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Chair
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Rhonda Whiting
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W. Bill Booth
Idaho

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Idaho



Joan M. Dukes
Vice-Chair
Oregon

Bill Bradbury
Oregon

Tom Karier
Washington

Phil Rockefeller
Washington

September 1, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Wally Gibson

SUBJECT: Transmission Planning Review Items

There are two items on the agenda relating to transmission planning. The staff will present a review of the draft west-wide 10-Year Transmission Plan that the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) has recently finished. That will be followed by presentations on transmission planning work by the two Northwest organizations, ColumbiaGrid and Northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG). In this context, they are called “subregional” planning groups, where WECC is the “region” of reference.

Transmission planning occurs at multiple levels, directly by utility transmission providers and merchant developers, with coordination efforts through subregional planning groups, like ColumbiaGrid and NTTG, and west-wide through WECC. The coordination efforts of transmission providers are required by FERC Order 890. The WECC 10-Year Plan is a high-level examination of the bulk transmission that might be required by development of resources to meet state and provincial renewable portfolio standards (RPS) in 2020. The WECC plan assumes and builds on the construction of a set of transmission lines (the “foundational projects”) that are currently under development and are estimated by the transmission providers, working through the subregional planning groups, to have a high likelihood of completion.

Jeff Miller, Planning Vice-President of ColumbiaGrid, and Rich Bayless, a consultant with NTTG, will review the planning work of their organizations, which developed the projects in the foundational projects list among other planning studies. ColumbiaGrid’s membership is focused on the west side of the Northwest, including Bonneville and a number of publicly owned utilities; NTTG’s membership is focused on the east side and is predominantly made up of IOUs. The presentation from ColumbiaGrid is attached; the presentation from NTTG will be emailed to you as soon as we receive it and brought to the Astoria meeting.

ColumbiaGrid Planning

Presentation to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council
September 2011



Members and Participants



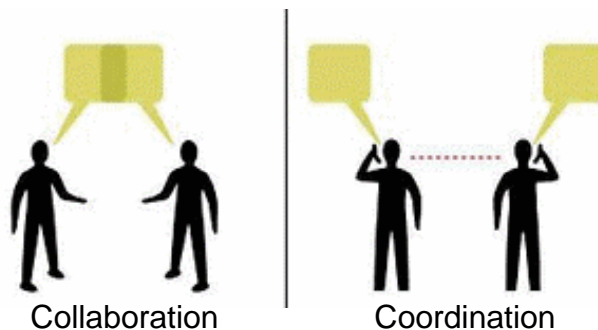


ColumbiaGrid Planning

- Independent staff of twelve – six devoted to planning
- Independent 3 member Board –
 - Ed Sienkiewicz, Shelly Richardson, and Jim Miller
- Anyone can participate - Open stakeholder process
- Develops Biennial Transmission Expansion Plan which builds on an annual System Assessment
- Conducts studies focused on specific issues (e.g., Puget Sound area plan, Mid-C Area Plan, Centralia closure, wind integration, cross-Cascades)
- Can make cost allocation recommendations

3

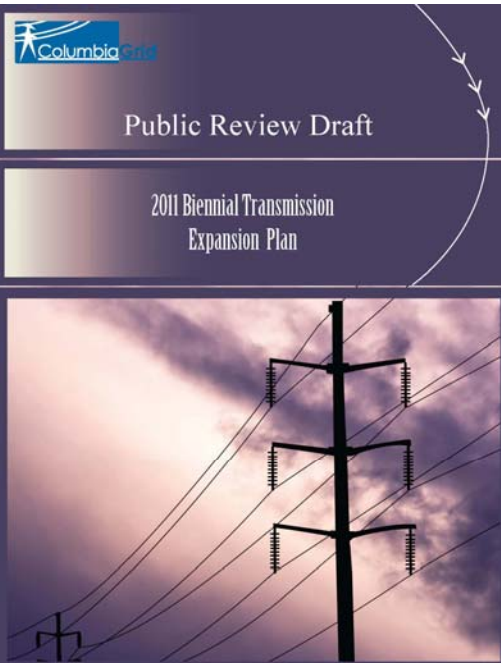
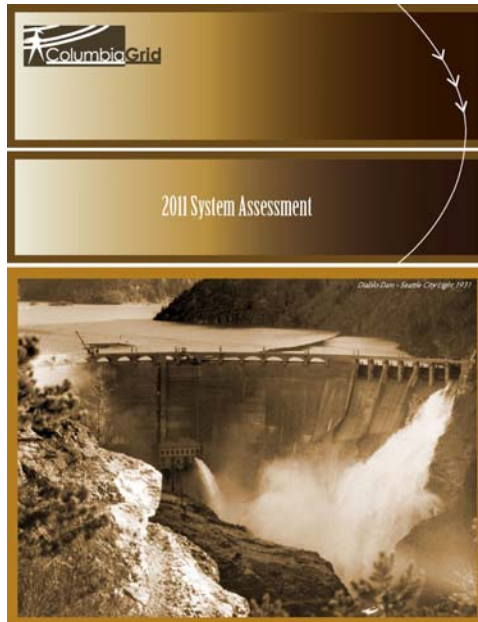
ColumbiaGrid fosters **collaboration** Not just Coordination



System Assessments

Completed each year
to assess the systems
ability to meet
NERC TPL requirements

Normally available
each year in July

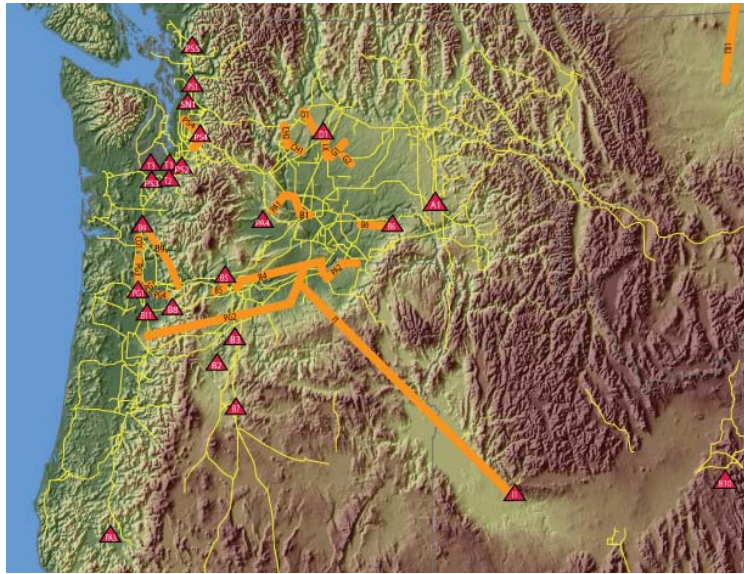


Biennial Plans

Completed every other
year with updates
in the off years

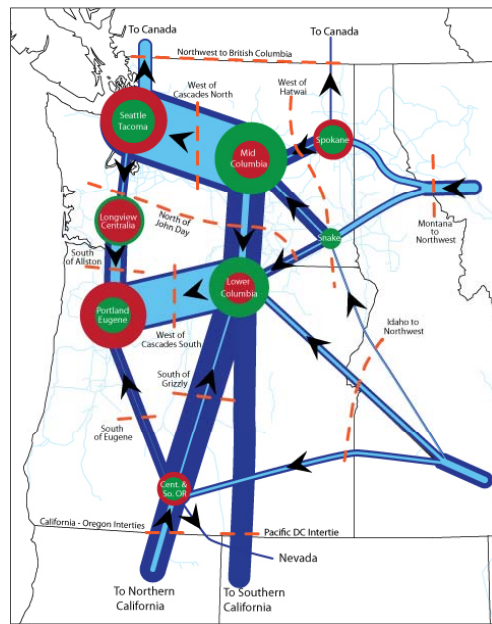
Normally a final draft is
available in December
with Board approval
in February

Ten-Year Plan

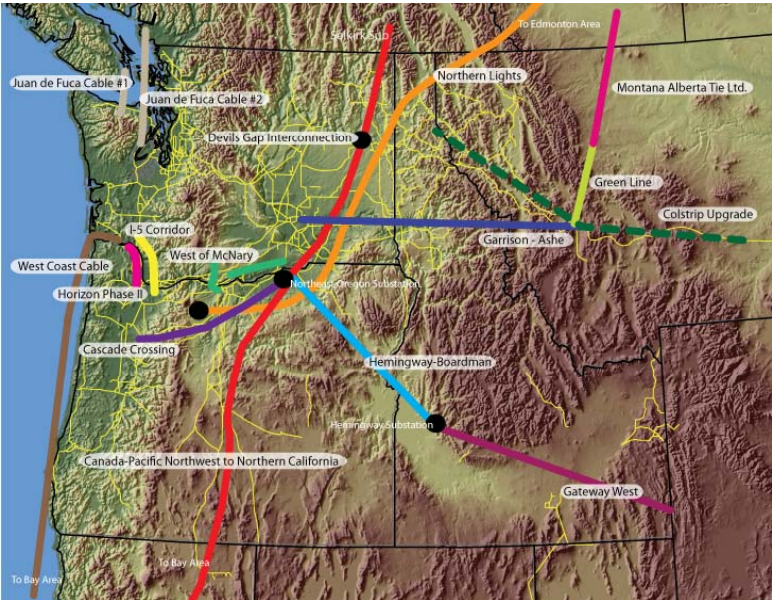


Five-Year Winter Base Case Conditions

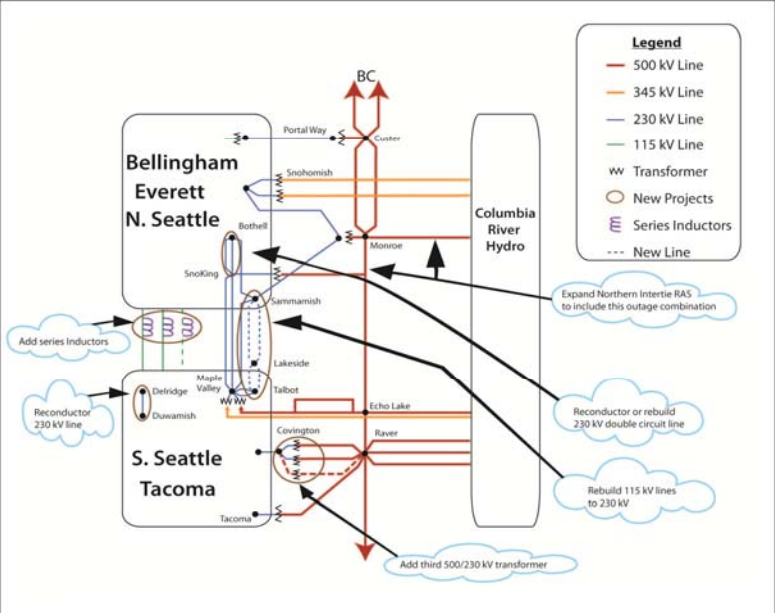
- Generation
- Load
- Transmission Capability
- Transmission Loading
- ◀ Path Definition
- ◀ Path Flow Direction



Major Transmission Projects

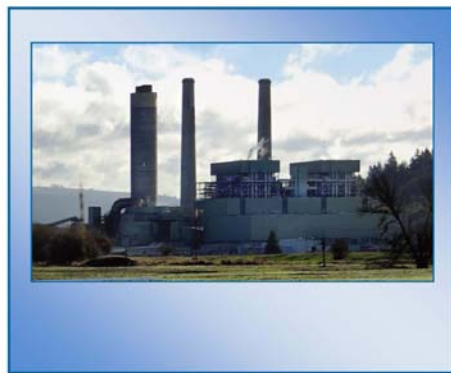
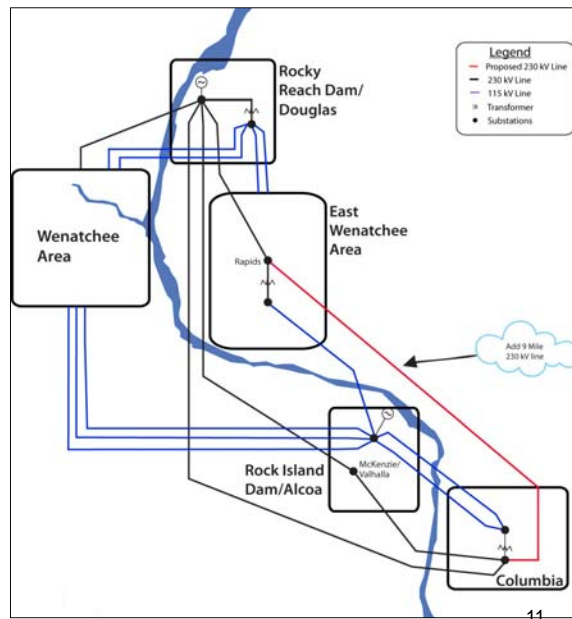


Puget Sound Area Study Team Plan for Supporting South to North Transfers





Northern Mid-Columbia Study Team



The Effect of the Centralia Power Plant Closure on the Grid



April 28, 2011



Centralia Closure Study Team

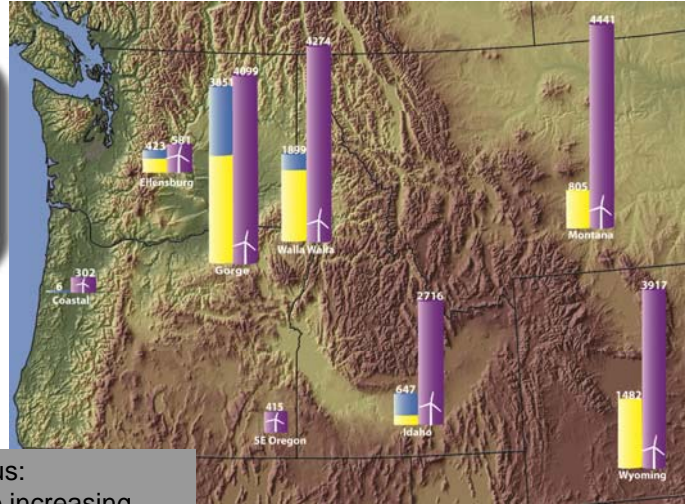
- Initiated in November of 2010
- Anyone was welcome to participate
- Weekly meetings
- Report approved unanimously



Wind Integration Study Team

Wind Resources as of June 2010

- Under Construction
- Operating
- Proposed

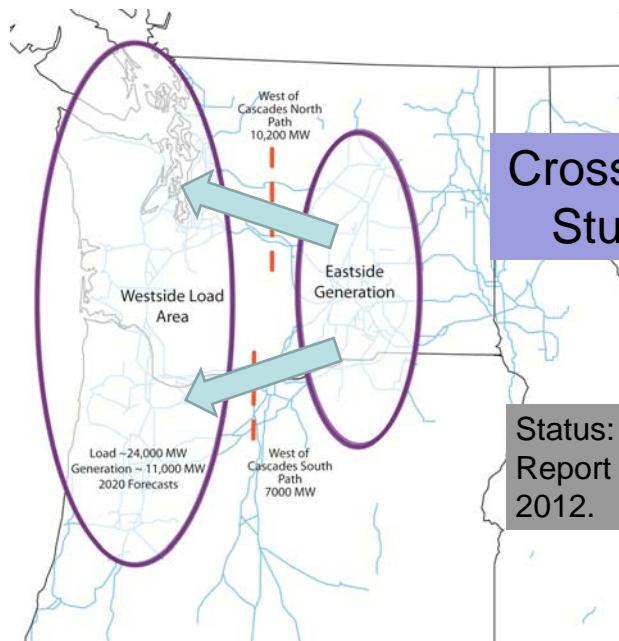


Status:
Continuing work to increasing dynamic transfer capability limits

13



Cross Cascades Study Team



Status: Work Underway.
Report expected in early 2012.

14

