

June 13, 2025

Josh Kitterman
Chair
WestConnect Planning Management Committee

Alejandro Castro
Vice Chair
WestConnect Planning Management Committee

RE: Non-Tariff Activities for the Remainder of 2025

Mr. Kitterman and Mr. Castro:

On October 17, 2024, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) issued an order (the “October 17 Order”) directing the WestConnect Enrolled Transmission Owners (“ETOs”) to remove the Coordinating Transmission Owner (“CTO”) framework from the regional planning provisions of their open access transmission tariffs (“OATTs”) and to make corresponding changes to the Planning Participation Agreement (“PPA”) as well. The Commission “require[ed] the WestConnect public utility transmission providers to revise their OATTs so that the WestConnect regional transmission planning process will identify and plan for the regional transmission needs of only enrolled transmission providers because those transmission providers are subject to binding cost allocation.”¹

On December 16, 2024, the ETOs submitted the directed compliance filings removing the CTO framework from the PPA and their OATTs, requesting a December 17, 2024 effective date. On April 24, 2025, the Commission issued an order accepting the ETOs’ proposed OATT and PPA revisions, effective December 17, 2024.²

Because the former CTOs are no longer members of the WestConnect planning region effective December 17, 2024, the budget responsibility of the ETOs has effectively doubled. This led the ETOs to consider whether to move forward with certain discretionary activities (activities that would involve consultant resources and associated fees and expenses over the remaining months of 2025). The discretionary activities at issue consist of consultant studies of a kind not required by Order No. 1000 or the ETOs’ OATTs. Cognizant of the increased cost responsibility that is now being shouldered by the ETOs and their ratepayers, the ETOs have unanimously decided not to move forward with the 20-year Increased Renewable Scenario and the investigation of alternative production cost modeling metrics.

The ETOs respectfully request this notice be posted to the westconnect.com website for stakeholder transparency.

¹ Order on Remand, 189 FERC ¶ 61,028 at P 19 (2024).

² Order Accepting Tariff Revisions and Terminating Section 206 Proceedings, 191 FERC ¶ 61,074 (2025).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Arizona Public Service Company
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC
Black Hills Power, Inc.
Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company
Deseret Generation & Transmission Co-operative
El Paso Electric Company
Public Service Company of Colorado
Public Service Company of New Mexico
Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
Tucson Electric Power Company
UNS Electric, Inc.