

COLORADO PUC RULE 3627 COMPLIANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

Subcommittee Purpose

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Rule 3627 Compliance Subcommittee (the “3627 Subcommittee”) is a subcommittee within the Colorado Coordinated Planning Group (CCPG). Consistent with the purpose and planning functions of CCPG, the Subcommittee serves as a forum for coordination among the Colorado electric utilities that are required to comply with PUC Rule 3627, and for receipt and consideration of stakeholder proposals submitted in connection with ten-year transmission plans developed by the utilities in compliance with Rule 3627.

Membership and Participation

Subcommittee Members shall include those Colorado electric utilities that are required to comply with Rule 3627. As of January 1, 2017, the utilities subject to PUC Rule 3627 are Black Hills Energy/Colorado Electric Utility Company, LP, Public Service Company of Colorado, and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. Participation in the Subcommittee is open to all CCPG Members and interested stakeholders with the objective of ensuring that all stakeholders have an opportunity for meaningful participation in the planning process.

Subcommittee Work Plan

Pursuant to PUC Rule 3627, no later than February 1 of each even-numbered year, the relevant utilities shall file a ten-year transmission plan and supporting documentation. To comply with this requirement, the Subcommittee Members shall convene no later than a date in the first quarter of each odd-numbered year to plan for development of the next ten-year transmission plan. The date of such meeting shall be posted on the CCPG website.

Stakeholder Input

In addition to stakeholder outreach activities undertaken by individual utilities pursuant to Rule 3627, the Subcommittee shall consider relevant stakeholder-initiated proposals received by CCPG through its Stakeholder Input Process.¹ Stakeholder proposals related to Rule 3627 shall be assigned by CCPG to the 3627 Subcommittee for further consideration. The CCPG Stakeholder Input Process shall include the 3627 Subcommittee’s consideration of Rule 3627-related stakeholder input, as appropriate.

Upon receipt of any such stakeholder proposal, the 3627 Subcommittee shall first determine whether the proposal is within the scope of the Rule 3627 transmission plan(s), based on applicable PUC rules, decisions, and guidance. If the Subcommittee determines that a stakeholder proposal is not a valid alternative for purposes of Rule 3627, it shall document its decision and shall provide a written explanation of the same to the originating stakeholder, with a copy to the CCPG Management Committee. If appropriate, the Subcommittee may provide recommendations on other forums or avenues for consideration of the stakeholder’s proposal, including consideration by other CCPG subcommittees, work groups, or task forces, as well as opportunities outside of CCPG.

¹ Information concerning CCPG’s Stakeholder Input Process is available at: <https://doc.westconnect.com/Documents.aspx?NID=15400> .

If the Subcommittee determines that a stakeholder proposal is a valid alternative for purposes of Rule 3627, the 3627 Subcommittee shall coordinate with CCPG to develop a plan for evaluation of such alternative. If CCPG's logistics and schedule do not accommodate the Utility's obligations with Rule 3627, the Utility may be required to independently consider and/or evaluate the stakeholder proposal.

At a minimum, the evaluation plan shall include: the Subcommittee Member with primary responsibility for coordinating evaluation of the stakeholder alternative and the contact information for such person; any additional information needed from the stakeholder to facilitate evaluation of the alternative; the general nature of the analyses to be performed; and a proposed schedule for evaluation of the alternative.

The results of the 3627 Subcommittee's evaluation of the alternative shall be documented, provided to the originating stakeholder, and posted to the CCPG website. At the discretion of the relevant electric utility or utilities, the stakeholder's alternative and the Subcommittee's evaluation thereof may be incorporated into the ten-year transmission plan and supporting documentation submitted pursuant to Rule 3627.