of acting or having acted in official capacity as a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or representative of SPP, or in any other capacity which the incumbent may hold at the request of SPP, as its representative in any other organization, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative must have acted in good faith and, in the case of criminal

proceedings, must have had no reasonable cause to believe that conduct was unlawful; provided, that SPP shall not provide indemnification of any conduct judged unlawful in criminal proceedings. When acting in official capacity, the incumbent must have reasonably believed that conduct was in the best interests of SPP, and, when acting in any other capacity, must have reasonably believed that conduct was at least not opposed to the best interests of SPP.

- (b) If the proceeding was brought by or on behalf of SPP, however, indemnification shall be made only with respect to reasonable expenses referenced above. No indemnification of any kind shall be made in any such proceeding in which the director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have been adjudged liable to SPP.
- (c) In no event, however, will indemnification be made with respect to any described proceeding which charges or alleges improper personal benefit to a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative and where liability is imposed on the basis of the receipt of such improper personal benefit.
- (d) In order for any director, Regional Entity Trustee, agent, employee, or other representative to receive indemnification under this provision, the person shall vigorously assert and pursue any and all defenses to those claims, charges, or proceedings covered herein which are reasonable and legally available and shall fully cooperate with SPP or any attorneys involved in the defense of any such claim, charges, or proceedings on behalf of SPP.
- (e) No indemnification shall be made in any specific instance until it has been determined by SPP that indemnification is permissible in that specific case, under the standards set forth herein and that any expenses claimed or to be incurred are reasonable. These two (2) determinations shall be made by a majority vote of at least a quorum of the Board of Directors consisting solely of directors who were not parties to the proceeding for which indemnification or reimbursement of expenses is claimed. If such a quorum cannot be obtained, a majority of at least a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including directors who are parties to said

proceeding, shall designate a special legal counsel who shall make said determinations on behalf of SPP.

- (f) Any reasonable expenses, as shall be determined above, that have been incurred by a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative who has been made a party to a proceeding as defined herein, may be paid or reimbursed in advance upon a majority vote of a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including those who may be a party to the same proceeding. However, such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have provided SPP with (i) a written affirmation under oath that the incumbent, in good faith, believes the conditions of indemnification herein have been met; and (ii) a written undertaking that the incumbent shall repay any amounts advanced, with interest accumulated at a reasonable rate, if it is ultimately determined that such conditions are not met.

3.15.4 Limitations

The provisions of this section 3.15 are subject to applicable state and federal laws, if any, which limit the ability of a Member to waive liability or enter into agreements of indemnity. Any benefits under this Section 3.15 shall not extend to any Member so limited by state or federal law in complying with the provisions thereof.

3.16 Compliance with Membership Requirements

Monitoring of Members and Staff shall be performed to ensure compliance with all requirements of Membership. Certain SPP compliance monitoring functions, as detailed in Section 9.0, shall be performed in concert with related ERO programs, and will be overseen by the Regional Entity Trustees. Other monitoring functions shall be provided by appropriate SPP staff under the oversight of the Oversight Committee and the Board of Directors. Compliance monitoring shall be an after-the-fact investigative and assessment function performed by appropriate SPP staff.

Monitoring functions shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved Bylaws, Regional Criteria, OATT, and agreements between SPP and its Members;

- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible non-compliance with Membership requirements;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in order to investigate non-compliance with Membership requirements upon approval from the Oversight Committee;
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of Membership requirements are determined and documented;
- (e) Imposition of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance associated with the results of investigations or audits pursuant to approved policies and/or Criteria;
- (f) Confirmation that SPP is conforming to its own Regional Criteria, OATT, business practices, and reliability operations in a manner that does not stifle the efficiency of the energy markets;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and
- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define requirements, and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance with Membership requirements.

3.17 Market Monitoring

SPP shall establish and provide appropriate support to a market monitoring function through an independent contractor possessing the requisite experience and qualifications. Market monitoring functions shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the SPP transmission system, the operation of a robust, competitive and non-discriminatory electric power market, and the principle that a Member or group of Members shall not have undue influence or impact.

The market monitoring entity shall be selected by and report to the Board of Directors. Any reports submitted shall be concurrently provided to the Board of Directors and the appropriate regulatory body or bodies. The President shall ensure that the market monitoring entity has adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of its duties.

Market monitoring functions shall include but are not limited to:

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- (a) Monitoring and reporting on compliance and market power issues relating to transmission services, including compliance and market power issues involving congestion management and ancillary services and the potential of any market participant(s) to exercise market power within the region by affecting available transmission capacity;
- (b) Evaluation and recommendation of any required modifications to the OATT, standards or Criteria
- (c) Ensuring that the monitoring program is conducted in an independent and objective manner;
- (d) Development of reporting procedures to inform governmental agencies and others concerning market monitoring activities;
- (e) Monitoring the behavior of market participants to determine whether there is any behavior that hinders the reliable, efficient and non-discriminatory provision of transmission service by SPP;
- (f) Ensuring that SPP's involvement in markets does not discriminate in favor of any market participant or its own interests; and
- (g) Developing plans for mitigating market power, subject to appropriate regulatory approval.

4.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.1 Duties

The Board of Directors shall at all times act in the best interest of SPP in its management, control and direction of the general business of SPP. The Board of Directors shall solicit and consider a straw vote from the Members Committee as an indication of the level of consensus among Members in advance of taking any actions other than those occurring in executive session. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Direct activities of all SPP Organizational Groups;
- (b) Serve on SPP Organizational Groups;
- (c) Remove Members, and approve the re-entry of Members that have been removed;
- (d) Authorize all major contracts and debt instruments;

- (e) Select and review the performance of Officers, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors;
- (f) Determine positions, duties, qualifications, salaries, benefits and other necessary matters pertaining to the SPP Staff;
- (g) Review, approve, disapprove or recommend revision to the actions of any Organizational Group;
- (h) Act on appeals pursuant to Section 3.10;
- (i) Approve and implement Regional Criteria for enforcement under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement.
- (j) Provide input with the Members Committee to the Regional Entity Trustees, on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval.
- (k) Approve or revise the operating and capital budgets and any additional expenditures;
- (l) Convene a meeting of Members at least annually;
- (m) Approve amendments to these Bylaws;
- (n) Approve amendments to the Membership Agreement;
- (o) Approve Regional Criteria pertaining to planning and operating standards and policies and penalties for non-compliance with such Regional Criteria; and
- (p) Authorize filings with regulatory bodies.

4.2 Composition and Qualifications

4.2.1 Composition

The Board of Directors shall consist of seven persons. The seven directors shall be independent of any Member; one director shall be the President of SPP. A Director shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve. The President shall be excluded from voting on business related to the office of President or the incumbent of that office. No other Staff member shall be permitted to serve as a director.

4.2.2 Qualifications

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Directors shall have recent and relevant senior management expertise and experience in one or more of the following disciplines: finance, accounting, electric transmission or generation planning or operation, law and regulation, commercial markets, and trading and associated risk management.

4.2.3 Conflicts of Interest

Directors shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member or customer of services provided by SPP. Directors may indirectly own securities through a mutual fund or similar arrangement (other than a fund or arrangement specifically targeted toward the electric industry or any segments thereof) under which the director does not control the purchase or sale of such securities. Participation in a pension plan of a Member or customer shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's or customer's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

4.3 Term and Election

Except for the President, a director shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. Initial staggering of terms will be decided by lottery with two directors' terms to expire in the first year, two in the second year, and two in the third year. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least three months prior to the meeting of Members when election of new directors is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons equal in number to the directors to be elected;
- (b) At least one month prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall notify the President in writing of the persons it nominates for election as directors, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The President shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;

- (c) For purposes of electing or removing directors only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee or nominees may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded by Members; and
- (e) At the meeting of Members, the required number of directors shall be elected by written ballot. Each sector of the Membership votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. Each Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidates receiving the highest percent of the average of approving vote ratios within each Membership sector will fill vacancies.

4.4 Resignation and Removal of Directors

Any director may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a director with cause by the vote of a majority of each Membership sector at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A director who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

4.5 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will present to the Board of Directors for consideration and election an interim director to serve until a replacement director is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement director shall take office immediately following the election.

4.6 Functioning of the Board of Directors

In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of any Organizational Group or task force, the Board of Directors shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws.

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4.6.1 Meetings and Notice of Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet at least three times per calendar year and additionally upon the call of the Chair or upon concurrence of at least four directors. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the President to each director, the Members Committee, and the Regional State Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting of the Board of Directors, unless such notice is waived by the Board of Directors. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair with at least one-day prior notice. Board of Directors' meetings shall include the Members Committee and a representative from the Regional State Committee (as defined in Section 7.2) for all meetings except when in executive session; provided however, the failure of representatives of the Members Committee and/or of the Regional State Committee to attend, in whole or in part, shall not prevent the Board of Directors from convening and conducting business, and taking binding votes. The Chair shall grant any Member's request to address the Board of Directors.

4.6.2 Chair and Vice Chair; Election and Terms

The Board of Directors shall elect from its membership a Chair and Vice Chair for two-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office or until their term as a director expires without re-election. The President of SPP may not serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Vice Chair shall act for the Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) in the event the Chair should become incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the office; or
- (c) if the office of Chair becomes vacant, until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. The Chair shall appoint a director to fill a vacant Vice Chair position until the next meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Vice Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy.

4.6.3 Quorum and Voting

Five of the directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors; provided that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time. Decisions of the Board of Directors shall

be by simple majority vote of the directors present and voting. Directors must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. Voting will be by secret ballot. The Secretary will collect and tally the ballots, and announce the results of a vote. Only voting results will be announced and recorded in the minutes; individual votes will not be announced or recorded.

4.6.4 Compensation of Directors

Directors shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, and approved by the Membership, and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

4.6.5 Executive Session

Executive sessions (open only to directors and to parties invited by the Chair) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Board of Directors to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial, or legal matters.

5.0 COMMITTEES ADVISING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5.1 Members Committee

The Members Committee shall work with the Board of Directors to manage and direct the general business of SPP. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Provide individual and collective input to the Board of Directors, including but not limited to a straw vote from the Members Committee representatives as an indication of the level of consensus among Members, on all actions pending before the Board of Directors; and
- (b) Serve on committees reporting to the Board of Directors as appointed by the Board of Directors.
- (c) Provide input with the Board of Directors to the Regional Entity Trustees on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval.

5.1.1 Composition and Qualifications

5.1.1.1 Composition

Provided that Membership is sufficient to accommodate these provisions, the Members Committee shall consist of up to 18 persons. Four representatives shall be investor owned utilities Members; four representatives shall be cooperatives Members; two representatives shall be municipals Members (including municipal joint action agencies); three representatives shall be independent power producers/marketers Members; one representative shall be a state/federal power agencies Member; two representatives shall be alternative power/public interest Members; one representative shall be a large retail customer Member; defined as non-residential end-use customers with individual or aggregated loads of 1-MW or more; and one representative shall be a small retail customer Member, defined as residential customers and other customers with individual or aggregated loads of less than 1-MW. Representatives will be elected in accordance with Section 5.1.2 of these Bylaws.

5.1.1.2 Qualifications

A representative shall be an officer or employee of a Member with decision-making responsibility over SPP related activities, and must be the Member's representative to the Membership.

5.1.2 Term and Election

Representatives shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee and elected each year at the meeting of Members to staggered three-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office. Initial staggering of terms will be decided by lottery. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least three months prior to the meeting of Members at which election of new representatives is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall nominate persons equal in number to the representatives to be elected;
- (b) At least one month prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall notify the President in writing of the persons it nominates for election as representatives, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The President shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional

names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;

- (c) For purposes of electing and removing representatives only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single vote;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee or nominees may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded to add such nominee or nominees; and
- (e) At the meeting of Members, the required number of representatives shall be elected by written ballot. A Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of representatives to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidates in each sector receiving the greatest number of votes will fill vacancies.

5.1.3 Resignation and Removal of Members Committee Representatives

Any representative may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. A representative may be removed, with cause, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A representative who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

5.1.4 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee may elect an interim representative from the same sector to serve until a replacement representative from the same sector is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement representative shall take office immediately following the election.

5.1.5 Meetings

The Members Committee shall meet only with the Board of Directors.

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6.0 COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This section describes the general scopes and responsibilities of the Organizational Groups reporting directly to the Board of Directors. Nothing in this section is meant to limit these responsibilities or activities in the effort to fulfill SPP's mission.

6.1 Markets and Operations Policy Committee

Each SPP Member shall appoint a representative to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative designated shall be an officer or employee of the Member. The Board of Directors will appoint the Chair and Vice Chair of the MOPC. Each member of the MOPC may continue to be a member thereof until the appropriate Member appoints a successor.

The MOPC shall meet at least three times per calendar year, and additionally as needed. The MOPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each MOPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the MOPC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Markets and Operations Policy Committee shall include:

- (a) Recommend practices for system design, planning, adequacy, regional transmission service tariff, interconnections, operation, reliability, market designs and efficiency, and market power mitigation that will help to assure efficient and reliable power supply among the systems in SPP and SPP transmission customers;
- (b) Coordinate and review ERO Policies and Standards and their applicability to SPP, its Members, and Registered Entities in the SPP footprint;
- (c) Present any Regional Reliability Standards for ERO adoption in accordance with SPP's Standards Development Process;
- (d) Coordinate and oversee the work of any Standards Development Team(s);
- (e) Report to the Trustees on all standards recommended by working groups reporting to the MOPC;
- (f) Make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors and Regional Entity Trustees regarding SPP's compliance with ERO Policies and Standards;

- (g) Review Member operating plans and problems that are pertinent to SPP planning and operation;
- (h) Maintain an annual series of load flow and short circuit models and associated stability data bases representing the current and planned electric network of the region, and maintain a data base of all transmission, generation, and supporting facilities within SPP;
- (i) Review and assess the current and planned electric system of the region;
- (j) Make use of studies available from other regions;
- (k) Recommend to the Board of Directors criteria for planning, operations, and to assist in the efficiency and vitality of the wholesale electricity market;
- (l) Coordinate inter-regional and intra-regional plans and facilitate planning, information exchange, and operations between inter-regional and intra-regional groups;
- (m) Develop a coordinated plan for intra-regional transmission for greater efficiency and reliability of electric power supply;
- (n) Recommend to the Board of Directors and Members individual or joint action to improve the operation of the systems comprising SPP;
- (o) Respond to activities as requested by the Strategic Planning Committee and the Board of Directors;
- (p) Monitor the current state and evolution of the electric energy supply industry and proactively recommend commercial practices that meet industry needs and promote commerce;
- (q) Work with all SPP Organizational Groups to promote a high standard of operational reliability;
- (r) Continue coordination of its efforts with the efforts of North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) and the ISO/RTO Council (IRC), including periodic review of NAESB business practices and IRC policies and their applicability to SPP and its Members;
- (s) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the MOPC is meeting its responsibilities; and

- (t) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.2 Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) shall be comprised of eleven members. Three representatives shall be from the Board of Directors; four representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and four representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the SPC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the SPC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The SPC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The SPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each SPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the SPC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Strategic Planning Committee shall include:

- (a) Gather information from SPP Members, customers, Staff, regulatory jurisdictions, market monitors, and legislative bodies on industry trends, forecasts and directions;
- (b) Assess the industry environment in which SPP will be operating;
- (c) Assess SPP's capabilities and competencies against the industry environment, including coordination with neighboring entities;
- (d) Develop and recommend to the Board of Directors a mission and vision statement and accompanying goals and objectives;
- (e) Formulate strategies to ensure achievement of SPP's mission statement, goals, objectives, and responsibilities, and recommend necessary modifications to SPP processes to carry out these strategies;

- (f) Work with other Organizational Groups in developing related action plans, schedules and budgets;
- (g) Review annually the structure of the Organizational Groups, and together with the Organizational Group Chairs, the charters of each Organizational Group, and recommend changes to the Board of Directors, as appropriate;
- (f) Review the self-assessments of the Organizational Groups to assure that they are being done on a consistent basis;
- (h) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the SPC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (j) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.3 Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee (HRC) shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the HRC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the HRC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The HRC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The HRC shall report to the Board of Directors following each HRC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the HRC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Human Resources Committee shall include assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibility to the Members, and investment community with respect to the oversight of:

- (a) The development and administration of employee benefit programs;
- (b) The effectiveness of SPP's compensation plan for employees and directors;
- (c) The activities of investment managers charged with managing employee benefit assets, including evaluation of performance;
- (d) Approve and monitor SPP staffing structure to ensure it accomplishes organizational mission;
- (e) Maintain current job description for the President and conduct annual performance evaluation;
- (f) Other duties and responsibilities detailed in the Human Resources Committee charter; and
- (g) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.4 Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee (OC) shall be comprised of three members from the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the OC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the OC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Board of Directors will fill the vacancy.

The OC shall meet as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The OC shall report to the Board of Directors following each OC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the OC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Oversight Committee shall include:

- (a) Oversee the process of monitoring compliance to SPP policies other than that assigned to the Regional Entity Trustees under these Bylaws;
- (b) Independently review activities of the Staff;
- (c) Hear and rule on appeals from Members regarding penalty assessment or fine distribution prior to dispute resolution proceedings;
- (d) Recommend Regional Criteria changes necessary for enforcement of mandatory compliance and in response to unclear enforcement provisions of Regional Criteria;

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- (e) Grant specific additional authority to the Staff responsible for the oversight monitoring function when needed to perform challenging investigations;
- (f) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the OC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (g) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.5 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee (FC) shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the FC at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following each annual meeting of Members. Each representative of the FC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The FC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The FC shall report to the Board of Directors following each FC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the FC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Finance Committee shall include assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibility to the Members, and investment community with respect to its oversight of:

- (a) The quality and integrity of SPP's financial statements;
- (b) SPP's compliance with financially-based legal and regulatory requirements;
- (c) The independent auditor's qualifications, selection, and independence;
- (d) The performance of SPP's internal audit function and independent auditors;
- (e) The development and implementation of annual and long-term operating and capital budgets;

- (f) The management of risk;
- (g) Develop policies for management of debt financing and for long-term contracting;
- (h) Monitoring methodology for cost recovery to ensure continuing equity for Members;
- (i) Other duties and responsibilities detailed in the Finance Committee charter; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

6.6 Corporate Governance Committee

To the extent that the membership allows, the Corporate Governance Committee (CGC) shall be comprised of nine members. One representative shall be the President of SPP who will serve as the Chair; the Chairman of the Board, unless his/her position is under consideration, in which case the Vice Chairman of the Board; one representative shall be representative of and selected by investor owned utilities Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by co-operatives Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by municipals Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by independent power producers/marketers Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by state/federal power agencies Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by alternative power/public interest Members; and one representative shall be representative of and selected by large/small retail Members.

Where a vacancy occurs with respect to a representative of a sector, the representatives from the appropriate sector will fill the vacancy.

The CGC shall meet at least once per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The CGC shall report to the Board of Directors following each CGC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the CGC deems necessary.

The responsibilities of the Corporate Governance Committee shall include:

- (a) Seek input from the Board of Directors, the Members Committee, or the Trustees as to the skills needed to fill any vacancy under consideration;

- (b) In the event of a vacancy or the replacement of an existing director, provide candidates identified by an independent executive search firm for consideration to the Members for election to the Board of Directors;
- (c) In the event of a vacancy or the replacement of an existing Trustee, provide candidates for consideration to the Members for election to the Regional Entity Trustees;
- (d) Monitor the composition of the Board of Directors to ensure balance, independence, maintenance of qualifications under any applicable laws, avoidance of conflict of interest, and periodic review of the criteria for independence set out in the Bylaws and appropriate regulatory bodies, recommending changes, as appropriate;
- (e) Recommend to the Board of Directors the appointment of Organizational Group representatives and leadership except for the Corporate Governance Committee, the Members Committee, whose representatives are elected by the Members, and the Market and Operations Policy Committee, whose representatives are appointed by the Members;
- (f) Develop criteria governing the overall composition of the Board of Directors for recommendation to the Board of Directors;
- (g) Develop criteria governing the overall composition of the Regional Entity Trustees for recommendation to the Membership;
- (h) Coordinate an annual review and assessment of the effectiveness of the Board of Directors, its structure, and process;
- (i) Coordinate an annual review and assessment of the effectiveness of the Regional Entity Trustees, its structure, and process;
- (j) Develop recommendations for the Board of Directors regarding a director succession policy;
- (k) Recommend compensation levels for the Board of Directors and Regional Entity Trustees to the Membership.
- (l) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the CGC is meeting its responsibilities; and
- (m) Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may delegate or direct.

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7.0 REGULATORY INVOLVEMENT AND REGIONAL STATE COMMITTEE

Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member may participate fully in all SPP activities, including participation at the SPP Board of Directors meetings. These representatives shall have all the same rights as Members except the right to vote. Participation includes the designation of representatives by each of the regulatory jurisdictions to participate in any type of committee, working group, task force, and Board of Directors meetings.

7.1 Retention of State Regulatory Jurisdiction

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish existing state regulatory jurisdiction and authority. Each state regulatory agency is expressly reserved the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

7.2 Regional State Committee

An RSC, to be comprised of one designated commissioner from each state regulatory commission having jurisdiction over an SPP Member, shall be established to provide both direction and input on all matters pertinent to the participation of the Members in SPP. This direction and input shall be provided within the context of SPP's organizational group meetings as well as Board of Directors meetings. The SPP Staff will assist the RSC in its collective responsibilities and requests by providing information and analysis. SPP will fund the costs of the RSC pursuant to an annual budget developed by the RSC and submitted to SPP as part of its budgeting process, which budget must ultimately be approved by the Board of Directors.

The RSC has primary responsibility for determining regional proposals and the transition process in the following areas:

- (a) whether and to what extent participant funding will be used for transmission enhancements;
- (b) whether license plate or postage stamp rates will be used for the regional access charge;
- (c) FTR allocation, where a locational price methodology is used; and

- (d) the transition mechanism to be used to assure that existing firm customers receive FTRs equivalent to the customers' existing firm rights.

The RSC will also determine the approach for resource adequacy across the entire region. In addition, with respect to transmission planning, the RSC will determine whether transmission upgrades for remote resources will be included in the regional transmission planning process and the role of transmission owners in proposing transmission upgrades in the regional planning process.

As the RSC reaches decisions on the methodology that will be used to address any of these issues, SPP will file this methodology pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act. However, nothing in this section prohibits SPP from filing its own related proposal(s) pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act.

7.3 Retention of Other Regulatory Jurisdiction

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish the jurisdiction or authority of any other regulatory body. Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member or the regional transmission organization reserves the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

8.0 FISCAL ADMINISTRATION

The fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year.

8.1 Operating Budget

SPP Staff and the Finance Committee will prepare an annual budget of expenditures for the next fiscal year and an estimate for an additional two years. The proposed budget shall be submitted to the Board of Directors not less than two weeks prior to the meeting at which the budget is to be considered for approval. Once approved by the Board of Directors, the budget shall constitute the authority required by the Officers for expenditures for the ensuing year. Modifications to the budget during the fiscal year must be recommended to the Board of Directors by the Finance Committee. The President shall have the authority to approve unbudgeted expenditures of up to \$250,000 individually or in the aggregate during the fiscal

year. The President may approve unbudgeted expenditures in excess of \$250,000 but less than \$1,000,000 with the concurrence of the Finance Committee. Unbudgeted expenditures in excess of \$1,000,000 require prior approval of the Board of Directors.

8.2 Annual Membership Fee

All SPP Members will be subject to an annual membership fee in the amount of \$6,000, or other amount established by the Board of Directors. Membership fees are not subject to refund. The Board of Directors shall determine the annual membership fee for the upcoming year in advance of the last meeting of Members in a calendar year. Legitimate public interest groups (e.g. consumer advocates, environmental groups, or citizen participation groups) may seek a waiver of the annual membership fee. The request for waiver must be directed to the President in writing 90 days in advance of the start of each fiscal year.

8.3 ERO and Regional Entity Costs

SPP is a Regional Entity of the Electric Reliability Organization and is subject to the terms of the Delegation Agreement executed by SPP and the ERO. SPP will have certain functions as signatory to the Delegation Agreement related to the establishment and submission of annual budgets related to fulfillment of Regional Entity functions as well as participation in the costs incurred by ERO. The Delegation Agreement may specify SPP's responsibility to collect ERO costs from SPP's Regional Entity footprint, and may specify ERO's responsibility to fund SPP's Regional Entity budget.

SPP will clearly set out the costs associated with its operation as a Regional Entity within SPP's annual budget.

8.4 Monthly Assessments

SPP will assess certain Members described herein on a monthly basis all costs not otherwise collected. Costs recovered under the assessment will include but are not limited to all operating costs, financing costs, debt repayment, and capital expenditures associated with the performance of SPP's functions as assigned by the Board of Directors. Significant among these are costs associated with regional reliability coordination and the provision of transmission service. SPP shall determine the assessment rate based on its annual budgeted net expenditures

divided by estimated annual Schedule 1 billing units for service sold under SPP's OATT and Member load eligible to take, but not taking, Network Integration Transmission Service under SPP's OATT. The Board of Directors may review the assumptions used in determining the assessment rate at any time and may adjust the assessment rate appropriately should conditions warrant. Each load-serving Member shall then be assessed the monthly assessment rate applied to its load eligible to take Network Integration Transmission Service under the SPP OATT. Further, each load-serving Member shall receive a credit against the monthly assessment for that month's Schedule 1 fees paid for Network Integration Transmission Service and for Point-to-Point Transmission Service that had a delivery point within the SPP region, under the SPP OATT.

8.5 Fiscal Agent

The President shall serve as the fiscal agent of SPP. The President shall keep an up-to-date record of receipts and disbursements and furnish reports to the Board of Directors and the Finance Committee.

8.6 Auditors

The Board of Directors shall annually engage an independent certified public accounting firm to perform an annual audit of SPP's financial records and prepare a report on the financial condition of SPP. The Finance Committee shall present the audit report to the Board of Directors upon completion.

8.7 Financial Obligation of Withdrawing Members

8.7.1 Existing Obligations

"Existing Obligations" are the following:

- a. Member's unpaid annual membership fee.
- b. Member's unpaid dues, assessments, and other amounts charged under Section 3.8 or otherwise under the Bylaws, plus the Member's share of costs SPP customarily includes in such dues, assessments or other charges, but which as of the Termination Date SPP had not included in such dues, assessments or other charges.

- c. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of the entire principal amounts of all SPP Financial Obligations outstanding as of the Termination Date. "Financial Obligations" are all long-term (in excess of six (6) months) financial obligations of SPP, including but not limited to the following:
 - i. debts under all loans, loan agreements, borrowings, promissory notes, bonds, and credit lines, under which SPP is obligated, including principal and interest;
 - ii. all payment obligations under equipment leases, financing leases, capital leases, real estate and office space leases, consulting contracts, and contracts for outsourced services;
 - iii. any unfunded liabilities of any SPP employee pension funds, whether or not liquidated or demanded; and
 - iv. the general and administrative overhead of SPP for a period of three (3) months.
- d. Any costs, expenses or liabilities incurred by SPP directly due to the Termination, regardless of when incurred or payable, and including without limitation prepayment premiums or penalties arising under SPP Financial Obligations.
- e. Member's share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of all interest that will become due for payment with respect to all interest bearing Financial Obligations after the Termination Date and until the maturity of all Financial Obligations in accordance with their respective terms ("Future Interest"). In the event that a Financial Obligation carries a variable interest rate, the interest rate in effect at the Termination Date shall be used to calculate the applicable Future Interest. In determining the Member's share of Future Interest, SPP shall take into account any reduction of Financial Obligations due to mitigation under this Section.

8.7.2 Computation of a Member's Existing Obligations

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For purposes of computing the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or terminated Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement, such “Member’s share” is a percentage calculated as follows:

$$A = 100 [0.25(1/N) + 0.75(B/C)]$$

Where: A = Member’s share (expressed as a percentage)

N = Total number of Members

B = The Member's previous year Net Energy for Load within SPP

C = Total of factor B for all Members

The Finance Committee shall have the discretion to reduce the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or terminated Member, to reflect any SPP costs or expenses that may be mitigated in connection with such Member’s withdrawal or termination.

9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION

9.1 Regional Entity

SPP operates as a Regional Entity under FERC jurisdiction with oversight powers delegated to it by the ERO. The Regional Entity Trustees shall appoint representatives to ERO organizational groups as necessary to represent the interests of the SPP Regional Entity. SPP may pay appropriate associated travel expenses of those appointed representatives upon receipt by the Secretary to the Trustees of an expense report as normally filed within the representative’s system.

9.2 Regional Entity Staff

The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee staffing requirements for the SPP Regional Entity. All SPP Regional Entity compliance enforcement staff shall report through the Executive Director of Compliance to the Trustees.

9.3 Executive Director of Compliance

The Executive Director of Compliance shall be elected by and report to the SPP Regional Entity Trustees. The President shall ensure that the Executive Director of Compliance has

adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of his/her duties.

9.4 Duties of Compliance Staff

Compliance functions shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved ERO policies and standards;
- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible non-compliance with ERO policies and standards;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in conjunction with the Compliance Enforcement Program;
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of ERO policies and standards are determined and documented;
- (e) Recommendation of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance with ERO policies and standards pursuant to ERO guidelines;
- (f) Assist the Regional Entity Trustees with third party audits to confirm that SPP is conforming to ERO policies and standards;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and
- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define ERO requirements, and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance.

9.5 Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

When an SPP working group or task force is considering an SPP Regional Reliability Standard, it will be designated the Standards Development Team (SDT) for that Standard in accordance with the SPP Regional Entity Standards Development Process Manual. For purposes of an SDT, participation and voting will be open to any interested party in accordance with the Standards Development Process and without regard to membership status in SPP.

9.6 Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

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The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee SPP's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP). The CMEP will enforce compliance according to ERO reliability standards for Registered Entities. Regional Entity Compliance staff shall oversee compliance auditing of registered entities, and will report audit results to the Regional Entity Trustees.

All audits of SPP's compliance with ERO reliability standards will be performed by external third party auditors as coordinated and managed by the Regional Entity Trustees.

9.7 Regional Entity Trustees

9.7.1 Functions and Duties of the Regional Entity Trustees

The Regional Entity Trustees shall at all times act in the best interests of SPP's role as the SPP Regional Entity in its management, control, and direction of the general business of the Regional Entity functions. In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of any appropriate entity, the Regional Entity Trustees shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws.

Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Monitor all Registered Entities in the SPP footprint for compliance with ERO/FERC requirements, including auditing and issuance of official findings.
- (b) Administer SPP's Compliance Enforcement Program.
- (c) Coordinate and manage third party audits to confirm that SPP is conforming to ERO policies and standards;
- (d) Impose penalties as prescribed and approved by ERO/FERC.
- (e) Regional Entity staff administration.
- (f) Regional Entity budget decisions.
- (g) Track and review Regional Standards from MOPC for submission to the ERO and FERC for approval and implementation.
- (h) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the Regional Entity Trustees are meeting their responsibilities; and
- (i) Provide an annual report to the Board of Directors regarding the effectiveness of the Regional Entity function and processes.

9.7.2 Composition and Qualifications

9.7.2.1 Composition

The Regional Entity Trustees shall consist of three (3) persons. The trustees shall be independent of the SPP Board of Directors, any Member, industry stakeholder, or SPP organizational group. Regional Entity Trustees do not serve as members of the SPP Board of Directors. A trustee shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve.

9.7.2.2 Qualifications

Regional Entity Trustees shall have relevant senior management expertise and experience in the reliable operation of the bulk electric transmission system in North America.

9.7.2.3 Conflicts of Interest

Regional Entity Trustees shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member, a customer of services provided by SPP, or a Registered Entity in the SPP footprint. Trustees may indirectly own securities through a mutual fund or similar arrangement (other than a fund or arrangement specifically targeted toward the electric industry or any segments thereof) under which the trustee does not control the purchase or sale of such securities. Participation in a pension plan of a Member, customer, or Registered Entity in the SPP footprint shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's, customer's, or Registered Entity's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

9.7.3 Term and Election

Regional Entity Trustees shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. Initial staggering of terms will be decided by lottery with one trustee's term to expire in the first year, one in the second year, and one in the third year. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least three months prior to the meeting of Members when election of a new trustee is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons for the position to be elected;
- (b) At least one month prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall notify the President in writing of the person it nominates for election as a trustee, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The

President shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;

- (c) For purposes of electing or removing trustees only, Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee(s) may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded by Members; and
- (e) At the meeting of Members, the required number of trustees shall be elected by written ballot. Each sector of the Membership votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. Each Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of trustees to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidate(s) receiving the highest percent of the average of approving vote ratios within each Membership sector will fill vacancy(ies).

9.7.4 Resignation and Removal of Regional Entity Trustees

Any Regional Entity Trustee may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a trustee with cause by the vote of a majority of each Membership sector at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A trustee who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

9.7.5 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will appoint an interim trustee to serve until a replacement trustee is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement trustee shall take office immediately following the election.

9.7.6 Meetings and Notice of Meetings

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Regular Regional Entity Trustees' meetings will be scheduled in conjunction with the regularly scheduled SPP Board of Directors meetings, and additionally upon the call of the chair or upon concurrence of at least two trustees. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, all meetings will be open to any interested party. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the chair to each trustee, the Board of Directors, and the Members Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting, unless such notice is waived by the trustees. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the chair with at least one-day prior notice. The chair shall grant any party's request to address the Regional Entity Trustees.

9.7.7 Chair

The Regional Entity Trustees shall elect from its membership a chair for a two-year term commencing upon election and continuing until the chair's duly elected successor takes office or until the chair's term as a trustee expires without re-election. The panel may elect to rotate the chair to the senior member of the panel when the initial, or subsequent, chair's term expires.

9.7.8 Quorum and Voting

Two trustees shall constitute a quorum of the Regional Entity Trustees necessary for a binding vote. Decisions of the Regional Entity Trustees require two affirmative votes. Trustees must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. All Regional Entity Trustee decisions regarding the Regional Entity are final except as subject to oversight by the ERO and FERC.

9.7.9 Compensation of Regional Entity Trustees

Regional Entity Trustees shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, approved by the Membership, and submitted for approval as part of the ERO budget process. Trustees shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

9.7.10 Executive Session

Executive sessions (open only to Trustees and parties invited by the chair of the Regional Entity Trustees) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Regional Entity Trustees to

safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial or legal matters, or confidential information related to compliance matters.

10.0 AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS, THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, AND MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

Except for modifications to Section 4.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 5.0 COMMITTEES ADVISING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION, and Section 10.0 AMENDMENTS, these Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or added to by the Board of Directors only upon 30 days written notice to the Membership of the proposed modification(s). Approval of amendments to the Bylaws by the Board of Directors must be by an affirmative vote of at least five directors. Sections 4.0, 5.0, 9.0, and 10.0 of these Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation may be amended, repealed, or added to only by approval of the Membership. All amendments are subject to the requisite regulatory approval(s).

11.0 EFFECTIVE DATE AND TRANSITION PROVISIONS

These Bylaws shall become effective the day following acceptance at FERC and remain in force thereafter as may be amended. These Bylaws hereby cancel and supersede all previous SPP Bylaws; provided that these Bylaws do not relieve any Member from any financial obligation incurred thereunder. Binding obligations entered into by authority of Officers, the Board of Directors, or the Regional Entity Trustees under these Bylaws are hereby assumed and confirmed as obligations of SPP under these Bylaws.

Issued by: L. Patrick Bourne, Manager
Transmission and Regulatory Policy

Effective: May 1, 2004

Issued on: August 2, 2004

Filed to comply with order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Docket Nos. RT04-1-002 and ER04-48-002, issued July 2, 2004, 108 FERC ¶ 61,003.

Exhibit C – Regional Standard Development Procedure

Exhibit C shall set forth the Regional Entity’s standards development procedure, which NERC agrees meets the following common attributes:

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 1

Proposed regional reliability standards shall be subject to approval by NERC, as the electric reliability organization, and by FERC before becoming mandatory and enforceable under Section 215 of the FPA [add reference to any applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico]. No regional reliability standard shall be effective within the SPP area unless filed by NERC with FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico] and approved by FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico].

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 2

SPP regional reliability standards shall provide for as much uniformity as possible with reliability standards across the interconnected bulk power system of the North American continent. A SPP reliability standard shall be more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the continent-wide reliability standard does not, or shall be a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the bulk power system. A regional reliability standard that satisfies the statutory and regulatory criteria for approval of proposed North American reliability standards, and that is more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, would generally be acceptable.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 3

SPP regional reliability standards, when approved by FERC [add applicable authorities in Canada], shall be made part of the body of NERC reliability standards and shall be enforced upon all applicable bulk power system owners, operators, and users within the SPP area, regardless of membership in the region.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 4

Requester — The requester is the sponsor of the regional reliability standard request may assist in the development of the standard. Any member of SPP, or group within SPP shall be allowed to request that a regional reliability standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn. Additionally, any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) that is directly and materially affected by the reliability of the bulk power system in the SPP area shall be allowed to request a regional reliability standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 5

[Standards or other named] committee — The SPP [standards] committee manages the standards development process. The [standards] committee will consider which requests for new or revised standards shall be assigned for development (or existing standards considered for deletion). The [standards] committee will advise the SPP board on standards presented for adoption.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 6

[Registered ballot body — The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that a) qualify for one of the stakeholder segments; are registered with SPP as potential ballot participants in the voting on standards; and are current with any designated fees. Each member of the registered ballot body is eligible to vote on standards. [Each standard action has its own ballot pool formed of interested members of the registered ballot body. Each ballot pool comprises those members of the registered ballot body that respond to a pre-ballot survey for that particular standard action indicating their desire to participate in such a ballot pool.] The representation model of the registered ballot body is provided in Appendix A.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 7

SPP will coordinate with NERC such that the acknowledgement of receipt of a standard request identified in step 1, notice of comment posting period identified in step 4, and notice for vote identified in step 5 below are concurrently posted on both the SPP and NERC websites.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 8

An acceptable standard request shall contain a description of the proposed regional reliability standard subject matter containing sufficiently descriptive detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information of the proposed standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 9

Within [no greater than 60] days of receipt of a completed standard request, the [standards] committee shall determine the disposition of the standard request.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 10

The [standards] committee may take one of the following actions:

- Accept the standard request as a candidate for development of a new standard, revision of an existing standard, or deletion of an existing standard. The [standards] committee may, at its discretion, expand or narrow the scope of the standard request under consideration. The [standards] committee shall prioritize the development of standard in relation to other proposed standards, as may be required based on the volume of requests and resources.
- Reject the standard request. If the [standards] committee rejects a standard request, a written explanation for rejection will be delivered to the requester within [no greater than 30] days of the decision.
- Remand the standard request back to the requester for additional work. The standards process manager will make reasonable efforts to assist the requester in addressing the deficiencies identified by the [standards] committee. The requester may then resubmit the modified standard request using the process above. The requester may choose to withdraw the standard request from further consideration prior to acceptance by the [standards] committee.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 11

Any standard request that is accepted by the [standards] committee for development of a standard (or modification or deletion of an existing standard) shall be posted for public viewing on the SPP website within [no greater than 30] days of acceptance by the committee.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 12

The standards process manager shall submit the proposed members of the drafting team to the [standards] committee. The [standards] committee shall approve the drafting team membership within 60 days of accepting a standard request for development, modifying the recommendations of the standards process manager as the committee deems appropriate, and assign development of the proposed standard to the drafting team.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 13

At the direction from the [standards] committee, the standards process manager shall facilitate the posting of the draft standard on the SPP website, along with a draft implementation plan and supporting documents, for a no less than a [30]-day] comment period. The standards process manager shall provide notice to SPP stakeholders and other potentially interested entities, both within and outside of the SPP area, of the posting using communication procedures then currently in effect or by other means as deemed appropriate.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 14

The drafting team shall prepare a summary of the comments received and the changes made to the proposed standard as a result of these comments. The drafting team shall summarize comments that were rejected by the drafting team and the reason(s) that these comments were rejected, in part or whole. The summary, along with a response to each comment received will be posted on the SPP website no later than the next posting of the proposed standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 15

Upon recommendation of the drafting team, and if the [standards] committee concurs that all of the requirements for development of the standard have been met, the standards process manager shall post the proposed standard and implementation plan for ballot and shall announce the vote to approve the standard, including when the vote will be conducted and the method for voting. Once the notice for a vote has been issued, no substantive modifications may be made to the proposed standard unless the revisions are posted and a new notice of the vote is issued.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 16

The standards process manager shall schedule a vote by the SPP [registered ballot body/[standards] committee]. The vote shall commence no sooner than [15] days and no later than [30] days following the issuance of the notice for the vote.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 17

The SPP registered ballot body shall be able to vote on the proposed standard during a period of [not less than 10] days.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 18

All members of SPP are eligible to participate in voting on proposed new standards, standard revisions or standard deletions. [Alternatively: Each standard action requires formation of a ballot pool of interested members of the registered ballot body.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 19

Approval of the proposed regional reliability standard shall require a [two thirds] majority in the affirmative (affirmative votes divided by the sum of affirmative and negative votes). Abstentions and non-responses shall not count toward the results, except that abstentions may be used in the determination of a quorum. A quorum shall mean [XX%] of the members of the [registered ballot body/ballot pool] submitted a ballot.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 20

Under no circumstances may the board substantively modify the proposed regional reliability standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 21

Once a regional reliability standard is approved by the board, the standard will be submitted to NERC for approval and filing with FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 22

- **Open** - Participation in the development of a regional reliability standard shall be open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by the SPP bulk power system reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in SPP, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of drafting teams shall be open to the SPP members and others.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 23

- **Balanced** - The SPP standards development process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests and shall not be dominated by any two interest categories and no single interest category shall be able to defeat a matter.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 24

- **Inclusive** — Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the bulk power system in the SPP area shall have a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, and c) having the right to appeal.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 25

- **Fair due process** — The regional reliability standards development procedure shall provide for reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At a minimum, the procedure shall include public notice of the intent to develop a standard, a public comment period on the proposed standard, due consideration of those public comments, and a ballot of interested stakeholders.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 26

- **Transparent** — All actions material to the development of regional reliability standards shall be transparent. All standards development meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the regional entity's Web site.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 27

- Does not unnecessarily delay development of the proposed reliability standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 28

Each standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that each standard serves a purpose in support of the reliability of the regional bulk power system. Each standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 29

While reliability standards are intended to promote reliability, they must at the same time accommodate competitive electricity markets. Reliability is a necessity for electricity markets, and robust electricity markets can support reliability. Recognizing that bulk power system reliability and electricity markets are inseparable and mutually interdependent, all regional reliability standards shall be consistent with NERC's market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure that standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 30

To ensure uniformity of regional reliability standards, a regional reliability standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of the procedure. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of standards. This discipline is necessary to achieving standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 31

All mandatory requirements of a regional reliability standard shall be within the standard. Supporting documents to aid in the implementation of a standard may be referenced by the standard but are not part of the standard itself.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 32

Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions. If not applicable to the entire SPP area, then a clear identification of the portion of the bulk power system to which the standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 33

Measure(s)

Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measures. Measures are used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measure will identify to whom the measure applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required demonstrating compliance. Each measure shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. It is important to realize that measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measure should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirement(s) to which it applies.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 34

Compliance Monitoring Process

Defines for each measure:

- The specific data or information that is required to measure performance or outcomes.
- The entity that is responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes.
- The process that will be used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes.
- The entity that is responsible for evaluating data or information to assess performance or outcomes.
- The time period in which performance or outcomes is measured, evaluated, and then reset.
- Measurement data retention requirements and assignment of responsibility for data archiving.
- Violation severity levels.



Southwest Power Pool
Regional Entity
Standards Development Process
Manual

October 2, 2007

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I. Introduction

This manual defines the fair and open process for adoption, approval, revision, reaffirmation, and deletion of a regional reliability standard (Standard) by Southwest Power Pool, a regional entity (RE). Standards provide for the reliable regional and sub-regional planning and operation of the Bulk Power System (BPS), consistent with Good Utility Practice within an RE's geographical footprint.

Due process is the key to ensuring that Standards are developed in an environment that is equitable, accessible and responsive to the requirements of all interested and affected parties. An open and fair process ensures that all interested and affected parties have an opportunity to participate in a Standard's development.

Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the Bulk Power System has a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, c) voting on a proposed regional reliability standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and d) having the right to appeal.

II. Background

An RE may develop, through its own processes, separate Standards that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or otherwise address issues that are not addressed in NERC reliability standards.

NERC reliability standards and the RE's Standards are all to be included within the RE's Compliance Program.

RE Standards are developed consistent with the following philosophies and according to the process defined in this manual:

- A fair and open process that provides an opportunity for all interested parties to participate;
- Avoid any impact on commerce that is not necessary for reliability;
- Provide a level of BPS reliability that is adequate to protect public health, safety, welfare, and national security and do not have a significant adverse impact on reliability; and
- A justifiable difference between regions or between sub-regions within the Regional geographic area.

The NERC Board of Trustees has adopted reliability principles and market interface principles to define the purpose, scope, and nature of reliability standards. These principles are fundamental to reliability and the market interface, and provide a constant beacon to guide the development of reliability standards. The NERC Board of Trustees may modify these principles from time to time, as necessary, to adapt its vision for reliability standards. Persons and committees that are responsible for the RE Standards process shall consider these NERC principles in the execution of those duties.

NERC reliability standards are based on certain reliability principles that define the foundation of reliability for the North American BPS. Each Standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that it serves a purpose in support of reliability of the North American BPS. Each Standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no Standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

While NERC reliability standards are intended to promote reliability, they must at the same time accommodate competitive electricity markets. Reliability is a necessity for electricity markets, and robust electricity markets can support reliability. Recognizing that BPS reliability and electricity markets are inseparable and mutually interdependent, all Standards shall be consistent with the market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure that Standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

III. Regional Reliability Standard Definition, Characteristics, and Elements

A. Definition of a Regional Reliability Standard

A NERC reliability standard defines certain obligations or requirements of entities that operate, plan, and use the Bulk Power Systems of North America. The obligations or requirements must be material to reliability and measurable. Each obligation and requirement shall support one or more of the stated reliability principles and shall be consistent with all of the stated reliability and market interface principles in the NERC Standards Process Manual.

SPP RE may develop, through the process described in this manual, separate SPP Regional Reliability Standards (Standard) that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or that cover matters not addressed in NERC continent-wide reliability standards. SPP Regional Reliability Standards may be developed and exist separately from NERC continent-wide reliability standards, or may be proposed as NERC reliability standards. Standards that exist separately from NERC reliability standards shall be more stringent than a NERC continent-wide reliability standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the NERC continent-wide reliability standard does not, or shall be a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the bulk power system. These regional reliability standards, if approved by the RE Trustees, are forwarded to NERC for review and submittal to FERC for approval.

B. Definition of SPP Criteria

SPP Criteria are those requirements used by SPP members that are for purposes others than those specified for SPP Regional Reliability Standards (Standards). SPP Criteria are enforceable only under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement. SPP Criteria may be developed in accordance with SPP Bylaws outside the process described within this manual since these criteria are not intended to be used by the SPP Regional Entity for compliance and enforcement under the authority delegated under the NERC – SPP Regional Delegation Agreement.

C. Characteristics of a Regional Reliability Standard

Standards define obligations or requirements for the operation and planning of interconnected systems and market interface practices that will be enforceable under the authority of the SPP RE. The format and process defined by this manual applies to all Standards.

A Standard shall have the following characteristics:

- **Material to Reliability** - A Standard shall be material to the reliability of bulk power systems of the RE's region. If the reliability of the bulk power systems could be compromised without a particular standard or by a failure to comply with that standard, then the standard is material to reliability.
- **Measurable** - A Standard shall establish technical or performance requirements that can be practically measured.

- **Relative to NERC Reliability Standards** - A Standard must go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or cover matters not addressed in NERC reliability standards.

D. Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

An RE Standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of this manual. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of Standards. This discipline is necessary to achieve standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent. The format allows a clear statement of the purpose, requirements, measures, and penalties for non-compliance associated with each Standard. Supporting documents to aid in the implementation of a Standard may be referenced by the Standard but are not part of the Standard itself. All mandatory requirements of a Standard shall be within an element of the standard.

Performance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

Identification Number	A unique identification number assigned in accordance with an administrative classification system to facilitate tracking and reference RE documentation. Format for Regional Standard Request will be: RSR-000
Title	A brief, descriptive phrase identifying the topic of the Standard.
Effective Date and Status	The effective date of the Standard or, prior to adoption of the Standard by the RE through its own processes, the proposed effective date. The status of the standard will be indicated as active or by reference to one of the numbered steps in the standards process.
Purpose	The purpose of the Standard. The purpose shall explicitly state what outcome will be achieved or is expected by this Standard. The purpose is agreed to early in the process as a step toward obtaining approval to proceed with the development of the standard. The purpose should link the standard to the relevant principle(s).
Requirement(s)	Explicitly stated technical, performance, and preparedness requirements. Each requirement identifies the responsible entity and the action to be performed or outcome to be achieved. Each statement in the requirements section shall be a statement for which compliance is mandatory. Any additional comments or statements for which compliance is not mandatory such as background or explanatory information should be placed in a separate document and referenced. (See Supporting References).

Applicability	<p>Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions.</p> <p>If not applicable to the entire SPP area, then a clear identification of the portion of the bulk power system to which the standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.</p>
Risk Factor(s)	<p>The potential reliability significance of each requirement, designated as a High, Medium, or Lower Risk Factor in accordance with the criteria listed below:</p> <p>A High Risk Factor requirement (a) is one that, if violated, could directly cause or contribute to bulk power system instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the bulk power system at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly cause or contribute to bulk power system instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the bulk power system at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures, or could hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Medium Risk Factor requirement (a) is a requirement that, if violated, could directly affect the electrical state or the capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the bulk power system, but is unlikely to lead to bulk power system instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the bulk power system, but is unlikely, under emergency, abnormal, or restoration conditions anticipated by the preparations, to lead to bulk power system instability, separation, or cascading failures, nor to hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Lower Risk Factor requirement is administrative in nature and (a) is a requirement that, if violated, would not be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the bulk power system; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, would not, under the emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the bulk power system.</p>

Measure(s)	Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measurements. Measurements will be used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measurement identifies to whom the measurement applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required to demonstrate compliance. Each measurement shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. Measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measures should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirements(s) to which it applies.
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Compliance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

Compliance Monitoring Process	<p>The following compliance elements, which are part of the standard and are balloted with the standard are developed for each measure in a standard by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the standard drafting team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific data or information required to measure performance or outcomes. • The entity responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes. • The process used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes. • The entity responsible for evaluating data or information to assess performance or outcomes. • The time period in which performance or outcomes is measured, evaluated, and then reset. • Measurement data retention requirements and assignment of responsibility for data archiving.
Violation Severity Levels	Defines the degree to which compliance with a requirement was not achieved. The violation severity levels, are part of the standard and are balloted with the standard, and developed by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the standard drafting team.

Supporting Information Elements

Interpretations	Formally approved interpretations of the reliability standard. Interpretations are temporary, as the standard should be revised to incorporate the interpretation. Interpretations are developed and approved through a process described in the section Interpretations of Standards.
Implementation Plan	Each standard shall have an associated implementation plan describing the effective date of the standard or effective dates if there is a phased implementation. The implementation plan may also describe the implementation of the standard in the compliance program and other considerations in the initial use of the standard, such as necessary tools, training, etc. The implementation plan must be posted for at least one public comment period and is approved as part of the ballot of the standard.
Supporting References	This section references related documents that support reasons for, or otherwise provide additional information related to, the Standard. Examples include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development history of the Standard and prior versions• Notes pertaining to implementation or compliance• Standard references• Standard supplements• Procedures• Practices• Training references• Technical references• White papers• Internet links to related information

IV. Roles in the Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

Any member of NERC, including any member of a regional reliability organization, regional entity, or group within NERC shall be allowed to request that a Standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn. Additionally, any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) who is directly and materially affected by the reliability of the North American Bulk Power Systems shall be allowed to request a Standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn.

Originator - Any entity (person, organization, company, governmental agency, individual, etc.) that is directly and materially affected by the operation of an RE's BPS, is allowed to request a Standard be developed or an existing Standard be modified, or deleted.

Registered ballot body — The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that qualify for one of the voting segments and are registered with SPP as a ballot participant in the voting of a proposed standard. Membership in SPP is not a requirement for registration. Registration in a ballot body must be done via the SPP website by close of business the day prior to the day voting begins on the standard. [Each standard action has its own registered ballot body.] The representation model of the registered ballot body is provided in Sec V. B. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps, Step 5 – Open Voting.] The outcome of the vote of the registered ballot body is forwarded to the RE Trustees regardless of advisory voting outcomes at the MOPC or SPP Board level.

SPP Regional Entity Trustees (RE Trustees) – The SPP Regional Entity Trustees shall act on any proposed Standard that has gone through the process contained in this manual. Upon approval by the RE Trustees, the Standard will be submitted to NERC for approval under the ERO. RE Trustees are notified of all proposed regional reliability standards requests and receive progress reports from the RE Staff. They also receive notice of the outcome of votes by the ballot body and any recommendations and reports on proposed standards made by the SDT, MOPC and SPP Board.

Regional Entity Staff (RE Staff)- RE Staff shall support the RE Trustees in their oversight authority over the Standards Development Process and any other function or responsibility ascribed to them in the NERC- Southwest Power Pool, Inc. Delegation Agreement.

SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) - The SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee will assign Standards to a Standards Development Team for development or revision

SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee (BOD/MC) – The SPP Board of Directors in conjunction with the Members Committee provides advisory votes to the RE Trustees on reliability matters as they pertain to the RE. The BOD/MC votes on proposed regional standards or changes to regional standards for the sole purpose of providing an additional stakeholder forum for review, and valuable input to the RE Trustees decision on a regional standard based on the groups expertise on reliability, operations and market matters as well as its wide diverse representation of the SPP membership.

Compliance Director – The RE office responsible for the administration of the SPP Compliance Program. The duties of this office includes but are not limited to, providing inputs and comments during the standards development process to ensure the measures will be effective and can be practically implemented.

Standard Drafting Team (SDT) – Usually an existing SPP Working Group or Task Force that is comprised of technical experts. Any interested party may attend meetings, provide input and comments, and vote under provisions of the SPP Regional Standards Process Manual.

V. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

A. Assumptions and Prerequisites

The process for developing and approving Standards is similar to procedures accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), like that employed by the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB). The Standards development process has the following characteristics:

- **Inclusive** - Any entity (person, organization, company, governmental agency, individual, etc.) representing an organization with a direct and material interest has a right to participate by:
 - a) Expressing an opinion and its basis,
 - b) Having that position considered,
 - c) Voting on a proposed regional reliability standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and
 - d) Appealing any negative decision

- **Openness** - Participation is open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by the RE's BPS reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in the RE, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of SDT's are open to all interested parties and are noticed on the SPP website at least 15 days in advance. Since pre-existing SPP committees, working groups, or task forces may be assigned the responsibilities of a SDT, the agenda for meetings will note that an SDT activity is being undertaken to distinguish such activity from other non-SDT related agenda items. The openness provisions of this manual apply only and explicitly to the SDT activities. Meetings of subcommittees and working groups serving as a SDT shall follow the SPP Bylaws Sec 3.5 Meetings.
- **Balance** - The RE Standards development process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests. The process prevents any two voting sectors from dominating voting outcomes and no single voting sectors from defeating a proposed reliability standard.
- **Due Process** – The SPP Regional Reliability Standards Development Process provides reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At the minimum, the procedure shall include public notice of the intent to develop a standard, a public comment period on the proposed standard, due consideration of those public comments, and a ballot of interested stakeholders.

- **Transparent** – All actions material to the development of a SPP regional reliability standard shall be transparent. All standards development meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the SPP website.

B. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps

Note: The term “days” below refers to calendar days.

Step 1 – Request to Develop, Revise or Delete a Regional Reliability Standard

Any individual representing an organization (Originator) that is directly or materially impacted by the operation of the BPS within the geographical footprint of the RE may submit a request to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) for the development, modification, or deletion of an RE Standard. Any such request shall be submitted to the MOPC Chairman, or his/her designee, or by another process as otherwise posted on the SPP website. The request should be made using the SPP Regional Standard Request Form (RSR) in Appendix B.

The MOPC or a designee will work with the Originator to develop a description of the proposed Standard subject matter containing sufficient detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information related to the proposed Standard.

Step 2 – Notification to Regional Entity Trustees & Public Notice

The Chairman of the MOPC or his/her designee will forward the request to the RE Trustees. SPP staff will also post the request on the SPP website for public notice and may utilize any appropriate SPP email distribution lists within 30 days. The request is not to be judged as appropriate or useful at this stage.

The MOPC will assign the drafting and scoping responsibility to an appropriate SPP Working Group or Task Force. This group will become the Standards Drafting Team (SDT) for this particular Standard request. The assignment will include any necessary deadlines and due dates for the Standard.

Any documentation of the deliberations of the SDT concerning the Standard shall be made available in accordance with the SPP Bylaws requirements for meeting and organizational groups then in effect. Meetings of the SDT are open to any interested party. Meeting dates and actions on the regional reliability standard are publicly noticed on SPP's public Web site.

The SDT shall provide a report to the RE Trustees and the MOPC on a periodic basis (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) noting the status of the Standard that has been assigned to it for consideration.

Step 3 – Scoping and Drafting

The SDT will draft the language of the Standard per the Standard description provided by the MOPC and the Originator. The SDT may recommend changes to the scope, purpose, need or other relevant aspects of the Standard through consultation with the MOPC.

The SDT develops a work plan for completing the Standard development work, including the establishment of milestones for completing critical elements of the work in sufficient detail to ensure that the SDT will meet the date objective in the assignment, or an alternative date. This plan will be provided to the RE Trustees and the MOPC.

The SDT may meet in person or via electronic means as necessary; may establish sub-work teams (made up of members of the SDT) as necessary; and perform other activities to address the parameters of the Standard and the established milestone date(s).

The SDT should consider:

- The impact of the Standard on neighboring regions, and seek appropriate input from the neighboring regions if the Standard is determined to have such an impact.
- An implementation plan, including the nature, extent and duration of field-testing, if any.
- The need for any existing Standard to be deleted, in part or whole, or otherwise impacted by the implementation of the draft Standard.
- Technical reports, white papers and/or work papers that provide technical support for the draft Standard under consideration.
- Documenting the perceived reliability impact should the Standard be approved.

The SDT will regularly (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) report to the RE Trustees and the MOPC on its progress in meeting a timely completion of the draft Standard. The SDT may request consideration of scope changes of the Standard at any point in the Standard development process.

The RE Trustees or the MOPC may, at any time direct the SDT move to Step 4 and post for comment the current work product, or to terminate the activity if there is no further need for the Standard. If the activity is terminated RE Staff will notify the Originator and the RE Trustees within 30 days.

If there are competing drafts all will be posted on the SPP website for comment. The MOPC may take this step at any time after a SDT has been commissioned to develop the Standard.

For Standards in progress, the MOPC must take action to move to Step 4. *Public Comments*, or to reject the proposal. If the MOPC votes to terminate the activity, the RE Trustees must be notified with supporting reasons provided to them. The proposed standard would then go directly to Step 11. (See Step 11. *RE Trustees Action*)

Step 4 – Post Draft for 30 Day Public Comments

RE Staff will post the draft Standard on the SPP website, along with any supporting documents, for a 30-day comment period. RE Staff shall also inform registered entities and other potentially interested stakeholders of the posting using available SPP communication resources, or by other means deemed appropriate. Comments may be submitted using the RSR Comment Form in Appendix B available on the SPP internet website.

Within 30 days of the conclusion of 30-day comment posting period the SDT shall convene and consider changes to the draft Standard, the implementation plan and/or supporting technical documents. The SDT may elect to return to Step 3. *Scoping and Drafting* to revise the draft Standard, and/or any supporting documentation. The SDT shall summarize the comments received and any changes made as a result. This summary will be and posted on the SPP website when completed.

Step 5 – Open Voting

The SDT shall direct the RE Staff to post the revised draft Standard and other relevant documents including, implementation plan, supporting technical documentation, and summary of comments.

RE Staff will schedule a vote by interested parties to commence no sooner than 15 days and no later than 30 days following the posting of the revised draft.

Members of the ballot body shall be allowed to vote over a period of 15 days. Voting will be through electronic means or other means provided by SPP.

SPP Segment Weighted Voting

Registration in a ballot body created for a specific proposed regional standard is required to vote. Registration for a proposed Standard is noticed on the SPP website and through a Standards email exploder for a period of 15 days prior to the start of the ballot (subscription to the Standards email exploder is open to any interested party through the SPP website). All interested parties who register with the ballot body may vote on the proposed new Standard, Standard revision or Standard deletion. An interested party may only register in one segment.

The five SPP voting segments for Regional Reliability Standards are:

- 1) Transmission
- 2) Generation
- 3) Marketer/Broker
- 4) Distribution/Load Serving Entity
- 5) End User and Public Interest

RE Staff will accept votes any time during the 15-day ballot period for the Standard. Votes will be counted by voting segment. Each voting segment will receive 20% of the vote. A weighted vote of 2/3 affirmative of those voting will pass a Standard for further consideration (Step 7). If the vote fails to achieve a 2/3 majority of those voting, the Standard will be returned to the SDT for consideration for future action (Step 3). The SDT may: revise the Standard; post the Standard again for comments; reballot the Standard; ask the RE Trustees to terminate the request; or any other action it deems appropriate.

The RE Trustees are notified of the outcome of the vote and any actions taken by the SDT as a result of the vote. The RE Trustees will determine any additional action to be taken. (See Step 11. *RE Trustees Action*)

Step 6 – Prepare Consensus Draft & Minority Report

When a Standard is approved, the SDT will prepare a consensus draft representing the version of the Standard to be presented to the MOPC and the BOD/MC before final action by the RE Trustees.

Minority Report and Appeals

- A minority report will be prepared if there are significant issues that cannot be resolved within the SDT during the drafting phase (Step 3) or from the public comments (Step 4).
- A minority report will include any appeals from interested parties that the SPP Standards Procedure Manual was violated in the development of the Standard.
- The minority report remains a part of the record of the Standard and is available to any interested party during any subsequent steps.
- The consensus draft and any minority reports are presented to the MOPC for its consideration and an advisory vote.

Step 7 – Post Draft Standard for Action on the MOPC Agenda

A recommended Standard is noticed for consideration on the MOPC agenda. The agenda materials are made available per the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.5.

If a Standard requires consideration by the MOPC prior to a regularly scheduled meeting, the RE Staff will notify the MOPC Chairman who will notice a special meeting in accordance with the SPP Bylaws.

Step 8 – MOPC Review

The MOPC will provide an advisory vote on the Standard under the governance provisions of the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.9 Voting.

If the MOPC opposes the Standard, the MOPC may request revision of the Standard or termination of further activity on the Standard. If the Standard is terminated, notice is provided (described in Step 9) to the RE Trustees for further action (Step 11).

If the MOPC concurs with the Standard, the Standard proceeds to the SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee for review (Step 9).

The RE Trustees are notified of the outcome of the MOPC review.

Step 9 – SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee Review

A draft Standard submitted to the SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee (BOD/MC) for review must be publicly posted at least 10 days prior to consideration by the BOD/MC. The BOD/MC may consider the Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting, or as determined by the Chairman of the BOD/MC.

The BOD/MC shall be provided:

- The consensus draft Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)

- Technical Documentation supporting the draft Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the votes including a Minority Report if applicable.
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any comments
- Any other information relevant to the Standard

The BOD/MC will:

- Provide an advisory vote to the RE Trustees on the Standard (Step 10); or
- Return the Standard to the MOPC with comments

In the case of a second return of a Standard, the proposed Standard is forwarded to the RE Trustees for action. (The proposed Standard would go directly to Step 11).

Step 10 –Presentation to RE Trustees

A draft Standard submitted to the RE Trustees for action must be publicly posted at least 10 days prior to consideration by the RE Trustees.

The RE Trustees shall be provided:

- The consensus draft Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)
- Technical Documentation supporting the draft Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the vote including a Minority Report if applicable
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any comments
- The result of the BOD/MC advisory vote and any comments
- Any other information relevant to the Standard

Step 11 - RE Trustees Action

The RE Trustees will:

- Recommend NERC approve the Standard through the NERC process; or
- Remand the Standard to the SDT through the MOPC with comments and instructions; or
- Determine there is no need for the Standard and terminate any future activity.

The RE Trustees may consider the Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting, or as determined by the Chairman of the RE Trustees.

If a Standard is forwarded to the RE Trustees for action as a result of an opposing MOPC vote (Step 8), or if automatically forwarded to them as a result of two or more returns by the MOPC

or SPP Board (Step 9), the RE Trustees will take definitive action, including initiating the process from Step 3, Scoping and Drafting. The RE Trustees may not submit a Standard to NERC for approval without a positive outcome from open and balanced voting in Step 5.

Advisory votes of the MOPC and the BOD/MC do not impact the RE Trustees' authority to submit a Standard to NERC.

Step 12 – Submit to NERC for Approval as Regional Standard

RE Staff will notify interested parties of submission of Standard to NERC by the RE Trustees through the normal and customary communication procedures and processes then in effect.

The RE Staff will publicly notice any further steps necessary to have a Standard reviewed and/or approved through the NERC or any successor organization standards process.

C. Filing of Regional Reliability Standards with Regulatory Agencies

The development of Standards must be administered in coordination with the NERC Standards Development Procedure. At the discretion of the NERC Board of Trustees, adopted Standards may be filed with applicable regulatory agencies in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Regional Reliability Standards once approved by FERC, are made part of the NERC standards and shall be enforced accordingly.

Appendix A

I. Maintenance of the Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Manual

Any interested party may propose changes to this Manual. Such Process Manual change requests will follow all the steps of the Regional Reliability Standards Process outlined in Section V., Part B of this Manual.

II. Appeals

Persons who have directly and materially affected interests and who have been or will be adversely affected by any substantive or procedural action or inaction related to the development, approval, revision, reaffirmation, or withdrawal of a Standard shall have the right to appeal. This appeals process applies only to the Standards process as defined in this procedure.

The burden of proof to show adverse effect shall be on the appellant. Appeals shall be made within 30 days of the date of the action purported to cause the adverse effect, except appeals for inaction, which may be made at any time. In all cases, the request for appeal must be made prior to the next step in the process.

The appeal will be addressed by the RE Trustees. The appeal is included in a Minority Report of the Standard which remains a part of the record for the Standard throughout the SPP Regional Standards Procedure.

The final decisions of any appeal shall be documented in writing and made public.

A complaint will be noted in a Minority Report including the substantive or procedural action or inaction associated with a reliability standard or the standards process. The complaint should describe the actual or potential adverse impact to the appellant. The RE Trustees will provide a written response to the complaint. The appellants response to the RE Trustees determination will be included in the Minority Report.

The RE Trustees shall provide a response to any remaining open complaints.

Appendix B: SPP Regional Standard Request Form

RSR Number		RSR Title	
SPP Regional Standard Name (include Section No., Title, and existing Standard Version if any)			
Requested Resolution Date (if applicable)			
Description			
Reliability Need or Purpose – Try to identify if known: Technical requirements, reliability risk factor, measurements (refer to SPP Standards Process Manual for descriptions).			
Tariff Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes)			
Criteria Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes)			
NERC Standard Implications (Yes or No, and summary of impact)			

Sponsor	
Name	
E-mail Address	
Company	
Company Address	
Phone Number	
Fax Number	

Proposed Regional Standard Language
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Appendix C: SPP Regional Standard Request Comment Form

RSR Number		RSR Title	
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Date	
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Submitter's Information	
Name	
E-mail Address	
Company	
Company Address	
Phone Number	
Fax Number	

Comment Form Instructions (please delete before submitting comments):

Comments are to be submitted electronically and are due by close of business of the comment due date. Please follow this file naming convention:
 ###PRR <Company Name> Comments<date>.doc.

Comments

Revised Regional Standard Language

Appendix D: SPP Standards Development Procedure

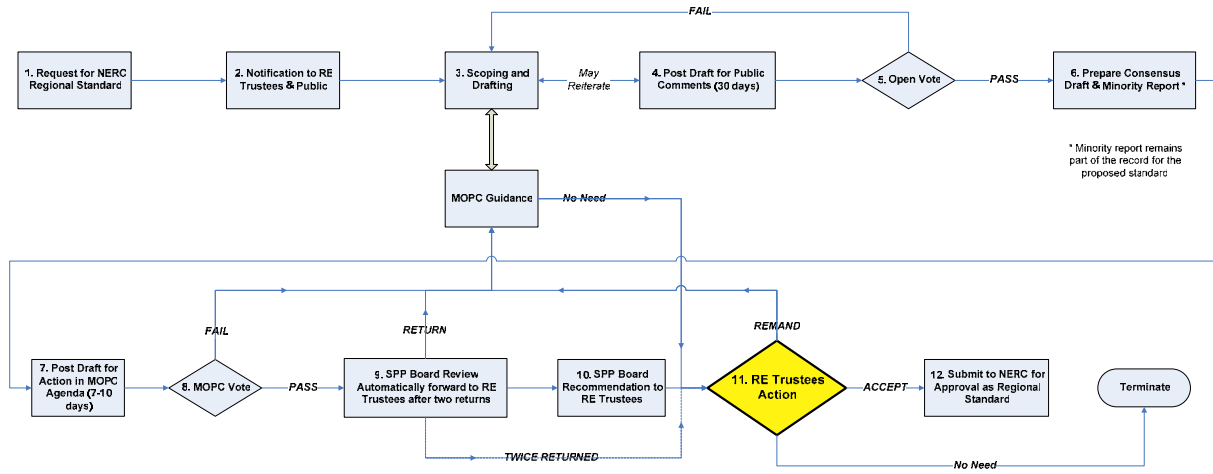


EXHIBIT D – COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

1.0 REGIONAL COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

1.1 Obligations of SPP

SPP will implement the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (Appendix 4C to the NERC Rules of Procedure) to monitor and enforce compliance with Reliability Standards by the owners, operators, and users within **SPP's** geographic boundaries set forth on **Exhibit A** of this Agreement, subject to any deviations from the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program described in Section 1.2 below (the "Compliance Program").

1.2 Deviations from the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

SPP's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program has no deviations from the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

2.0 REGIONAL HEARING OF COMPLIANCE MATTERS

SPP shall establish and maintain a hearing body with authority to conduct and render decisions in compliance hearings in which a Registered Entity may contest a finding of alleged violation, proposed penalty or sanction, or a proposed mitigation plan, which shall be **SPP's** Regional Entity Trustees.

3.0 OTHER DECISION-MAKING BODIES

SPP does not use any other decision-making bodies for its Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

Exhibit E — Funding

1. Scope of activities funded through the ERO funding mechanism

SPP shall include in its annual budget submission to NERC amounts for costs it will incur in support of delegated activities and activities that are in furtherance of NERC's responsibilities as the ERO under the Act, as specified in the NERC Rules. These activities shall include:

- Reliability Standard Development (Section 300)
- Compliance Enforcement (Section 400)
- Organization Registration and Certification (Section 500)
- Reliability Readiness ~~Evaluation~~Audit and Improvement (Section 700)
- Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis (Section 800) (including necessary data gathering activities)
- Training and Education (Section 900)
- Situational Awareness and Infrastructure Security (Section 1000)

2. Allocation of Costs

SPP shall allocate its dues, fees, and other charges for its activities pursuant to the delegation agreement among all load-serving entities on the basis of net-energy-for load, unless a different method(s) of allocating and calculating such dues, fees and charges has been submitted to and approved by NERC and the Commission in accordance with Section 8(b) of the delegation agreement~~is expressly provided for in the annual business plan and budget submitted by NERC and SPP to the Commission pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §39.4~~. SPP shall submit to NERC annually at the same time it submits its budget request a list of the load-serving entities within its geographic boundaries and their proportionate net energy for load, and such other data and information as is necessary to allocate and calculate SPP's dues, fees and charges under any such different method(s) of allocation and calculation that will be used.

3. Collection of Funding

(a) NERC shall submit invoices to the load-serving entities identified by SPP covering the NERC and SPP budgets approved for collection.

NERC shall pursue any non-payments and shall request assistance from applicable governmental authorities as necessary to secure collection.

(b) Upon approval of the annual funding requirements by applicable governmental authorities, NERC shall fund SPP's costs identified in Section 1 of this Exhibit E in four equal quarterly payments.

4. Application of Penalties

All penalty monies received by SPP, other than penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP shall be applied as a general offset to the entity's budget requirements for U.S.-related activities under this Agreement for the subsequent fiscal year. Funds from financial penalties shall not be directly applied to any program maintained by the investigating entity. Any penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP shall be transmitted to or retained by NERC and shall be used by NERC as a general offset to NERC's budget for its activities as the ERO under the Act for the following year.

5. Budget and Funding for SPP's Non-Statutory Activities

~~In addition to If SPP's performs any functions or activities other than its~~ delegated activities and activities that are in furtherance of NERC's responsibilities as the ERO under the Act, as specified in Section 1 of this **Exhibit E** (such ~~other~~ functions and activities ~~being~~ referred to ~~in this Section 5 herein~~ as "~~non~~-statutory activities"), SPP performs the following other functions and activities (such other functions and activities being referred to herein as "non-statutory activities"):

SPP performs non-statutory activities as a Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO"). As a RTO, SPP is mandated by the Commission to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure, and competitive wholesale prices of electricity. In furtherance of this mandate, SPP's specific non-statutory activities are the following primary services:

~~shall provide its budget for such non-statutory activities to NERC at the same time that SPP submits its annual budget request to NERC pursuant to Section 1. SPP's budget for non-statutory activities that is provided to NERC shall contain a detailed list of SPP's non-statutory activities, a description of the funding sources for the non-statutory activities, and a description of the procedures SPP will use to ensure that funding of the functions and activities listed in Section 1 of this **Exhibit E** will be kept separate from funding of the non-statutory activities. SPP agrees that no costs of non-statutory activities are to be included in the calculation of SPP's dues, fees, and other charges for its activities pursuant to this Agreement.~~

~~Section 1. As a Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO"), SPP is mandated by the Commission to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure, and competitive wholesale prices of electricity.~~

~~a) SPP provides the following primary services to our members and customers:~~

1. Tariff Administration: Independent administration of the Open Access Transmission Tariff that provides one-stop shopping for regional transmission service with consistent rates and terms.
2. Reliability Coordination: SPP monitors power flow throughout our footprint. We anticipate problems and take preemptive action to mitigate operating limit violations.

SPP coordinates regional response in emergency situations or blackouts.

3. Regional Scheduling: SPP ensures that the amount of power sent is coordinated and matched with power received. SPP's regional scheduling service reduces the number of entities with which SPP members and customers have to coordinate.
4. Market Operations: SPP administers an Energy Imbalance Marketplace, monitors resource/load balance and ensures that less expensive power is used to serve load before expensive power, all while ensuring system reliability is met.
5. Expansion Planning: SPP's planning process seeks to identify system limitations and develop transmission upgrades for increased capacity.
6. Contract Services: SPP provides reliability, tariff administration, and scheduling for non-members on a contract basis.

SPP shall employ the following methods and procedures to (i) keep its funding mechanisms for its statutory activities separate from its funding mechanisms for its non-statutory activities and (ii) record the costs it incurs in the performance of its non-statutory activities separate from the costs it incurs in the performance of its statutory activities:

(i**b**) Separation of funding sources for statutory activities and non-statutory activities. As a RTO, SPP is a pPublic uUtility under the Federal Power Act, and SPP is required to submit its budget to the Commission. The Commission already has approved SPP's RTO activities and has ordered that SPP's budgets be filed with the Commission.

SPP's non-statutory activities are funded separately from its Regional Entity statutory activities through the imposition of a Commission-approved Tariff Administration Fee charged by SPP to all load under the SPP Open Access Tariff, except for Contract Services activities, which are funded by contract fees. Additionally, SPP's members are assessed an annual membership fee.

SPP shall provide its budget for such non-statutory activities to NERC at the same time that SPP submits its annual budget to FERC. SPP agrees that no costs of non-statutory activities are to be included in the calculation of SPP's dues, fees, and other charges for its statutory activities.

As provided in section 3(b) of this Exhibit E, on a quarterly basis, SPP will invoice NERC, an amount equal to one-fourth of the current year approved annual funding amount for SPP's statutory activities. Upon receipt of payment from NERC, SPP will deposit these funds into an account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC pursuant to SPP's performance of statutory activities under the Delegation Agreement. On a monthly basis, all expenses incurred by SPP for statutory activities and for non-statutory activities are recorded and paid from the SPP operating account. Throughout the year, as expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities are paid from the SPP operating account, transfers are made from the account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC

to the SPP operating account in the amounts of payments made for expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities.

(ii) Separation of costs of statutory activities and non-statutory activities. All employees performing functions directly attributed to SPP's delegated responsibilities who also perform functions related to SPP's non-statutory activities will utilize a time tracking system to accurately reflect their time spent on statutory activities. Periodically, but no less frequently than annually, SPP will input the time associated with its direct function staff performing statutory activities into a cost calculation model. Specific, direct costs attributable to the direct function staff performing statutory activities are salary, SPP-paid medical insurance, Medicare and Social Security taxes, and other SPP-paid benefits. These costs are then combined with other directly assignable costs of statutory activities, such as travel, meetings, contractors, professional services, fees and expenses of Regional Entity independent trustees, and other direct administrative expenses, and reported on the NERC Statement of Activities (formerly the NERC Treasurer's Report).

In addition, an allocation of SPP overhead costs to statutory activities is calculated and the allocated overhead costs are recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities. These overhead costs are shared throughout the SPP organization and include costs for payroll and accounts payable processing, human resources and benefits management, accounting, information technology, executive leadership, corporate affairs and communications, office costs and other support services and expenditures. This allocation is calculated using a standard hourly rate multiplied by the number of SPP staff hours spent directly performing SPP's statutory activities. The hourly rate for allocated overhead costs is developed using SPP's current year operating budget, by separating SPP's shared services support costs which support all of SPP's functions (*i.e.*, the costs for the activities identified in the second sentence of this paragraph) from SPP's operational resource pool. The total shared services support costs are then divided by estimated total annual available work hours for SPP's operational resource pool. The average annual employee utilization rate assumes each employee works an eight-hour work day with adjustments to reflect SPP's employment policies related to vacation allotment, SPP holidays and other non-productive leave.

The total expenses for statutory activities in a month as recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities are used to determine the amount of transfer to be to the SPP operating account to reimburse the SPP operating account for the payment of expenses of SPP's statutory activities.