Western Area Power Administration
Follow-up to Nov. 25, 2008 Transition Meeting

Undeveloped Transmission Right-of-Way

Western has very little undeveloped transmission right-of-way. There is a 7-mile right-of-way between Folsom, CA and Roseville, CA where Western acquired a 250' wide right-of-way but is only using half of it. Another line could be built parallel to Western's line to relieve congestion in the Sacramento area. In addition, Western has rights-of-way for many transmission lines that could be rebuilt (either reconductored or uprated) to increase transmission capacity. For example, Western's Tracy-Livermore 230-kV line is a single circuit line but the existing towers could support a double circuit line. In general Western's 115-kV lines could be either reconductored or uprated (to 230-kV) without significant right-of-way or environmental work. Western's rights-of-way would have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if the existing right-of-way would be sufficient to accommodate a proposed transmission facility upgrade. Information on 31 Western line segments that could be reconductored or uprated between FY09 and FY11 is provided in a separate document.

Irrigation Water Deliveries

The Bureau of Reclamation delivers approximately 30 million acre feet of water annually. This figure includes all Reclamation irrigation deliveries, including those in Bonneville Power Administration's service territory. Note that the amount of water delivered can vary based on hydrological conditions. Irrigation deliveries do not necessarily impact hydropower generation, since irrigation water is run through power turbines to the extent possible prior to being delivered to irrigators.

Potential Infrastructure Projects

Western could use funding from the economic stimulus package to improve the transmission infrastructure in its service territory (see the attached list). These projects are generally rehabilitation and reliability projects on Western's system. In FY 2009, Western could spend approximately $64 million on these projects; and in FY 2010 we could spend approximately $206 million. These projects would provide employment opportunities in the West as most of them would be completed using contractors. Please note that there is some duplication between this list of projects and the 31 line segments referred to in the first paragraph above. At your request, we can provide you with revised numbers that exclude the duplicated projects.

Renewable Energy Purchases

As part of the economic stimulus package, Western or its customers could promote renewable energy by purchasing the output from renewable generation built in its service territory as a result of incentives provided in the stimulus package. Any such purchases would have to be economically neutral or beneficial to Western or its customers.

Rev. 1, 12/10/08