Welcome to the October issue of the WAPA and markets newsletter designed to share information on WAPA’s activities around energy imbalance management. WAPA filed its Open Access Transmission Tariff Revision 20-01 at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Oct. 2 under FERC Docket No. NJ21-1. This revision addresses Sierra Nevada’s move into the California Independent System Operator’s Western Energy Imbalance Market. OATT

Revision 20-02, which will cover the Colorado River Storage Project’s and Rocky Mountain’s participation in the Southwest Power Pool’s Western Energy Imbalance Service market, is now expected to be filed around Dec. 2. However, that timeframe may slip further depending upon the timing of the approval of the revised WEIS tariff.

All information on these revisions, including the notices of intent and ways to engage, is available on WAPA’s Open Access Same-Time Information System.

SN ON TRACK FOR MARCH TRANSITION

There are few updates for SN this month. The region remains on track to transition into the CAISO EIM at the end of March. Initial software testing and training has been completed, and we are working with the vendor to resolve identified variances and issues. We continue to develop individual software and data integrations for related systems interacting with the new environment.

SN has also started Day in the Life testing with CAISO. This testing will prepare employees for market simulation testing scenarios starting in November and running through January in advance of parallel operations.

The rate adjustment process is ongoing. The questions and answers from the Aug. 17 public information and comment forums are available on the Rate Case 2021: Rate Order No. WAPA-194. Further comments for the proposed rate adjustment are due by Oct. 29. For more information on the rates process, visit the rate order webpage.

More information on SN’s transition is available at the SN energy imbalance market activities webpage.
STUDIES CONTINUE FOR DSW, NEIGHBORING UTILITIES

Desert Southwest’s status remains fundamentally unchanged since the last newsletter. As a reminder, third-party contractors E3 and Utilicast are continuing their analysis of the data for a benefits study and gap analysis, respectively.

E3’s benefits study will complete a production cost analysis of the entire interconnected Western U.S. grid in five-minute increments over a representative year. Utilicast’s gap analysis will identify the changes needed to prepare existing business systems, processes, infrastructure and software for market participation. This analysis will also assess market participation costs.

DSW does not expect substantive changes or updates on its market efforts until all the results are available.

More information on DSW’s effort is available on the DSW energy imbalance market activities webpage. You can also read the May 26 update on these studies published by DSW and its fellow study participants.

WAPA FILES COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF WEIS TARIFF; REVISIONS UNDERWAY FOR BA SERVICES AGREEMENT, BUSINESS PRACTICES AND RATE SCHEDULES

WAPA filed its intervention and comments in support of the SPP’s revised WEIS tariff at FERC Oct. 22.

Rocky Mountain staff continue to review and incorporate comments from customers and other stakeholders on the transmission use language in the Balancing Authority Services Agreement and the draft business practices.

The revised BA Services Agreement was sent to Western Area Colorado Missouri customers Oct. 21 for one more round of comments before finalizing the agreement for signatures.

WAPA also continues to meet with individual customers as requested. Updated drafts of the business practices will be published once the internal team has been able to review and incorporate the comments.

As various negotiations come to a close and processes and procedures under WEIS are determined, the RM Rates office has made progress drafting rate schedules for use under the WEIS, the details of WAPA’s imbalance administrative fee and the ancillary services and real power losses business practices. Information on those details will be posted on the RM rates webpage in the coming days.

The team continues to progress with market trials, expecting to complete scenario testing by the end of October and deployment testing by Nov. 20. Completing the market trials paves the way to begin parallel operations before the end of the year.

Information on those details will be posted on the RM rates webpage in the coming days.

For more information on the WEIS transition, visit the WEIS activities webpage.

Thank you for reading the WAPA and Markets newsletter. For more information, call your regional representative or visit the WAPA-wide energy imbalance activities webpage on The Source.