

# WestConnect Regional Planning: Fifth Relevant State Entity Forum for Order 1920

July 15, 2025

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# Contact Information

- Relevant State Entities may communicate with the ETOs in the WestConnect planning region by sending any questions or comments to [Order1920@westconnect.com](mailto:Order1920@westconnect.com).
  - This is available throughout the Order 1920 compliance process and emails will be distributed to key contacts at each ETO.

# Agenda

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# Agenda for Today's Call

- An overview of the draft cost allocation portion of the WestConnect ETOs' Order No. 1920 tariff
- A breakout session for Relevant State Entities to discuss WestConnect's draft cost allocation tariff
- An opportunity for the Relevant State Entities to provide input and ask questions regarding WestConnect's draft cost allocation tariff
- An opportunity for Stakeholders to provide comments and ask questions to the Relevant State Entities

# Overview of Order No. 1920 Process to Date

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# Order No. 1920 Meetings and Outreach

- On October 25, 2024, the WestConnect Enrolled Transmission Owners (ETOs) published a State Engagement Process for the WestConnect Planning Region announcement, specifying the Engagement Period commencement and end dates, information on the first virtual meeting, and contact information for the Relevant State Entities to communicate with the ETOs.
- The initial Engagement Period commencement and end dates were:
  - Engagement Period Commencement Date: October 28, 2024
  - Engagement Period End Date: April 28, 2025

# Order No. 1920 Meetings and Outreach

- On November 14, 2024, the WestConnect ETOs hosted the first state engagement forum.
- On February 13, 2025, the WestConnect ETOs hosted the second state engagement forum.
- On February 11, 2025, CREPC 1920 Ad Hoc Committee filed a 6-month extension on behalf of the identified Relevant State Entities identified in the WestConnect Planning region and the WestConnect ETOs.
- On March 25, 2025, the WestConnect ETOs hosted the third state engagement forum.
- On April 10, 2025, the WestConnect ETOs hosted the fourth state engagement forum.

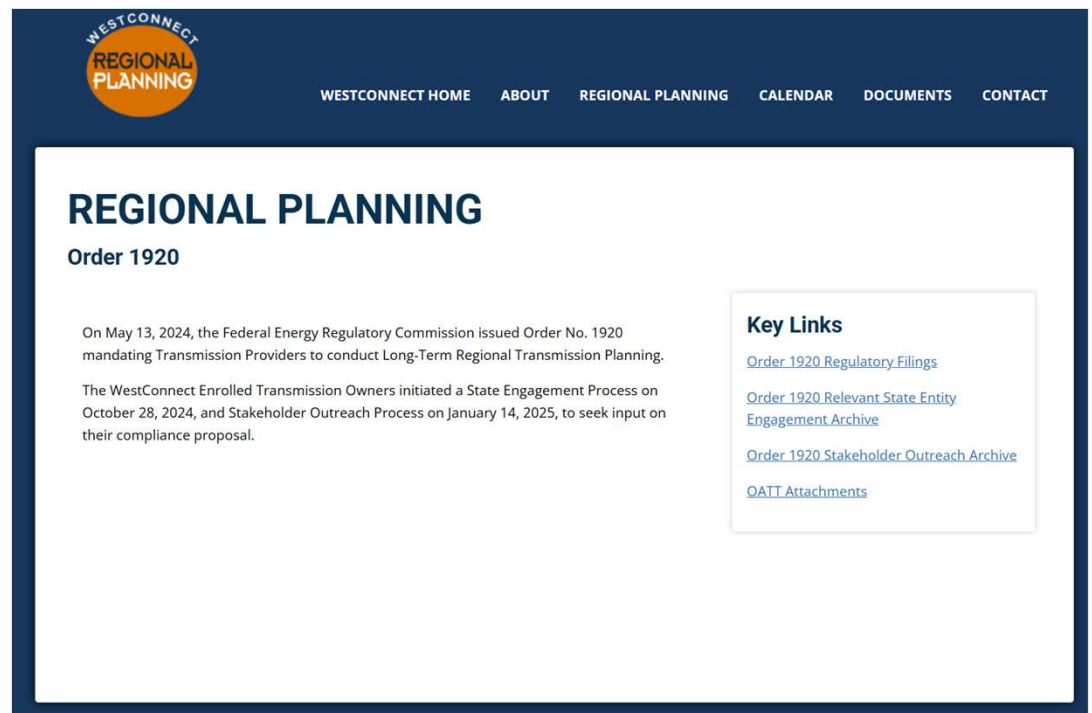
# Order No. 1920 Meetings and Outreach

- On April 1, 2025, FERC granted CREPC's 6-month extension request.
  - Regional/local tariff changes due December 12, 2025
  - Interregional tariff changes due February 12, 2026
- On April 3, 2025, the WestConnect ETOs posted an updated Announcement of State Engagement Process for WestConnect Planning Region. The updated Engagement Period dates are:
  - Commencement Date: October 28, 2024
  - Engagement Period End Date: October 28, 2025
  - Any feedback or comments from the RSEs, including any agreement on a cost allocation methodology or state agreement process, will need to be received by October 28, 2025



# New Order No. 1920 Landing Page

- The WestConnect ETOs created a new “landing page” relating to Order No. 1920 on the WestConnect website.
- This new landing page is intended to ensure easier access to Order No. 1920 materials.
- Link:  
[https://regplanning.westconnect.com/order\\_1920.htm](https://regplanning.westconnect.com/order_1920.htm)



# Overview of the WestConnect ETOs' Draft Cost Allocation Portion of the Order No. 1920 Tariff

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# Draft Cost Allocation Tariff

- On June 30, 2025, the WestConnect ETOs draft cost allocation tariff for Order No. 1920 was:
  - (1) posted on the [WestConnect website](#),
  - (2) circulated to RSE contacts, and
  - (3) circulated to all RSEs and Stakeholders that attended any prior RSE forum.

# Benefits Quantification

- Where this occurs in the planning process: Process begins after needs identification and project solicitation.
- How benefit quantification will work: Benefits from all proposed projects will be quantified using FERC's specified seven benefits:
  1. Avoided or deferred reliability transmission facilities and aging infrastructure replacement.
  2. Reduced loss of load probability or reduced planning reserve margin.
  3. Production cost savings.
  4. Reduced congestion due to transmission outages.
  5. Mitigation of extreme weather events and unexpected system conditions.
  6. Capacity cost benefits from reduced peak energy losses.
  7. Reduced transmission energy losses.

# Cost Allocation (Eligibility Criteria)

Following benefits quantification, Transmission Providers check for eligibility for cost allocation:

1. Benefits to cost threshold ratio equal to or greater than 1.25
2. Project transmission lines must be 200 kV or greater and a minimum of 50 miles in length.
3. Project transformers must have a low side operating voltage of 200 kV or greater.
4. All other project transmission equipment must functionally support or operate an operating voltage of 200 kV or greater.
5. The project physically interconnects the transmission systems of two or more Transmission Providers enrolled in WestConnect.
6. A minimum of two Transmission Providers enrolled in WestConnect must benefit from the project.

# Cost Allocation (Voluntary Funding)

Voluntary Funding Available: (for projects that do not meet the cost allocation criteria)

- Option 1: One or more interconnection customers or RSEs agrees to fund the entire cost of the proposed Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility on a non-revocable basis within 60 days of such posting voluntarily agreeing to fund the cost.
- Option 2:
  - If the only criteria a proposed transmission facility does not satisfy is the 1.25-to-1 benefit-to-cost ratio, the Transmission Providers will specify the level of voluntary funding that would be necessary so that the quantified benefits to the identified Transmission Providers, when compared to project costs, would satisfy the 1.25-to-1 benefit-to-cost ratio for each identified Transmission Provider beneficiary.
  - One or more interconnection customers or RSEs would have 60 days following the posting to agree to fund a sufficient portion of the cost of the proposed Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility on a non-revocable basis so that the benefits to the remaining costs would satisfy the 1.25-to-1 benefit-to-cost ratio.

If a project receives voluntary funding, it would be eligible to be considered for selection as a Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility.

# Project Evaluation and Selection

- Selection: A proposed transmission project that meets the above criteria and satisfies Long-Term Transmission Needs in the WestConnect Planning Region may be selected for purposes of cost allocation.
- Evaluation criteria:
  - The extent to which identified Long-Term Transmission Needs are resolved by the proposed Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility, including consideration of when in the Long-Term Regional Transmission Planning cycle the facility is expected to be in service and when the Long-Term Transmission Needs arise;
  - The quantified benefits estimated to result from the proposed Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility;
  - The probability that those benefits will be realized and at what point during the Long-Term Regional Transmission Planning cycle those benefits will be realized;
  - The costs of the proposed Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility;
  - The merits of the project sponsor (if applicable);
  - The extent to which the selection of a Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility would maximize benefits accounting for costs over time without over-building transmission facilities;
  - The ability of the project sponsor to acquire the necessary rights-of-way and other site control necessary to construct the proposed Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility in a cost-effective or efficient manner; and
  - Any other quantitative or qualitative factors relevant to Long-Term Regional Transmission Planning consistent with good utility practice.
- WestConnect Transmission Providers would post an explanation of their determinations.

# Cost Allocation (Methodology)

If a project is selected and subject to cost allocation: The cost allocations are based on percentage share of the project's quantified benefits to each Transmission Provider beneficiary in the WestConnect planning region:

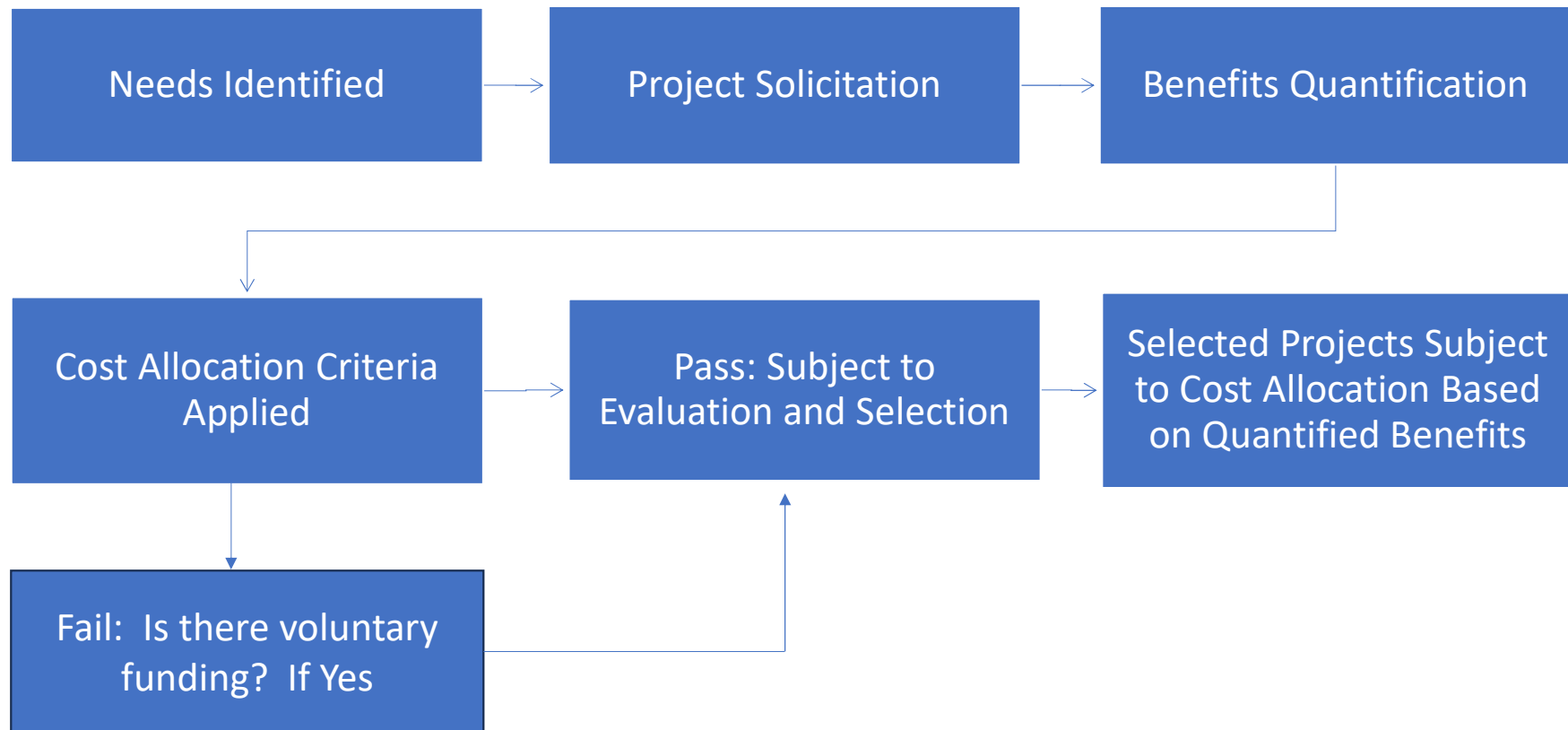
$$\frac{\text{total dollar value of all benefits for specific Transmission Provider}}{\text{total dollar value of all benefits for all Transmission Providers enrolled in the WestConnect Planning Region}} = \text{the proposed cost allocation \% to the specific Enrolled Transmission Owner}$$

For example, if Utility X would receive \$10 million in benefits from a project that provides \$100 million in benefits, Utility X would receive 10% of the cost allocation for the project if that project is selected in the regional plan for purposes of cost allocation. If the project were an \$80 million project, Utility X would be allocated \$8 million.

Results of cost allocation will be posted on the WestConnect website.



# Overview of Process



# Break-Out Session for Relevant State Entities

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# Breakout Session Discussion Topics

- a) The manner in which the ETOs propose to quantify each of the required benefits for a proposed Long-Term Transmission Facility.
- b) The minimum criteria the ETOs propose that a Long-Term Transmission Facility must satisfy to be eligible for cost allocation.
- c) The draft process for voluntary funding by Relevant State Entities of projects proposed for selection as a Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility that do not satisfy the cost allocation criteria, including the format and means by which the Relevant State Entities envision they would provide, in writing, their agreement to pay a portion of project costs and the estimated time period for providing that commitment.
- d) The factors that the ETOs should consider in deciding whether to select a proposed Long-Term Regional Transmission Facility as eligible for cost allocation.
- e) The proposed cost allocation methodology for distributing costs to the benefitting ETOs based on the quantified benefits.

# Break-Out Session for Relevant State Entities

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# Questions and Comments from Relevant State Entities to the WestConnect ETOs

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# Request for Input From RSEs

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PLEASE PROVIDE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON  
THE DRAFT TARIFF LANGUAGE.

# Questions and Comments from Stakeholders to Relevant State Entities

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# Request for Input from Stakeholders



PLEASE PROVIDE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS TO  
THE RELEVANT STATE ENTITIES.



# Upcoming Forums

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# Upcoming Forum

- *Mid-October 2025: Joint Sixth Relevant State Entity Forum and Second Stakeholder Meeting*
  - The Transmission Providers will aim to provide the full draft tariff in advance of this forum.

# Contact Information

- Relevant State Entities may communicate with the Enrolled Transmission Owners in the WestConnect planning region by sending questions or comments to:

[Order1920@westconnect.com](mailto:Order1920@westconnect.com).

