

Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI)
Minutes of Plenary Stakeholder Group Kick-Off Meeting
September 20, 2007

Revised October 11, 2007
Revisions in bold

The initial meeting of the RETI Plenary Stakeholder Group was held at the California Energy Commission on September 20, 2007, 1:00-3:00 PM. Approximately 135 people attended the meeting, including 28 who participated by telephone conference link. A list of participants taken from meeting sign-in sheets is posted on the RETI website, www.energy.ca.gov/reti. The meeting was facilitated by Dave Olsen of CEERT. Minutes were compiled by CEERT and CEC staff.

The meeting began with statements of support for the RETI effort from representatives of the leadership of sponsoring agencies: Traci Bone, on behalf of CPUC Commissioner Dian Grueneich; Chuck Najarian, on behalf of CEC Commissioner Jeff Byron; Robin Smutny-Jones, on behalf of CAISO President and CEO Yakout Mansour; and Jim Pope, General Manager of the Northern California Power Agency, on behalf of Publicly Owned Utilities.

Dave Olsen outlined the purpose, goals and structure of the initiative, and explained the composition of the Plenary Stakeholder Group and its function as the forum for all interested parties to provide input directly to the RETI Stakeholder Steering Committee. Ground rules for participation in the RETI collaborative include: facilitated meetings, to support cooperative group interaction; publicly posted meeting minutes; transparent planning assumptions; agreement to work in good faith toward consensus on the plans and proposals to be developed by RETI; and the ability of dissenting parties preparing separate reports to have them recognized by RETI. As meeting facilitator, Mr. Olsen asked whether any participants could not agree to accept these ground rules. Representatives of federal agencies expressed concern that they might not be able to support a group consensus that threatened to conflict with statutory mandates the agencies are bound to enforce. Other questions clarified that consensus does not require a unanimous vote, but rather expresses general agreement. If RETI cannot produce plans having consensus support of the Stakeholder Steering Committee and the Plenary Stakeholder Group, it will submit plans backed by a majority of members. No disagreement with the proposed ground rules was expressed, and RETI will operate according to these principles.

Paul Douglas and Anne Gillette of the CPUC outlined the work plan and schedule for the three phases of RETI work. All slides presented at the meeting are posted on the RETI website noted above.

The Stakeholder Steering Committee (SSC) is made up of classes of stakeholders. Initial SSC members were introduced, by stakeholder class. They are:

FERC-Jurisdictional Transmission Providers

CAISO	Julie Gill (introduced in absentia)
PG&E	Kevin Dasso
SDG&E	Linda Brown
SCE	Gary Tarplee

Non-FERC-Jurisdictional Transmission Providers/LSEs

IID	Juan Carlos Sandoval
LADWP	Mo Beshir
SMUD	Mike DeAngelis

LSEs

NCPA	Jim Pope
SCPPA	LeeAnn Uhler (introduced in absentia)
PG&E	Frank De Rosa
SDG&E	Laura Manz
SCE	Gary Allen

Generators

Biomass	TBD
CSP	Rainer Arringhoff/Tandy McMannes
Geothermal	Jim Lovekin
Wind	Dariush Shirmohammadi

Public Interest and Consumers

NRDC	Johanna Wald (attending by phone)
Sierra Club	Carl Zichella
Consumers	TBD

Permitting Agencies

BLM	Jim Abbott
USFS	Mike Chapel
Counties	TBD
CPUC	TBD
CEC	TBD

Jim Pope of NCPA, Chuck Najarian of the CEC, Traci Bone of the CPUC, and Robin Smuty-Jones of the CAISO outlined the relationship of RETI to existing proceedings and processes affecting renewable energy and transmission development. A diagram outlining these relationships, and Mr. Najarian's presentation, are also posted on the RETI website.

Frank Cady of LMUD asked the Committee if proprietary information, including information from IIPs, IOUs, and POUs, would be available for the RETI effort, how it would be obtained, and how it would be handled in terms of confidentiality. There was no resolution to this question, but reference was made to addressing this in future Steering Committee meetings.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to questions and comments from meeting attendees. These included requests to add additional geothermal and solar representatives to the Stakeholder Steering Committee; Steve Munson, CEO of Vulcan Power, offered the services of his transmission consultant as a potential additional geothermal representative. Another request asked that Santa Barbara be considered as a CREZ development area, given large resource potential in that region. Questions addressed the status of LADWP's proposed Green Path North; the involvement of tribes in the RETI process; how RETI would incorporate the potential for Demand Response and distributed generation to meet local supply needs, reducing the need for transmission; the minimum size of generators to be included in CREZ determination; and how RETI would observe the requirements of SB 1059, which require existing ROW to be fully utilized before new ROW can be approved. The SSC will take up these questions and requests. RETI intends to involve all tribes in areas that could be directly or indirectly affected by resource and transmission development, and will work with PSG members to contact tribal representatives to this end.

The date for the next meeting of the Plenary Stakeholder Group will be set by the Steering Committee and posted on the RETI website at least one month in advance of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.