



WESTCONNECT REGIONAL TRANSMISSION PLANNING

2022-23 PLANNING CYCLE

MODEL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

APPROVED BY WESTCONNECT PLANNING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON

DECEMBER 14, 2022

Contents

1.0	Introduction.....	3
1.1	WestConnect Regional Transmission Planning Process.....	3
1.2	WestConnect 2022-23 Regional Study Plan.....	4
2.0	Model Development Overview.....	4
3.0	Reliability Model Descriptions.....	5
4.0	Economic Model Descriptions.....	7
4.1	Economic Sensitivity Models.....	13
5.0	Modeling Public Policy.....	14
6.0	Summary of Regional Base Transmission Plan.....	19
6.1	2022-23 Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects.....	19
6.2	Updates to the 2020-21 Regional Transmission Plan Projects.....	21
6.3	Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects by State.....	22
6.4	Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects by Driver.....	23
7.0	Scenario Studies.....	24
8.0	Next Steps.....	25
9.0	Appendix A: 2032 Base Case (PCM) Assumptions.....	26

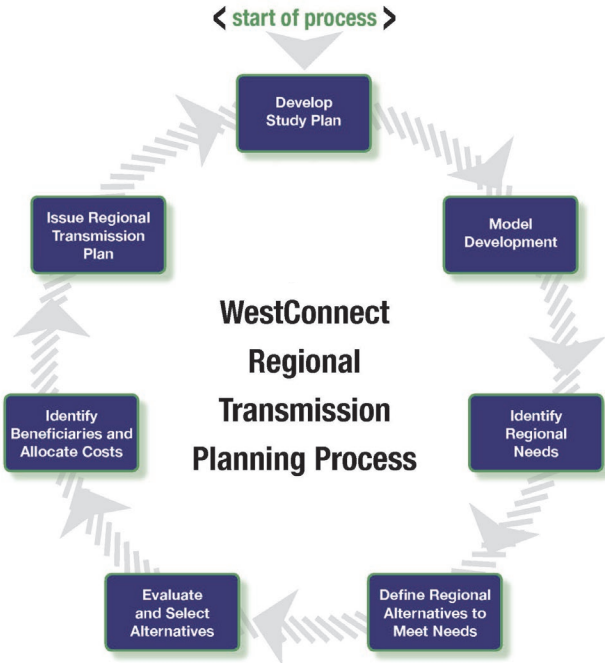
1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to summarize the model development phase of the WestConnect 2022-23 Regional Planning Process. The Planning Subcommittee, which is responsible for developing the WestConnect regional models, has compiled this report to document major assumptions that have been incorporated into the models. The objective of model development is to support the overall purpose of the Regional Planning Process, which is to identify regional transmission needs and the more efficient or cost-effective solutions to satisfy those needs. The Planning Management Committee (PMC), which has decision-making authority over the overall WestConnect planning process, approves the regional models that are used during the transmission assessment. The PMC approved the base models described in this report on September 21, 2022. The results of the regional transmission assessment will be documented in the 2022-2023 Regional Transmission Needs Assessment Report.

1.1 WestConnect Regional Transmission Planning Process

The development of regional models is the second step in the WestConnect Regional Transmission Planning Process (Planning Process). The Planning Process was developed for compliance with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) [Order No. 1000, Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation by Transmission Owning and Operating Public Utilities](#), (Order No. 1000).¹ The planning process is performed biennially, beginning in even-numbered years, and consists of seven steps as outlined in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: WestConnect Regional Transmission Planning Process



¹ All references to Order No. 1000 include any subsequent orders.

22 Additional details of the Planning Process can be reviewed in the WestConnect Regional Planning
 23 Process Business Practice Manual (BPM) posted to the WestConnect website ([link](#)). Readers can access
 24 the text of the FERC Order No. 1000 compliance documentation on the WestConnect website ([link](#)) and
 25 are encouraged to consult the compliance documentation and BPM for additional process information.

26 **1.2 WestConnect 2022-23 Regional Study Plan**

27 The first step in the planning process is the development of a Regional Study Plan. The [2022-23](#)
 28 [WestConnect Study Plan](#) (Study Plan) was approved by the PMC on March 16, 2022. The Study Plan
 29 identifies the scope and schedule of planning activities to be conducted during the planning cycle. The
 30 Study Plan also describes the models to be developed in the model development portion of the Planning
 31 Process.

32 **2.0 Model Development Overview**

33 During the second and third quarters of 2022, the Planning Subcommittee developed the regional
 34 models to be used in the identification of regional transmission needs for the 2022-23 Planning Process.
 35 Two types of studies are performed in the Planning Process: Reliability (power flow or PF) and
 36 Economic (Production Cost Model or PCM) studies. WestConnect will conduct an assessment of regional
 37 transmission needs using models developed for the 2032 timeframe, approximately 10 years into the
 38 future. WestConnect will also perform information-only scenario studies, as outlined in the Study Plan,
 39 which are designed to evaluate alternate but plausible futures.

40 **Table 1** lists the reliability and economic models developed for the 2022-23 cycle for the purposes of
 41 identifying regional transmission needs.

42 **Table 1: WestConnect Regional Needs Assessment Planning Models**

WestConnect Base Case Name	Case Description	Seed Case(s)
2032 Heavy Summer Base Case	Summer peak load conditions during 1500 to 1700 MDT, with typical flows throughout the Western Interconnection.	WECC 2032 Heavy Summer 1 Planning Base Case (32HS1)
2032 Light Spring Base Case	Light load conditions during 1200 to 1400 MDT in spring months of March, April, and May with solar and wind serving a significant but realistic portion of the Western Interconnection total load. Case includes renewable resource <i>capacity</i> consistent with any applicable and enacted public policy requirements.	WECC 2033 Light Spring 1-S Base Case (33LSP1S)
2032 Base Case PCM	Business-as-usual, expected-future case with (1) median load, (2) median hydro conditions and (3) representation of resources consistent with TOLSO-approved resource plans as of March 2022.	WECC 2032 Heavy Summer 1 Planning Base Case (32HS1) and WestConnect 2030 Base Case from the 2020-21 planning cycle

43 Study Area

44 The WestConnect planning process evaluates the regional transmission needs solely for the
45 WestConnect planning region, which is defined as the combined footprints of signatories to the Planning
46 Participation Agreement (PPA) within the Transmission Owner (TO) Member Sector. A list of Members
47 participating in the WestConnect 2022-23 planning process is available on the WestConnect website
48 ([link](#)). WestConnect Members and participants updated the models, as described in more detail below,
49 to create a more accurate representation of the WestConnect footprint in each case.

50 To the extent WestConnect received updated modeling data from TOs outside of the WestConnect
51 planning region during the development of the regional models, it was considered, and if appropriate,
52 incorporated into the regional models. The goal in seeking input from neighboring planning regions and
53 TOs outside of the WestConnect planning footprint is to maintain a reasonable level of model
54 consistency and align planning assumptions as closely as possible. Details about the types of information
55 received from external participants (e.g., planning regions, other TOs) are included in the model
56 descriptions in the sections that follow.

57 3.0 Reliability Model Descriptions

58 The information in this section summarizes each reliability model and provides details about the major
59 assumptions incorporated into the reliability cases. Note that the cases have detailed change records
60 documenting specific data changes made to the original starting point case. This report summarizes
61 each case and does not document each specific assumption.

62 2032 Heavy Summer Base Case

63 **Description:** The case is designed to evaluate the Base Transmission Plan under heavy summer
64 conditions. The seed case was the WECC 2032 Heavy Summer 1 Planning Base Case (32HS1), which was
65 approved August 13, 2021. The 32HS1 case was updated with the latest topology (i.e. generator, load,
66 and transmission) information from WestConnect participants while still representing typical heavy
67 summer load conditions and generator dispatch.

68 **Generation:** Within WestConnect, the case features a dispatch of 40,028 MW of thermal, 8,480 MW of
69 hydro, 4,461 MW of wind, 14,107 MW of solar, and 796 MW of Battery Storage resources.

70 **Load:** The aggregate coincident peak load level for the WestConnect footprint is 62,224 MW. The
71 original WECC case represented the system coincident peak for a heavy summer condition between the
72 hours of 1500 to 1700 MDT during the months of June – August. The intent was to continue these
73 assumptions during its case development.

74 **Transmission:** No major planned transmission additions beyond the Base Transmission Plan were
75 included in the case.

76 **Other assumptions:** WestConnect coordinated with NorthernGrid on certain assumptions during
77 model development. A summary of the changes is below.

- 78 • Updates in the NorthernGrid footprint: The Boardman to Hemingway 500-kV Line (B2H) (a.k.a.
79 Longhorn to Hemingway) was added for consistency with WECC and NorthernGrid transmission
80 assumptions.

81 **2032 Light Spring Base Case**

82 **Description:** The purpose of the case is to assess Base Transmission Plan performance under light-load
83 conditions with solar and wind serving a significant but realistic portion of the WestConnect total load.
84 The seed case was the WECC 2033 Light Spring 1 Specialized Case (33LSP1), which was approved
85 January 28, 2022.

86 **Generation:** Within WestConnect, the case features a dispatch of 23,359 MW of thermal, 4,707 MW of
87 hydro, 3,701 MW of wind, 12,282 MW of solar, and -2,148 MW of Battery Storage resources.

88 **Load:** The total WestConnect load in the case is 42,498 MW, which is 68% of the WestConnect peak load
89 in the WestConnect 2032 Heavy Summer Base Case. The load levels represent the system during 1200 to
90 1400 hours MDT during spring months of March, April, and May.

91 **Transmission:** Identical transmission assumptions as the 2032 Heavy Summer Base Case – see above
92 for details.

93 **Other assumptions:** Identical other assumptions as the 2032 Heavy Summer Base Case – see above for
94 details.

95 **Contingency Definitions, Dynamic Data, and Other Considerations**

96 The regional reliability models identified as “base cases” will be used to identify regional transmission
97 needs. Scenarios will be limited to identifying regional opportunities. Both assessments will be
98 conducted using contingency definitions that were designed to limit the analysis to identifying regional
99 transmission issues.

100 An initial list of automatically created single branch (N-1) outages 230 kV and higher was created and
101 participants also submitted multi-element contingency definitions not automatically created.
102 Participants reviewed the outage list and (a) identified invalid single branch outages to remove, and (b)
103 identified other contingencies not included in the list that could potentially flag regional transmission
104 issues.

105 The dynamic data needed to support the transient stability simulations was developed by first taking the
106 dynamic data from the WECC seed cases and appending additional or revised dynamic data per
107 participant submittals.

108 The Planning Subcommittee also considered the following when developing the cases:

- 109 • **Operating Procedures** – Any special operating procedures required for compliance with NERC
110 reliability standards are considered and included in the power flow (PF) cases.
- 111 • **Protection Systems** – The impact of protection systems including Remedial Action Scheme
112 (RAS) required for compliance with NERC reliability standards will be included in the PF cases.
- 113 • **Control Devices** – Any special control devices required will be included in the PF cases.

114 The quality of the base cases and contingency definitions were improved by iteratively developing draft
115 cases with contingency definitions and performing test simulations. After each draft and test simulation,
116 data owners had the opportunity to examine and submit corrections. This procedure resulted in four
117 review drafts of the base reliability models.

118 **4.0 Economic Model Descriptions**

119 The reliability and economic base models maintained consistent electric topologies (e.g., matching load,
120 generator, and branch models) throughout their development.

121 **2032 Base Case**

122 **Description:** The case is a production cost model (PCM) dataset designed to represent a likely, median
123 2032 future. The WestConnect 2030 PCM from the 2020-21 planning cycle served as the seed case for
124 the WestConnect economic model 2032 Base Case. The WestConnect 2030 PCM was reviewed and
125 updated by WestConnect during Quarters 2 and 3 of the 2022-23 planning cycle, and the Quarter 3
126 updates included select assumptions from the WECC 2032 Anchor Dataset (ADS) interconnection-wide
127 10-year PCM ([2032 ADS PCM Beta](#)), which were released in August 2022². These updates were
128 consistent with the process described below, which focuses on what updates were completed with the
129 WECC 2032_ADS_PCM_Beta dataset as the reference.

130 **Generation:**

- 131 • The WestConnect latest generator-specific modeling was developed and used to update the
132 dataset. This included but was not limited to: generator type, commission and retirement date,
133 forced outage rate, outage duration, minimum and maximum capability with applicable de-rates
134 for plant load or seasonal ambient temperature, minimum up and down times, fuel assignments,
135 variable operations and maintenance and start-up costs, linkage to reserve modeling and
136 regional/remote scheduling, linkage to operational nomograms, hydro fixed shape or
137 load/price-driven scheduling, and hourly shapes. **Table 2** provides a summary by fuel category
138 of the generation updates made to the WECC 2032 ADS PCM V2.0. The positive (or negative)
139 values represent the capacity (in MWs) and resulting generated energy (in GWh) added to (or
140 removed from) the WECC 2032 ADS PCM V2.0 in order to create the WestConnect 2032 Base
141 Case PCM.

² The WECC 2032 ADS was originally scheduled to be posted June 30, 2022. Beta versions were released on August 5 and August 12.

142
143
144

Table 2: Generation Differences from WECC 2032 ADS PCM V2.0.
Percentages are in reference to the totals in the WECC 2032 ADS PCM V2.0

Fuel Category	Differences, WestConnect less WECC PCM				Annual Generation (GWh)		Capacity (MW)	
	Annual Generation		Capacity		WestConnect	WECC	WestConnect	WECC
	GWh	%	MW	%				
Coal	12,861	37.17%	875	15.73%	47,466	34,605	6,434	5,559
Gas	30,062	32.48%	-412	-1.40%	122,622	92,560	29,064	29,476
Water	-1,547	-9.04%	-2,285	-31.89%	15,565	17,112	4,880	7,164
Uranium	1,083	3.96%	107	3.22%	28,450	27,367	3,436	3,328
Solar PV	-8,544	-23.08%	-1,853	-12.96%	28,482	37,026	12,450	14,303
Solar Thermal	30	5.21%	0	0.00%	601	571	250	250
Wind	2,912	8.49%	1,246	11.88%	37,220	34,308	11,733	10,487
Bio	-47	-5.18%	-23	-14.22%	861	908	139	163
Geothermal	-4,008	-49.83%	-809	-49.34%	4,037	8,045	830	1,639
BESS	4,493	132.84%	3,163	83.23%	7,875	3,382	6,964	3,800
Other	-26	-14.29%	503	83.61%	154	180	1,105	602
Overall	37,268		512		293,332	256,064	77,284	76,772

145

- The behind-the-meter distributed generation (BTM-DG) assumptions were retained from the WECC 2032 ADS PCM V1.0³ which modeled them on the resource-side, with the exception of the TEPC load area (for which the BTM-DG and DR shapes were merged with the load shapes to model the BTM-DG and DR on the load-side). **Table 3** summarizes the amount of BTM-DG by area represented in the WestConnect 2032 Base Case PCM.

151
152

Table 3: Behind-the-Meter Distributed Generation

Area Name	Capacity (MW)	Generation (GWh)	Capacity Factor (%)	Dispatch at Area Peak Load (% of Capacity)
AZPS	2,815	6,386	26%	40%
BANC	716	1,495	24%	48%
EPE	168	345	23%	72%
IID	199	453	26%	57%
LDWP	745	1,615	25%	63%
PNM	132	300	26%	31%
PSCO	1,513	2,971	22%	48%
SRP	438	999	26%	46%

³ These BTM DG capacity values did not change from the last cycle

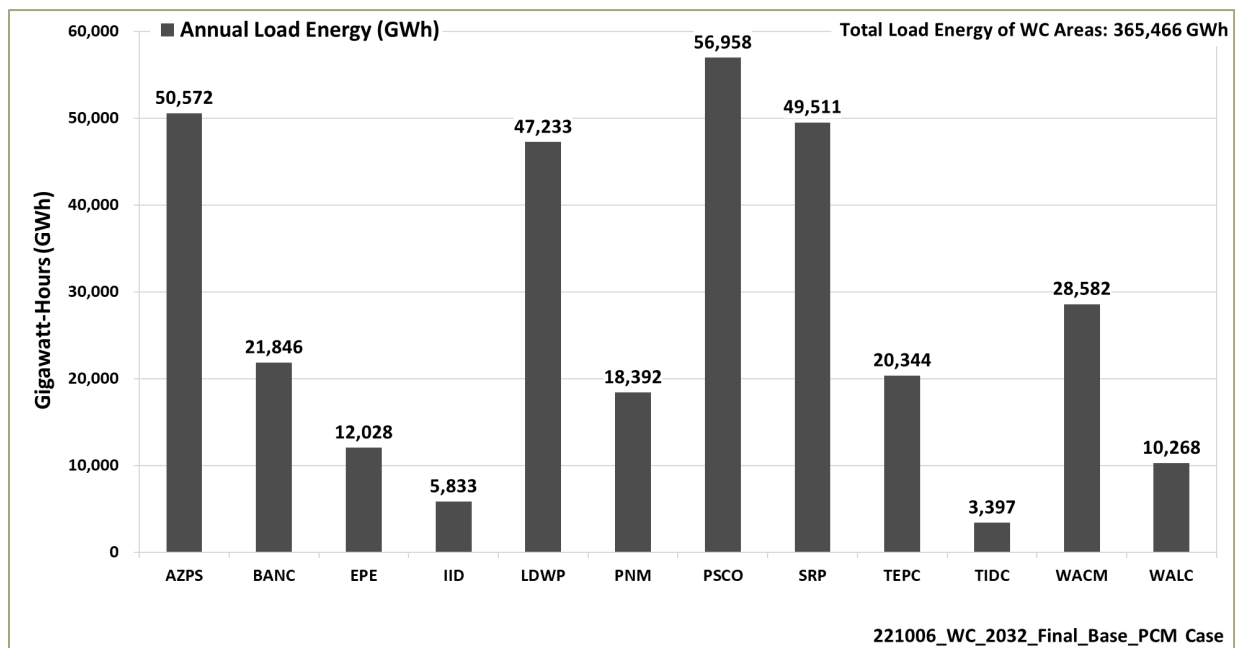
Area Name	Capacity (MW)	Generation (GWh)	Capacity Factor (%)	Dispatch at Area Peak Load (% of Capacity)
TEPC	433	998	26%	22%
WACM	60	119	22%	66%
WALC	324	733	26%	49%

153

154 **Load:** WestConnect made minor modifications to the load shapes and forecasts included in the WECC
 155 2032 ADS PCM Beta. No changes were made to the load forecasts for areas outside of WestConnect.
 156 **Figure 2** and **Figure 3** provide the annual load energy, various load snapshots (peak load and load
 157 during system/WECC peak), and the average load on a “PCM Area” basis. The PCM Areas are generally
 158 analogous to BAAs rather than specific utilities. The “PF Load” – load in the WestConnect 2032 Heavy
 159 Summer Base Case – is provided for a frame of reference, though, some difference between the PCM and
 160 PF load snapshots is typical given the below-listed considerations.

- 161 • The PF model focuses on an extreme or more-stressed-than-normal system condition whereas
 162 the economic model load shapes do not contain extremely high or low load values since they are
 163 developed to support a median year-long simulation.
- 164 • The economic model load shapes do not include the impact of BTM-DG (except for TEPC)
 165 whereas the PF model loads may or may not contain BTM-DG.
- 166 • The economic model loads in the charts below include exports out of Western Interconnection
 167 via the direct current interties along the east side of the Western Interconnection – whereas
 168 they are not included in the PF load in the charts below.

169 **Figure 2: WestConnect PCM Areas’ Annual Demand (GWh) in WestConnect 2032 Base Case (PCM)**
 170



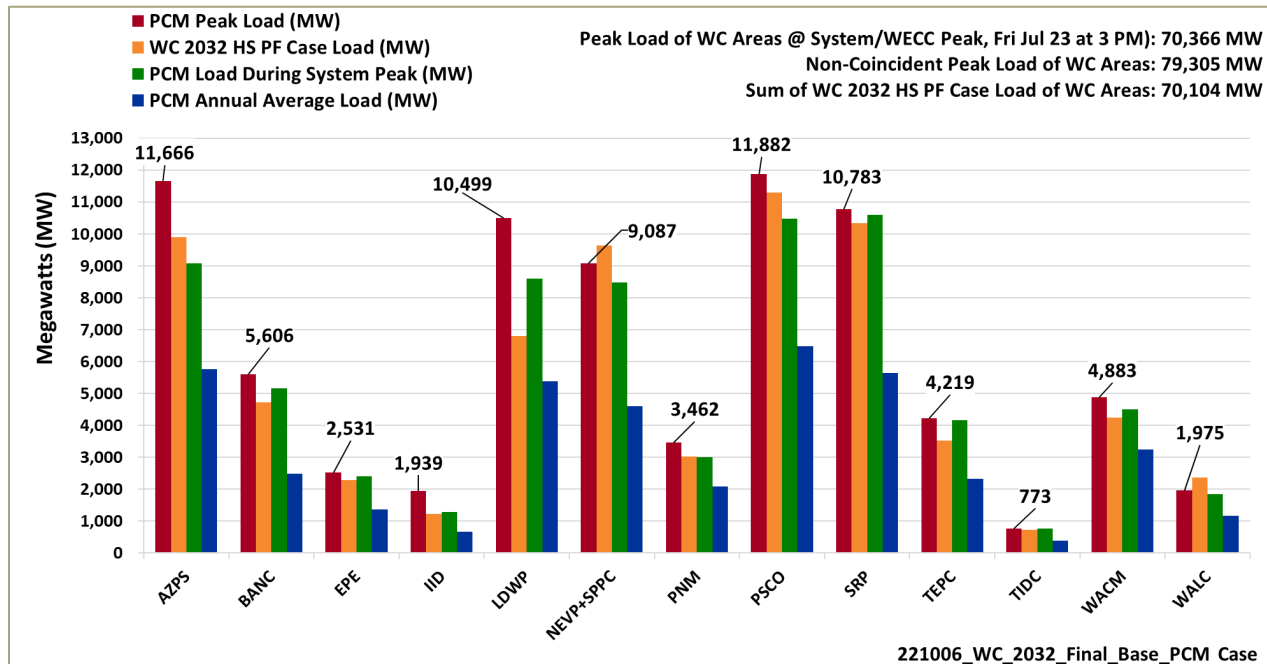
171

172

173

174
175

Figure 3: WestConnect PCM Areas' Peak Demand, Demand During System Peak, and Average Demand (MW) in WestConnect 2032 Base Case (PCM), shown with the Demand of the 2032 Heavy Summer Base Case



176

177 **Transmission:** The WECC 2032 ADS PCM Beta was updated with the WestConnect member topology to
 178 be consistent with the WestConnect Base Transmission Plan and the reliability model topology.
 179 WestConnect also reviewed the case for seasonal branch ratings, interfaces, and nomograms – making
 180 the below listed changes in each of these categories. The transmission topology outside of WestConnect,
 181 including the Common Case Transmission Assumptions, was not modified.

- 182 • Increased branch monitoring in the WestConnect footprint: Monitored transmission elements
 183 greater than 90 kV in WestConnect, greater than 200 kV outside of WestConnect, and all phase
 184 shifting transformers (PST) (phase angle regulators, or PAR).
- 185 • Updated interface definitions.

186 **Other Assumptions:**

- 187 • Any opportunity to more closely align the economic base case model with the reliability base
 188 case model was taken. For example, the summer and winter branch ratings and load distribution
 189 factors were aligned with the 2032 Heavy Summer Base Case.
- 190 • Fuel price forecasts and emission rate assumptions were initially pulled from the WECC 2032
 191 ADS PCM Beta and subsequently updated with new coal prices accepted by the WECC PCDS
 192 during their meeting on April 14, 2020, as well as Member feedback. These assumptions are
 193 included in [Appendix A](#).
- 194 • Reserve requirements modeling was updated from what was represented in the WECC 2032
 195 ADS PCM Beta. These assumptions are summarized below:

- 196
- 197
- 198
- 199
- 200
- 201
- 202
- 203
- 204
- 205
- 206
- 207
- 208
- 209
- 210
- 211
- 212
- 213
- 214
- 215
- 216
- Contingency Reserves: the default assumptions are provided below. LADWP and PNM provided higher spinning reserve assumptions to better represent their BA’s operating practices.
 - Assumed a 50/50 split between spinning and non-spinning.
 - Assumed that NW and SW BA’s locally meet 25% and 90% (respectively) of their contingency reserve requirement based on previous WECC models citing [WECC EDT Phase 2 Benefits Analysis Methodology \(October 2011 Revision\)](#).
 - Kept non-spinning requirement unmodeled since neither dataset currently has quick-start generator designations.
 - Kept spinning requirement modeled at BA and Reserve Sharing Group (RSG); however, a single set of RSG spinning requirements was modeled similar to the WECC 2032 ADS PCM Beta, except that RSG_RM was removed and the TPWR, PSCO, and WACM areas were included in RSG_NW.
 - Regulation Ancillary Service (AS) assumptions shown in **Table 4** were based on the CPUC Unified Resource Adequacy and Integrated Resource Plan Inputs and Assumptions – Guidance for Production Cost Modeling and Network Reliability Studies, February 20, 2019 ([link](#)).
 - Load Following AS assumptions shown in **Table 4** were based on the CPUC SERVM model for their 2018-19 IRP.

Table 4. Regulation and Load Following Ancillary Service Assumptions in WestConnect 2032 Base Case

AS	Ramping Response Requirement (minutes)	Requirement (at RSG level)	What it represents	What can contribute
Regulation Up	10	1.5% of Load	Security against unexpected loss of generation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispatchable thermals (excludes biomass/geothermal/nuclear/co-gen) generators subject to available headroom and ramp rate • Storage and hydro resources as constrained by headroom
Regulation Down				<p>Same as Reg Up contributors</p> <p>+</p> <p>Wind & Solar (no more than 10% of Maximum Capacity)</p>
Load Following Up	20	2.5% of load	Capacity reserved to accommodate load and/or renewable forecast error and sub-hourly deviations in forecasts. Not an actual product in most areas – proxy product to maintain reliability.	Same as Reg Up contributors
Load Following Down	20	1.5% of load		Same as Reg Down contributors

- 217
- 218
- 219
- 220
- Frequency Response AS assumptions were based on system-wide values from the [NERC 2021 Frequency Response Annual Analysis \(FRAA\)](#). This and the related assumptions are summarized in **Table 5**.

221

Table 5. Frequency Response Ancillary Service Assumptions in WestConnect 2032 Base Case

AS	Ramping Response Requirement (minutes)	Requirement (at RSG level)	What it represents	What can contribute
Frequency Response	1	1,253	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to frequency changes within one minute • 50% of constraint assumed to be met by hydro and renewable resources (full constraint is 2,506 MW) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage, coal, and gas only • Limit gas-fired contribution to 8% of their capacity/headroom (via Ancillary Max Contribution)

222

223 • The below listed thermal generation modeling assumptions were taken from the [WECC Intertek](#)
 224 [report dated May 12, 2020](#), "Update of Reliability and Cost Impacts of Flexible Generation on
 225 Fossil-fueled Generators for Western Electricity Coordinating Council."

226 ○ Cost per start: used the warm, median values

227 ○ Ramping limits

228 ○ Minimum up and down times

229 ○ Variable Operations and Maintenance (VOM) cost

230 • Wheeling charges, which represent the transmission service charges associated with
 231 transferring power between areas, were revised from the original WECC 2032 ADS PCM V1.0
 232 values to peak and off-peak wheeling charges based on the latest Open Access Transmission
 233 Tariff (OATT) rate. These assumptions are provided in [Appendix A](#). The WECC 2032 ADS PCM
 234 Beta also contained additional wheeling charges associated with modeling carbon emission
 235 charges applicable to California, and these rates were updated. Planning Subcommittee
 236 members reviewed these updates through draft model releases. Additional details for the
 237 wheeling charge modeling assumptions are included below:

238 ○ The regular, inter-area wheeling charges were based upon the OATT on-peak and off-
 239 peak non-firm point-to-point transmission service charges (Schedule 8) as well as
 240 Schedule 1 (Scheduling System Control and Dispatch Service) and Schedule 2 (Reactive
 241 Supply and Voltage Control) charge components of transmission providers in the
 242 Western Interconnection.

243 ○ Emission-related wheeling charges: The carbon emission charges applicable to
 244 California representing the California Global Solutions Act (AB 32) modeling and
 245 supplemental updates to the WECC 2032 ADS PCM Beta by the WECC Production Cost
 246 Data Subcommittee (PCDS) were implemented. Refer to the "Carbon emission charges
 247 updates" topic below for more details.

248 ○ The WECC 2032 ADS PCM Beta included tiered wheeling constraints – zero wheeling
 249 charges up to a MW threshold and non-zero wheeling charges thereafter – on the
 250 Nevada, Idaho, Montana, and Canadian borders of the NW footprint as well as the
 251 PACE/APS border, and these wheeling charges were retained.

- 252 • Nomograms and transmission interfaces were modeled by starting with the WestConnect
253 2030PCM, pulling in updates based on the WECC 2032 ADS PCM Beta, and then enhanced with
254 additional nomograms and conditional constraints provided by WestConnect members. These
255 input conditions aim to address the operational needs of individual member systems, such as
256 voltage support and other factors, including must run and must take conditions, that drive the
257 need for certain generation resources to be committed in a particular way, consistent with the
258 existing operational practices of the WestConnect member systems. The names of monitored
259 interfaces are included in [Appendix A](#). The “SMUD Op Nomogram”, “EPE Balance”, and “TEP
260 Local Gen” were nomograms added to the model to commit local generation. In addition, other
261 nomograms were added for generating plants containing a combination of solar PV and battery
262 storage to ensure their combined output did not exceed their contractual limits, and others were
263 added to ensure the battery storage only charged via the solar PV output for certain plants.
- 264 • Carbon emission charges updates: Details are below, in 2020 dollars.
 - 265 ○ California: Updated to \$64.293/MT based on the WECC PCDS recommendation ([CEC](#)
266 [2019 IEPR Revised Carbon Price Projections](#)) (California Carbon Price Assumption)
 - 267 ■ In addition, the reduced emission factor for NW imports was also updated to
268 0.0117 MT CO₂e/MWh based on [CARB Mandatory GHG Reporting - Asset](#)
269 [Controlling Supplier](#). This affected the above-mentioned updates to the
270 emission-related wheeling charges.
 - 271 ○ Alberta: Updated to \$31.742/MT based on an [Osler article RE Alberta carbon pricing](#)
 - 272 ○ British Columbia: Updated to \$49.015/MT based on [British Columbia Carbon Tax](#)

273 **4.1 Economic Sensitivity Models**

274 Models were developed for sensitivity studies on the 2032 Base Case economic model to better
275 understand whether regional transmission congestion may be impacted by adjusting certain input
276 assumptions subject to significant uncertainty. The sensitivity analysis is intended to make relatively
277 minor adjustments that would still remain within the expected future framework of the base models.
278 The Planning Subcommittee determined four sensitivities of interest, and their assumptions are
279 described below.

280 **2032 High Load Sensitivity Case**

281 **Description:** Scaled up the hourly load shape of BAAs within WestConnect so their annual peak and
282 energy is a 100%+ percentage of their value in the 2032 Base Case:

- 283 • TEPC: 105% of both peak and energy
- 284 • All other WestConnect Areas: 120% of both peak and energy

285 **2032 Low Hydro Sensitivity Case**

286 **Description:** Replaced hydro modeling with WECC 2001-based hydro modeling data developed by
287 WECC in conjunction with their 2024 Common Case PCM dataset.

288 **2032 High Gas Price Sensitivity Case**

289 **Description:** Increased all the natural gas prices to 140% of their value in the 2032 Base Case.

290 **2032 System-Wide Carbon Emission Cost Sensitivity Case**

291 **Description:** Applied CO₂ emission charges to all generators in WECC via the below updates to the 2032
292 Base Case:

- 293 • Applied the above-mentioned “California Carbon Price Assumption” as the carbon emission
294 price for all generation in California, Oregon, and Washington
- 295 • Kept the Alberta and British Columbia carbon emission prices unchanged
- 296 • Removed the carbon emission wheeling charges from all California borders except with Baja
297 California (CFE)
- 298 • Applied a carbon emission price of \$44/metric ton CO_{2e} (2020 dollars) for all other generation
299 in the WECC system

300 **5.0 Modeling Public Policy**

301 Enacted public policies are considered early in the planning process and are incorporated into the base
302 models (both reliability and economic) through the roll-up of local TO plans and their associated load,
303 resource, and transmission assumptions. In this context, enacted public policies are state or federal laws
304 or regulations, meaning enacted statutes (i.e., passed by the legislature and signed by the executive) and
305 regulations promulgated by a relevant jurisdiction, whether within a state or at the federal level.
306 Enacted public policies that are subject to significant uncertainty within the planning horizon are also
307 considered, but only as a part of a scenario.

308 **Table 6** summarizes the enacted public policies that were driving local transmission projects reflected
309 in regional base economic and PF models. This table was originally in the WestConnect 2022-23
310 Regional Study Plan and has been scaled down in this report to show the enacted public policies driving
311 local transmission needs. After their review of the models, each TOLSO member provided confirmation
312 that the WestConnect 2032 economic and PF models met these public policies’ conditions for the study
313 year 2032 to the extent a plan for compliance with the enacted public policies was completed prior to
314 the model development phase of the WestConnect 2022-23 planning cycle.

315
316 **Table 6. Enacted Public Policies Considered and/or Incorporated into 2032 WestConnect Planning Models**

Public Policy Requirement	Description
Arizona Renewable Energy Standard	Requires IOUs and retail suppliers to supply 15% of electricity from renewable resources by 2025), with a minimum of 30% of the renewable resources provided by distributed generation
California AB398/SB32	Requires the California State Air Resources Board to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020 and to ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the 1990 level by 2030

Public Policy Requirement	Description
California SB100	Requires Investor-owned utilities (IOUs) and municipal utilities to meet a 60% renewable portfolio standard (RPS) by 2030
California SB350	Requires IOUs and municipal utilities to meet a 50% RPS by 2030 and requires the establishment of annual targets for energy efficiency savings
Colorado HB 18-1270 (Energy Storage Procurement Act)	Directs the Commission to develop a framework to incorporate energy storage systems in utility procurement and planning processes. See C.R.S. § 40-2-201, et seq. The legislation broadly addresses resource acquisition and resource planning, and transmission and distribution system planning functions of electric utilities. Energy storage systems may be owned by an electric utility or any other person. Benefits include increased integration of energy into the grid; improved reliability of the grid; a reduction in the need for increased generation during periods of peak demand; and, the avoidance, reduction, or deferral of investment by the electric utility
Colorado HB 19-1261 and SB 1261 (GHG Reduction Bills)	HB 19-1261 requires the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) to promulgate rules and regulations for statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution abatement. Section 1 of SB 1261 states that Colorado shall have statewide goals to reduce 2025 greenhouse gas emissions by at least 26%, 2030 greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50%, and 2050 greenhouse gas emissions by at least 90% of the levels of statewide greenhouse gas emissions that existed in 2005. A clean energy plan filed by a utility is deemed approved if the plan demonstrates an 80% reduction by 2030.
Colorado HB10-1001	Established Colorado Renewable Energy Standard (RES) to 30% by 2020 for IOUs (Xcel & Black Hills)
Colorado HB10-1365	Requires rate regulated utilities in CO with coal-fired generation to reduce emissions on the smaller of 900 MW of generation of 50% of a company's coal generation fleet. Full implementation to be achieved by 12/31/2017
Colorado SB 07-100	Requires IOUs to identify Energy Resource Zones, plan transmission to alleviate constraints from those zones, and pursue projects according to the timing of resource development in those zones
Colorado SB 18-009 (Energy Storage Rights Bill)	Protects the rights of Colorado electricity consumers to install, interconnect, and use energy storage systems on their property without the burden of unnecessary restrictions or regulations and without unfair or discriminatory rates or fees.
Colorado SB 19-077 (Electric Vehicles Bill)	The bill enables a regulatory approval process for electric utilities to invest in charging facilities and provide incentive rebates; thus, the investments and rebates may earn a return at the utility's authorized weighted-average cost of capital. Where approved, the costs for the investments and rebates may be recovered from all customers of the electric utility similar to recovery of distribution system investments. Natural gas public utilities may provide fueling stations for alternative fuel vehicles as non-regulated services only.
Colorado SB 19-236 ("PUC Sunset Bill")	The primary purpose of this bill is to reauthorize the CPUC, by appropriations, for a seven-year period to September 1, 2026. Reauthorization is required by the sunset process. Additionally, the bill carries numerous requirements for utilities and the CPUC to achieve an affordable, reliable, clean electric system. Included in the bill are requirements to reduce the qualifying retail utility's carbon dioxide emissions associated with electricity sales to the qualifying retail utility's electricity customers by eighty percent from 2005 levels by 2030, and that seeks to achieve providing its customers with energy generated from one-hundred-percent clean energy resources by 2050. The bill also subjects co-ops to Colorado Public Utility Commission rulemaking.
Colorado SB13-252	Requires cooperative utilities to generate 20% of their electricity from renewables by 2020

Public Policy Requirement	Description
Colorado SB21-072	This bill requires electric transmission utilities in Colorado to join an organized wholesale market (OWM) by January 1, 2030, provided that the OWM meets certain criteria set forth in the statute. This bill also creates the Colorado Electric Transmission Authority, a governmental entity that is authorized to independently develop and finance transmission projects.
Colorado HB21-1266	This bill is a broad policy measure to promote environmental justice in disproportionately impacted communities through the creation of an Environmental Justice Task Force. The bill requires wholesale generation and transmission cooperatives to file with the Public Utilities Commission a Clean Energy Plan to achieve 80% emissions reductions by 2030.
Colorado SB 21-246	The primary purpose of this bill is to direct the approval of plans for the electrification of buildings that use fossil fuel-based systems through existing demand side management programs.
Colorado HB21-1238	The primary purpose of this bill is to update the PUC’s rules and decision-making process with respect to natural gas demand-side management programs including the use of the Social Cost of Carbon and Social Cost of Methane.
Colorado SB21-272	The primary purpose of this bill is to update the PUC’s rules and decision-making process to better incorporate the impacts and benefits to underserved or disproportionately impacted communities and groups including workforces impacted by generation acquisition and retirement. Other requirements include how utilities finance resources or investments, the retirement of renewable energy credits, and the inclusion of the Social Cost of Carbon in resource planning decisions.
Executive Order 14057 (EO 14057), Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability (Dec. 8, 2021)	<p>The President’s executive order directs the federal government to use its scale and procurement power to achieve five ambitious goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 percent carbon pollution-free electricity (CFE) by 2030, at least half of which will be locally supplied clean energy to meet 24/7 demand; • 100 percent zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) acquisitions by 2035, including 100 percent zero-emission light-duty vehicle acquisitions by 2027; • Net-zero emissions from federal procurement no later than 2050, including a Buy Clean policy to promote use of construction materials with lower embodied emissions; • A net-zero emissions building portfolio by 2045, including a 50 percent emissions reduction by 2032; and • Net-zero emissions from overall federal operations by 2050, including a 65 percent emissions reduction by 2030.
New Mexico Efficient Use of Energy Act	Require utilities to include cost-effective energy efficiency (EE) and demand response (DR) programs in their resource portfolios and establish cost-effectiveness as a mandatory criterion for all programs
New Mexico Energy Transition Act (2019 SB 489)	<p>Subject to the Reasonable Cost Threshold (RCT), the Energy Transition Act defines renewable energy requirements that are a percentage of a utility’s retail energy sales and the type of utility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2020, 20% for public utilities and 10% for cooperatives • By 2025, 40% for public utilities and cooperatives • By 2030, 50% for public utilities and cooperatives • By 2040, 80% for public utilities with provisions associated with carbon free generation • 100% carbon-free by 2045 for public utilities and by 2050 for cooperatives
SRP Sustainable Energy Goal	Reduce the amount of CO ₂ emitted per megawatt-hour (MWh) by 65% from 2005 levels by 2035 and by 90% by fiscal year 2050.

Public Policy Requirement	Description
Texas RPS	Texas RPS requires a total renewable capacity of 5,880 MW (which has already been achieved) by 2025 be installed in the state which is in turn converted into a renewable energy requirement. The renewable energy requirements are allocated to load serving entities based on their amount of retail energy sales as a percent of the total Texas energy served
Texas Substantive Rule 25.181 (Energy Efficiency Rule)	Require utilities to meet certain energy efficiency targets

317

318 Renewable Energy Check

319 During the model development process, there was interest in seeing if the WestConnect economic
 320 models indicated a renewable energy penetration trajectory consistent with enacted public policies. To
 321 address this interest, WestConnect conducted a high-level accounting and comparison of the energy
 322 sales and renewable energy from each PCM Area via the process outlined below.

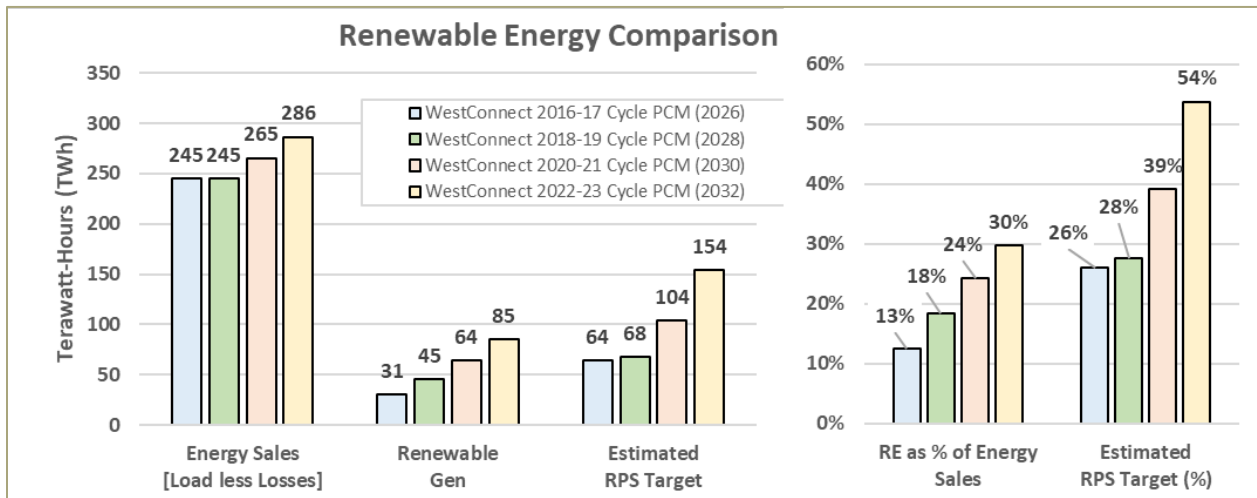
- 323 1. Annual generation consisting of Bio, Geothermal, Solar PV, Solar Thermal, & Wind were summed
 324 for each PCM Load Area as “Renewable Energy” (RE). The RE for the SRP PCM Area also included
 325 specific hydro and a combined solar & battery generation that was counted as RE based on the
 326 SRP plan to meet its public policy requirements, but hydro was otherwise not counted as RE.
 327 The Reserve Capacity Distribution settings in the 2032 Base Case PCM were used to allocate
 328 resources to their appropriate remote load area.
- 329 2. The “Energy Sales” from each PCM Load Area was determined by taking the “Served Load
 330 Includes Losses”, subtracting losses, adding the magnitude of negative generation (e.g., pumping
 331 loads with hourly profiles), and subtracting behind-the-meter generation (e.g., distributed
 332 generator or DG-BTM, energy efficiency or EE, demand response or DR)
- 333 3. The “Renewable Energy” was divided by the “Energy Sales” as the “RE as % of Energy Sales” for
 334 the 2032 Base Case PCM and compared with these same values from the 2030 Base Case PCM
 335 and the 2028 Base Case PCM from the previous two cycles (to allow for comparison between
 336 cycles).

337 Only the single year results from each study year were used in the RE check and no banking of
 338 renewable energy from other years was assumed. **Figure 4** shows the results of the renewable energy
 339 check, which the Planning Subcommittee determined show a reasonable trend towards WestConnect
 340 members meeting enacted public policies. **Table 7** shows the losses and load including losses used to
 341 calculate the WestConnect Energy Sales.

342

343
344

**Figure 4. Sum of Energy Sales, Renewable Generation, and Overall RE as % of Energy Sales
Based on Single-Year Results from the 2032 Base Case PCM and the Base Case PCM's from previous cycles**



345
346
347
348

Table 7. BAA Losses and Served Load Including Losses used to calculate the WestConnect Energy Sales in the Renewable Energy Check

BAA	Losses (MWh)	Served Load Includes Losses (MWh)
AZPS	1,619,310	44,564,312
BANC	771,891	21,846,017
EPE	374,876	11,975,682
IID	199,304	4,791,888
LDWP	1,332,424	46,582,375
PNM	500,485	17,269,592
PSCO	1,839,963	55,987,612
SRP	1,687,780	48,656,614
TEPC	579,376	19,768,885
WACM	699,336	28,461,260
WALC	386,111	10,081,379
Total	9,990,856	309,985,617

349
350

351 **6.0 Summary of Regional Base Transmission**
 352 **Plan**

353 WestConnect created the regional base transmission plan at the beginning of the 2022-23 Planning
 354 Process to establish the transmission network topology that is reflected in the regional planning models
 355 for the 10-year timeframe and evaluated in the regional needs assessments. The base transmission plan
 356 consists of the “planned” incremental transmission facilities included by TOs in local transmission plans,
 357 as well as regional transmission facilities identified in previous regional transmission plans that are not
 358 subject to reevaluation.⁴ It also includes any assumptions member TOs may have made with regard to
 359 other incremental regional transmission facilities in the development of their local transmission plans.
 360 “Conceptual” transmission projects are not included in the base transmission plan.

361 The base transmission plan was developed using project information collected via the WestConnect
 362 Transmission Plan Project List (TPPL), which is the tool that WestConnect uses for a project repository
 363 for TO member and TO participant local transmission plans as well as independently developed projects.
 364 The TPPL data used for the 2022-23 Planning Process was based on updates submitted as of January
 365 2022, with subsequent updates to the data made by members through the Model Development Process.
 366 The full list of approved regional base transmission plan projects – prior to updates made during model
 367 development – can be found in Appendix B of the [2022-23 Regional Study Plan](#).
 368

369 **6.1 2022-23 Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects**

370 The 2022-23 Base Transmission Plan project list includes 209 planned transmission projects that
 371 consist of 74 new or upgraded transmission lines, 66 substations, 31 transmission line and substations,
 372 22 transformers, and 16 other planned projects. From the data reported in the TPPL, these projects span
 373 a reported total of 2,360 miles and add up to a total capital investment of \$5,786.5 Million.⁵ **Table 8** and
 374 **Table 9** summarize the Base Transmission Plan by project type and voltage.

375 **Table 8. Regional Base Plan Projects by Type, Reported Mileage,**
 376 **and Reported Investment (\$K), based on TPPL data**
 377

Type of Project	Number of Projects	Length (Miles)	Planned Investment (\$K)
Substation	66	-	\$681,474
Transmission Line	74	1,329	\$1,968,091
Transmission Line and Substation	31	1,031	\$2,881,658
Transformer	22	-	\$70,001
Other	16	-	\$185,250
Total	209	2360	\$5,786,474

378

⁴ There are not any re-evaluation projects in the 2022-23 Base Transmission Plan.

⁵ 9% of the transmission line projects listed in the 2022-23 Base Transmission Plan did not report line mileage in the TPPL data and 50% of the projects did not report cost information in the TPPL data.

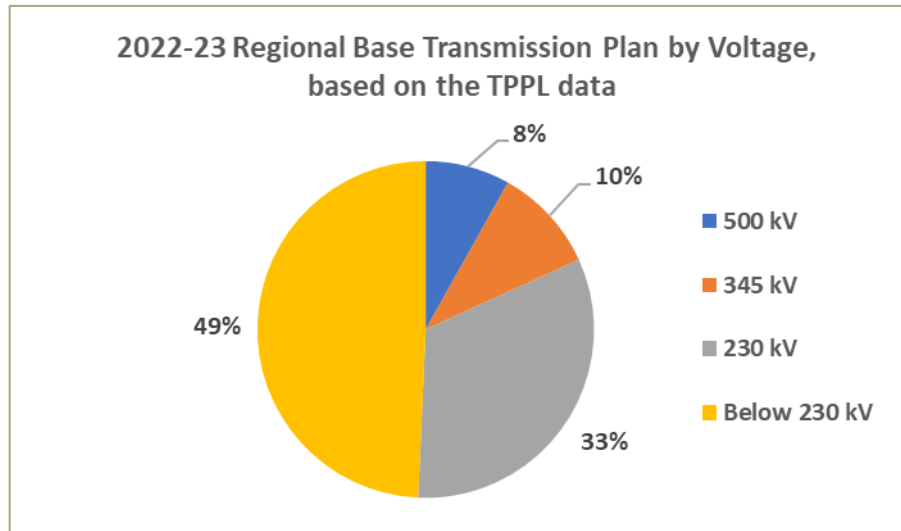
379 **Table 9. Number of TOLSO Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects by Voltage and TOLSO, based on TPPL data**

TOLSO	< 230 kV	230 kV	345 kV	500 kV AC	TBD	Total
Arizona Electric Power Cooperative	2	-	-	-	-	2
Arizona Public Service	-	10	1	3	-	14
Black Hills Energy	2	-	-	-	-	2
Black Hills Power	-	2	-	-	-	2
Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power	9	6	-	-	-	15
Colorado Springs Utility	4	3	-	-	-	7
Deseret Power	-	-	-	-	-	-
El Paso Electric Company	31	-	9	-	-	40
Imperial Irrigation District	1	1	-	-	-	2
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	-	11	-	7	-	18
Platte River Power Authority	2	6	1	-	-	9
Public Service Company of Colorado/ Xcel Energy	1	-	2	-	-	3
Public Service Company of New Mexico	-	2	-	-	-	2
Sacramento Municipal Utility District	2	9	-	4	-	15
Salt River Project	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transmission Agency of Northern California	10	6	1	-	-	17
Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association	27	7	7	3	-	44
Tucson Electric Power	4	-	-	-	-	4
Western Area Power Administration - DSW	7	3	-	-	-	10
Western Area Power Administration - RMR	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Area Power Administration - SNR	2	-	-	-	-	2
Total Projects	103	68	21	17	0	209

380
 381
 382 Review of the of the 2022-23 regional base transmission plan projects showed that 49% were
 383 classified as below 230 kV, 33% were classified as 230 kV, 10% were classified as 345 kV; and 8%
 384 were classified as the 500 kV. **Figure 5** illustrates the percentage breakout for the 2022-23 regional
 385 base transmission plan projects by voltage.

386
387

Figure 5. 2022-23 Regional Base Transmission Plan Transmission Line by Voltage, based on the TPPL data



388
389

390 6.2 Updates to the 2020-21 Regional Transmission Plan 391 Projects

392 Review of the 2020-21 Regional Study plan base transmission projects showed several projects have
393 gone into service, started construction, or have had other updates to their development status. The full
394 list of 2020-21 regional base transmission plan projects can be found in the [2020-21 Regional](#)
395 [Transmission Plan](#), Appendix A. Updated information provided to the TPPL showed that 32 projects
396 were placed in service, 25 projects were updated to under construction development status, 16 projects
397 were updated to conceptual development status and 32 projects were withdrawn from the 2020-21
398 Regional Transmission Plan. The remaining 2020-21 regional base transmission plan projects continued
399 as planned projects in the 2022-23 regional base transmission plan. Additionally, 123 new planned
400 projects were added to the TPPL and included in the 2022-23 regional base transmission plan. **Table 10**
401 and **Table 11** summarize the updates to the 2020-21 regional base transmission plan projects.

402
403
404

Table 10. 2020-21 Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects In-Service, Reported Mileage, and Reported Investment (\$K), based on the TPPL data

Type of Project	Number of Projects	Length (Miles)	Planned Investment (\$K)
Substation	7	-	\$37,170
Transmission Line	14	166	\$29,851
Transmission Line and Substation	7	93	\$84,157
Transformer	3	-	\$5,279
Other	1	-	\$250
Total Projects	32	259	\$156,707

405

406

407

408

Table 11. 2020-21 Planned Regional Transmission Plan Projects Withdrawn or Changed to Conceptual by Voltage, based on the TPPL data

New Status	Type	< 230 kV	230 kV	345 kV	Total
Conceptual	Substation	4	1	1	6
	Transmission Line	5	2	-	7
	Transmission Line and Substation	1	-	-	1
	Transformer	-	1	-	1
	Other	1	-	-	1
Withdrawn	Substation	7	1	-	8
	Transmission Line	15	1	-	16
	Transmission Line and Substation	1	-	-	1
	Transformer	1	1	1	3
	Other	3	-	1	4
Total		38	7	3	48

409

6.3 Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects by State

410

411

412

The 2022-23 regional base transmission plan has projects in multiple states in the WestConnect footprint and in some instances, projects span multiple states. **Table 12** summarizes the number of projects by states with aggregated capital investment.

413

414

415

Table 12. 2022-23 Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects by State, Reported Mileage, and Reported Investment (\$K), based on the TPPL data

State	Number of Projects	Length (Miles)	Planned Investment (\$K)
Arizona	49	400	\$1,346,239
California	15	179	\$876,780
Colorado	33	999	\$2,367,265
New Mexico	5	-	\$104,900
South Dakota	1	-	-
Wyoming	9	58	\$25,000
Multiple	97	724	\$1,066,290
Total Projects	209	2360	\$5,786,474

416

417

418

419

420

Review of the 2022-23 regional base transmission plan projects by state showed that many (23%) of the projects are located in Arizona, 16% of the projects are located in Colorado, 7% are located in California, and 46% span multiple states. The remaining projects are located in in New Mexico, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

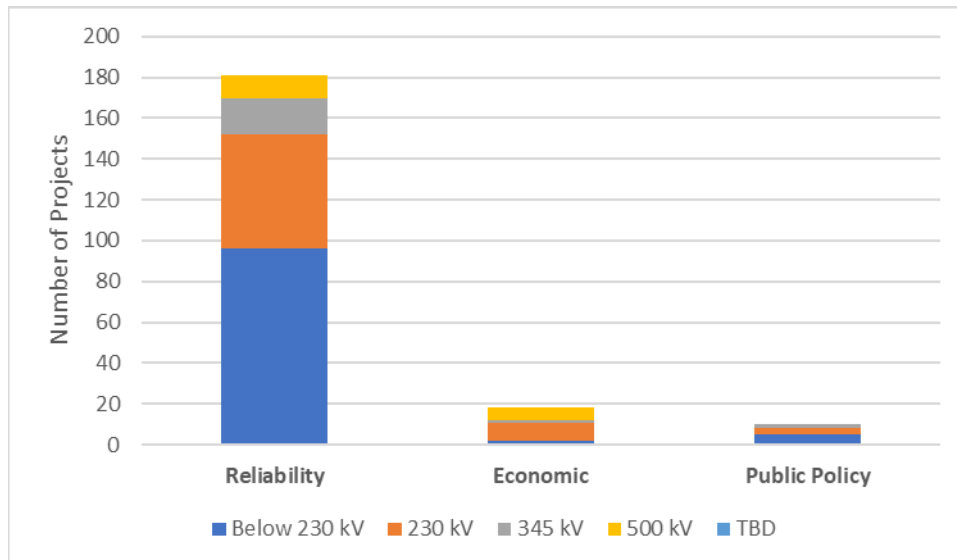
421 **6.4 Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects by Driver**

422 Review of the 2022-23 regional base transmission planned projects showed that nearly all of projects
 423 (94%) are primarily driven by reliability needs, 4% are primarily driven by public policy, and the
 424 remaining 2% are primarily economic driven. Further review showed that the majority are primarily
 425 reliability driven projects below 230 kV (59%). **Table 13**, and **Figure 6** below breakout the projects by
 426 length, planned investment costs, and voltage.
 427

428
 429 **Table 13. 2022-23 Regional Base Transmission Plan Projects by Driver and Voltage, Reported Mileage, and**
 430 **Reported Investment (\$K), based on the TPPL data**

Driver (Primary/Secondary)	< 230kV	230 kV	345 kV	500 kV	TBD	Total
Reliability	90	53	16	10	-	169
Reliability/Public Policy	2	8	1	4	-	15
Public Policy	1	2	2	-	-	5
Public Policy/Reliability	-	2	1	-	-	3
Other	6	1	1	1	-	9
Economic	-	-	-	2	-	2
Economic/Reliability	-	1	-	-	-	1
Reliability/Economic	4	1	-	-	-	5
Total Projects	103	68	21	17	0	209

431
 432 **Figure 6. 2022-23 Regional Base Transmission Plan Number of Projects by Primary Driver and Voltage, based on**
 433 **the TPPL data**



434

435 7.0 Scenario Studies

436 A single scenario study involving two scenario cases is included in the Study Plan, which WestConnect
437 will perform on an “information-only” basis. Details regarding the process used to develop the scenarios
438 and their purpose in the planning process is located in the [2022-23 Study Plan](#) and provided below for
439 quick reference:

440 **High Clean Energy Penetration Scenario Study:** The purpose of the High Clean Energy Penetration
441 Scenario Study is to evaluate the regional congestion in and reliability of a 2032 future in which the
442 renewable and clean energy target-focused Public Policy Requirements of that study year are satisfied
443 within the WestConnect footprint, as well as use the models representing this future to understand the
444 gap between this future and a future in which the WestConnect footprint is carbon free. The study will
445 begin with updating the assumptions within the WestConnect 2032 Base Case PCM in order to develop a
446 2032 High Clean Energy Penetration PCM case whose results reasonably satisfy the renewable and clean
447 energy target-focused Public Policy Requirements applicable to year 2032, confirmed by TOLSO
448 Members. Next, a reliability model will be developed based on a WestConnect Member-selected system
449 condition from the 2032 High Clean Energy Penetration PCM simulation. The development of these
450 models and the analyses they will undergo are described in more detail below.

451 It is expected that the 2032 High Clean Energy Penetration PCM case will be developed through several
452 iterative rounds of review by the WestConnect Members. Given the numerous ways in which some of the
453 Public Policy Requirements can be complied with, the final assumptions of the case are expected to
454 contain simplifications in many instances and will be extremely important for Members and
455 stakeholders to keep this in mind during the course of the study. Even more so than in the Regional
456 Assessments, the focus will be on regional impacts rather than local issues. Whenever possible,
457 WestConnect will look to leverage WestConnect Members’ internal studies or other recent assessments
458 that have investigated strategies for compliance with Public Policy Requirements, including, but not
459 limited to, thermal generation retirements, generation and/or storage additions, demand-side
460 programs, or local transmission expansion focused on new resource delivery. TOLSO Members will be
461 asked to consider any gap identified between the Public Policy Requirements in the WestConnect 2032
462 Base Case PCM and provide assumptions to reasonably fill the gap.

463 The 2032 High Clean Energy Penetration PCM case results will be evaluated in two ways. First, the
464 congestion in the case will be evaluated using the same method as the Regional Economic Assessment
465 (described in Section 5.3). As in the Regional Economic Assessment, WestConnect may choose to
466 conduct sensitivity studies on the 2032 High Clean Energy Penetration PCM. Second, the results of the
467 simulation will be used to perform a “carbon free gap analysis”, which will involve an accounting of the
468 carbon emissions attributed to the WestConnect footprint in the 2032 High Clean Energy Penetration
469 PCM in order to approximate the amount of further carbon reduction that would be necessary to make
470 the WestConnect footprint carbon free by 2032.

471 The reliability of the system condition exported from the 2032 High Clean Energy Penetration PCM case
472 will be evaluated using the same steady state contingency analysis as the Regional Reliability
473 Assessment.

474

475 **8.0 Next Steps**

476 The Planning Subcommittee compiled this report to document major assumptions that have been
477 incorporated into the base regional models and their sensitivity cases. Both draft and final versions of
478 the regional models are made available to PMC Members and others that have executed the
479 WestConnect Confidentiality Agreement.

480 The regional needs assessment was conducted in parallel with the later stages of the model
481 development process and will culminate with a report from the Planning Subcommittee to the PMC.
482 That report will document the findings of the regional assessments and the determination of regional
483 transmission needs for the current planning cycle.

484 The scenario assessment will be conducted after the regional needs assessment and will culminate with
485 a report from the Planning Subcommittee to the PMC. That report will document the findings of the
486 scenario assessments and propose recommendations on any potential regional *opportunities*.
487

488 **9.0 Appendix A: 2032 Base Case (PCM)**
 489 **Assumptions**

490 This appendix contains select modeling assumptions reflected in the WestConnect 2032 Base Case.

491 **Table 14. Annual Average of Fuel Price Assumptions (2020\$/mmBtu) in WestConnect 2032 Base Case PCM**
 492

Fuel Name	Annual Average of Fuel Prices (2020\$/mmBtu)	Fuel Name	Annual Average of Fuel Prices (2020\$/mmBtu)
Bio_Agri_Res	0.568	Coal_Sunnyside	1.488
Bio_Blq_Liquor	0.011	Coal_UT	1.431
Bio_Landfill_Gas	2.379	Coal_Valmy	2.246
Bio_Other	3.052	Coal_WY_PRB	0.712
Bio_Sludge_Waste	0.001	Coal_WY_SW	1.991
Bio_Solid_Waste	0.001	Coal_Wygen	0.654
Bio_Wood	3.031	Coal_Wyodak	0.899
Coal_Alberta	1.323	Geothermal	0.001
Coal_Apache	2.061	NG_AB	3.629
Coal_AZ	1.673	NG_AZ North	3.531
Coal_Battle_River	1.323	NG_AZ South	3.486
Coal_Boardman	1.748	NG_Baja	3.606
Coal_Bonanza	1.531	NG_BC	3.628
Coal_CA_South	3.113	NG_CA PGaE BB	5.336
Coal_Centennial_Hard	1.060	NG_CA PGaE LT	5.336
Coal_Centralia	2.011	NG_CA SDGE	5.298
Coal_Cholla	1.682	NG_CA SJ Valley	4.381
Coal_CO_East	1.045	NG_CA SoCalB	3.520
Coal_CO_West	1.734	NG_CA SoCalGas	5.382
Coal_Colstrip	1.060	NG_CO	3.546
Coal_Comache	1.045	NG_CO Rifle	2.064
Coal_Coronado	1.976	NG_CO_Shafer	2.027
Coal_Craig	1.710	NG_ID North	3.565
Coal_Dave_Johnston	0.732	NG_ID South	3.888
Coal_Dry_Fork	0.518	NG_MT	3.434
Coal_Escalante	1.746	NG_NM North	3.401
Coal_Four_Corners	2.131	NG_NM South	3.397
Coal_Hayden	1.734	NG_NV North	3.390
Coal_Hunter	1.348	NG_NV South	3.516
Coal_Huntington	1.488	NG_OR	3.683
Coal_ID	2.120	NG_OR Malin	3.142
Coal_Intermountain	1.668	NG_TX West	3.317
Coal_Jim_Bridger	2.120	NG_UT	3.418
Coal_LRS	1.130	NG_WA	3.683
Coal_Martin_Drake	1.163	NG_WY	3.434
Coal_Naughton	1.673	Oil_DistFuel_TSGT	24.792
Coal_Navajo	1.988	Oil_DistillateFuel_2	24.567

Fuel Name	Annual Average of Fuel Prices (2020\$/mmBtu)	Fuel Name	Annual Average of Fuel Prices (2020\$/mmBtu)
Coal_Neil_Simpson	0.656	Oil_DistillateFuel_H	34.120
Coal_Nixon	1.167	Oil_DistillateFuel_L	12.200
Coal_NM	1.752	Petroleum Coke	1.484
Coal_NV	1.926	Propane	24.788
Coal_Pawnee	0.927	Purchased_Steam	1.053
Coal_Rawhide	1.001	Refuse	0.001
Coal_San_Juan	1.407	Synthetic Gas	7.357
Coal_Springerville 3	1.707	Uranium	0.738
Coal_Springerville 4	1.707	Waste_Heat	0.001
Coal_Springerville12	1.315		

Table 15. Fuel Emission Rates by Type (lb/mmBtu) in WestConnect 2032 Base Case PCM

Fuel Groups or Fuel Name	Fuel Emission Rates by Type (lb/mmBtu)			Fuel Groups or Fuel Name	Fuel Emission Rates by Type (lb/mmBtu)		
	SO ₂	NO _x	CO ₂		SO ₂	NO _x	CO ₂
"Bio" Fuels	0.00579	0.1766362	130	Coal_Navajo	0.571	0.459146	205.0311
"NG" Fuels	0.0006	0.08	117	Coal_Neil_Simpson	0.07	0.1	205.2
Coal_Alberta	0.35	0.5	205	Coal_Nixon	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532
Coal_Apache	0.571	0.459146	205.0311	Coal_NM	0.3303097	0.3824139	203.5343
Coal_AZ	0.571	0.459146	205.0311	Coal_NV	0.112818	0.3485	202.6215
Coal_Battle_River	0.35	0.5	205	Coal_Pawnee	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532
Coal_Boardman	0.621817	0.288333	205.2	Coal_Rawhide	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532
Coal_Bonanza	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Coal_San_Juan	0.3303097	0.3824139	203.5343
Coal_CA_South	0.3303097	0.3824139	203.5343	Coal_Springerville 3	0.571	0.459146	205.0311
Coal_Centennial_Hard	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Coal_Springerville 4	0.571	0.459146	205.0311
Coal_Centralia	0.621817	0.288333	205.2	Coal_Springerville12	0.571	0.459146	205.0311
Coal_Cholla	0.571	0.459146	205.0311	Coal_Sunnyside	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532
Coal_CO_East	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Coal_UT	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532
Coal_CO_West	0.6911747	0.552889	205.2	Coal_Valmy	0.112818	0.3485	202.6215
Coal_Colstrip	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Coal_WY_PRB	0.07	0.1	205.2
Coal_Comache	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Coal_WY_SW	0.07	0.1	205.2
Coal_Coronado	0.571	0.459146	205.0311	Coal_Wygen	0.07	0.1	205.2
Coal_Craig	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Coal_Wyodak	0.07	0.1	205.2
Coal_Dave_Johnston	0.07	0.1	205.2	DefaultFuel	0.35	0.276	200
Coal_Dry_Fork	0.07	0.1	205.2	Geothermal	0.00579	0.1766362	20
Coal_Escalante	0.3303097	0.3824139	203.5343	Oil_DistFuel_TSGT	0.00579	0.1766362	156.3
Coal_Four_Corners	0.571	0.459146	205.0311	Oil_DistillateFuel_2	0.00579	0.1766362	156.3
Coal_Hayden	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Oil_DistillateFuel_H	0.00579	0.1766362	156.3
Coal_Hunter	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Oil_DistillateFuel_L	0.0006	0.116	161.3
Coal_Huntington	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Petroleum Coke	0	0.028	224
Coal_ID	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Propane	0.00579	0.1766362	123.1133
Coal_Intermountain	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Purchased_Steam	0	0.028	224
Coal_Jim_Bridger	0.07	0.1	205.2	Refuse	0.00579	0.1766362	130
Coal_LRS	0.07	0.1	205.2	Synthetic Gas	0.0006	0.08	117
Coal_Martin_Drake	0.6911747	0.552889	204.7532	Uranium	0	0	0
Coal_Naughton	0.07	0.1	205.2	Waste_Heat	0	0	0

Table 16. WestConnect Inter-Area Wheeling Rate Assumptions in WestConnect 2032 Base Case PCM. Non-public wheeling charges provided by WestConnect members are excluded from this table: WACM export wheel.

From Zone	To Zone	From PCM Area(s)	To PCM Area(s)	Wheeling Charge (\$/MWh)	
				Peak Hours	Off-Peak Hours
AB_AESO	BC_BCHA	AESO	BCHA	2.338	2.338
AB_AESO	NW_NWMT+	AESO	NWMT, WAUW	5.2	5.2
BC_BCHA	AB_AESO	BCHA	AESO	9.915 up to 590 MW, then 3.131	9.915 up to 590 MW, then 3.131
BC_BCHA	NW_BPAT+	BCHA	BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, SCL, TPWR	0 up to 1571 MW, then 7.755	0 up to 1571 MW, then 7.755
BS_IPCO	NW	IPFE	AVA, BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, PACW, PGE, SCL, TPWR	0 up to 2160 MW, then 2.912	0 up to 2160 MW, then 2.912
BS_IPCO	SW_NVE	IPFE	NEVP	4.64	2.59
BS_PACE	<Any>	PAID	<Any>	6.902	3.283
CA_BANC+	<Any>	BANC, TIDC	<Any>	2.3	2.3
CA_CFE	CA_CISO	CFE	CIPB, CIPV, CISC, CISD, VEA	12.2	12.2
CA_CISO	<Any>	CIPB, CIPV, CISC, CISD, VEA	<Any>	11.5	11.5
CA_IID	<Any>	IID	<Any>	3.06	3.06
CA_LDWP	<Any>	LDWP	<Any>	9.31	4.42
NW	BS_IPCO	AVA, BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, PACW, PGE, SCL, TPWR	IPFE	0 up to 1080 MW, then 2.103	0 up to 1080 MW, then 2.103
NW	NW_NWMT+	AVA, BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, PACW, PGE, SCL, TPWR	NWMT, WAUW	0 up to 1215 MW, then 2.103	0 up to 1215 MW, then 2.103
NW_BPAT+	<Any>	BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, SCL, TPWR	<Any>	3.99	3.99
NW_BPAT+	BC_BCHA	BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, SCL, TPWR	BCHA	0 up to 1201 MW, then 2.103	0 up to 1201 MW, then 2.103
NW_BPAT+	SW_NVE	BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, SCL, TPWR	NEVP	0 up to 120 MW, then 2.103	0 up to 120 MW, then 2.103
NW_NWMT+	<Any>	NWMT, WAUW	<Any>	4.56	4.56
NW_NWMT+	BS_PACE	NWMT, WAUW	PAID	0 up to 192 MW, then 5.166	0 up to 192 MW, then 5.166

From Zone	To Zone	From PCM Area(s)	To PCM Area(s)	Wheeling Charge (\$/MWh)	
				Peak Hours	Off-Peak Hours
NW_NWMT+	NW	NWMT, WAUW	AVA, BPAT, CHPD, DOPD, GCPD, PACW, PGE, SCL, TPWR	0 up to 2016 MW, then 5.166	0 up to 2016 MW, then 5.166
NW_PACW	<Any>	PACW	<Any>	6.902	3.283
NW_PGE	<Any>	PGE	TH_Malin	1.02	1.02
RM_PSCO	<Any>	PSCO	<Any>	8.238	4.753
SW_AZPS	<Any>	AZPS	<Any>	7.338	4.102
SW_AZPS	BS_PACE	AZPS	PAID	0 up to 300 MW, then 7.338	0 up to 300 MW, then 4.102
SW_EPE	<Any>	EPE	<Any>	5.95	3.40
SW_NVE	<Any>	NEVP	<Any>	7.09	4.28
SW_PNM	<Any>	PNM	<Any>	6.042	5.448
SW_SRP	<Any>	SRP	<Any>	4.36	2.48
SW_TEPC	<Any>	TEPC	<Any>	7.1	3.686
SW_WALC	<Any>	WALC	<Any>	1.811	1.811

498
499

Table 17. Names of Monitored Interfaces in WestConnect 2032 Base Case PCM

Monitored Interface Names	
_IPP DC pole balancing	P62 Eldorado-McCullough 500 kV Line
Delisted-P22 Southwest of Four Corners	P65N Pacific DC Intertie (PDCI)
Delisted-P23 Four Corners 345/500 Qualified Path	P65S Pacific DC Intertie (PDCI)
Delisted-P50 Cholla-Pinnacle Peak	P66 COI
Delisted-P51 Southern Navajo	P71 South of Allston
FlowMonitor_18009_180514_1	P73 North of John Day
P01 Alberta-British Columbia	P75 Hemingway-Summer Lake
P02 Alberta-Saskatchewan	P76 Alturas Project
P03 Northwest-British Columbia	P77 Crystal-Allen
P03East Side NW-BC	P78 TOT 2B1
P03West Side NW-BC	P79 TOT 2B2
P04 West of Cascades-North	P80 Montana Southeast
P05 West of Cascades-South	P81 Southern Nevada Transmission Interface (SNTI)
P06 West of Hatwai	P82 TotBeast
P08 Montana to Northwest	P83 Montana Alberta Tie Line
P14 Idaho to Northwest	P84 Harry Allen - Eldorado (HAE)
P15 Midway-LosBanos	P89 SNTI + HAE
P16 Idaho-Sierra	Palo Verde East
P17 Borah West	SeriesRctrLine_10231_12038_1
P18 Montana-Idaho	SeriesRctrLine_12008_12007_1
P19 Bridger West	SeriesRctrLine_30560_30527_1
P20 Path C	SeriesRctrLine_30692_30690_1
P24 PG&E-Sierra	SeriesRctrLine_30700_30527_1
P25 PacifiCorp/PG&E 115 kV Interconnection	SeriesRctrLine_30700_30697_1
P26 Northern-Southern California	SeriesRctrLine_34727_34700_1
P27 Intermountain Power Project DC Line	SeriesRctrLine_34742_34704_1
P28 Intermountain-Mona 345 kV	SeriesRctrLine_60275_60278_1
P29 Intermountain-Gonder 230 kV	SeriesRctrLine_73414_78664_1
P30 TOT 1A	xy AZ-CA
P31 TOT 2A	xy WY-UT

Monitored Interface Names	
P32 Pavant-Gonder InterMtn-Gonder 230 kV	z Aeolus South
P33 Bonanza West	z Aeolus West
P35 TOT 2C	z CA IPP DC South
P36 TOT 3	z CA PG&E-Bay
P37 TOT 4A	z ID Midpoint West
P38 TOT 4B	z CG Columbia Injection
P39 TOT 5	z CG Net COB (NW AC Intertie)
P40 TOT 7	z CG North of Echo Lake
P41 Sylmar to SCE	z CG North of Hanford
P42 IID-SCE	z CG Paul-Allston
P45 SDG&E-CFE	z CG Raver-Paul
P46 West of Colorado River (WOR)	z CG South of Boundary
P47 Southern New Mexico (NM1)	z CG South of Custer
P48 Northern New Mexico (NM2)	z CG West of John Day
P49 East of Colorado River (EOR)	z CG West of Lower Monumental
P52 Silver Peak-Control 55 kV	z CG West of McNary
P54 Coronado-Silver King 500 kV	z CG West of Slatt
P55 Brownlee East	zzz N Path 18 Exp 2
P58 Eldorado-Mead 230 kV Lines	zzz N Path 18 Imp 2
P59 WALC Blythe - SCE Blythe 161 kV Sub	zzz N Path 22_part1
P60 Inyo-Control 115 kV Tie	zzz N Path 22_part2
P61 Lugo-Victorville 500 kV Line	

500