

**AMENDED AND RESTATED DELEGATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION
AND SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC**

AMENDED AND RESTATED DELEGATION AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) made as of January 1, 2011, between the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”), an organization certified by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) pursuant to Section 215(c) of the Federal Power Act to establish and enforce Reliability Standards for the Bulk-Power System, and Southwest Power Pool, Inc., on behalf of Southwest Power Pool Regional Entity (SPP), an organization established to develop and enforce Reliability Standards within the geographic boundaries identified on **Exhibit A** to this Agreement, and for other purposes. NERC and SPP may be individually referred to herein as “Party” or collectively as “Parties.”

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Subtitle A of the Electricity Modernization Act of 2005 added Section 215 to the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. § 824n) (hereafter “the Act”), which, among other things, provides for the establishment of an electric reliability organization (“ERO”) to develop and enforce Reliability Standards applicable to all owners, operators, and users of the Bulk-Power System;

WHEREAS, the Commission has adopted regulations for the implementation of the Act, which are set forth at Chapter I, Title 18, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 39 (the “ERO Regulations”);

WHEREAS, the Commission has certified NERC as the ERO that will, in accordance with the Act, establish and enforce Reliability Standards for the Bulk-Power System, subject to certain delegation provisions described below;

WHEREAS, the Act recognizes the international interdependency of electric reliability within North America and envisions the ERO and such applicable Regional Entities as international organizations;

WHEREAS, the Act and Section 39.8 of the ERO Regulations provide for the delegation by the ERO of authority to propose and enforce Reliability Standards to regional entities (“Regional Entities”) such as SPP provided that:

- (a) The Regional Entity is governed by —
 - (i) an independent board;
 - (ii) a balanced stakeholder board; or
 - (iii) a combination independent and balanced stakeholder board.
- (b) The Regional Entity otherwise satisfies the provisions of Section 215(c)(1) and (2) of the Act; and
- (c) The agreement promotes effective and efficient administration of Bulk-Power System reliability;

WHEREAS, certain Regional Entities are organized on an Interconnection-wide basis and are therefore entitled to the presumption set forth in the Act that: “[t]he ERO and the Commission shall rebuttably presume that a proposal for delegation to a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis promotes effective and efficient administration of bulk power system reliability and should be approved”;

WHEREAS, the Act further provides that the ERO shall rebuttably presume that a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis for a Reliability Standard or modification to a Reliability Standard to be applicable on an Interconnection-wide basis is just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential, and in the public interest;

WHEREAS, SPP is not organized on an Interconnection-wide basis and therefore is not entitled to the rebuttable presumptions accorded such an entity;

WHEREAS, NERC will work through SPP to carry out certain of its activities in furtherance of its responsibilities as the ERO under the Act;

WHEREAS, NERC has concluded that SPP meets all requirements of the Act, the ERO Regulations, and the NERC Rules of Procedure as approved by the Commission (“NERC Rules of Procedure”) necessary to qualify for delegation; and

WHEREAS, NERC and SPP having operated under a predecessor agreement to this Agreement, have negotiated this amended and restated Agreement so as to incorporate the benefits of their mutual experience and lessons learned while operating under the predecessor agreement and thereby provide for the more efficient and effective execution of their respective responsibilities in a transparent manner that is pursuant to Section 215 of the Act and the ERO Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, NERC and SPP, agree as follows:

1. Definitions. The capitalized terms used in this Agreement shall be defined as set forth in the Act, ERO Regulations, the NERC Rules of Procedure, or the NERC Glossary of Terms Used in Reliability Standards, or, if not so defined, shall be defined as set forth in this Section 1 or elsewhere in the text of this Agreement:

(a) Breach means (i) the failure of a Party to perform or observe any material term, condition or covenant of the Agreement or (ii) a representation in Section 2 of the Agreement shall have become materially untrue.

(b) Cross-Border Regional Entity means a Regional Entity that encompasses a part of the United States and a part of Canada or Mexico.

(c) Delegated Authority means the authority delegated by NERC to SPP to propose and enforce Reliability Standards pursuant to the Act and to undertake related activities set forth in this Agreement in furtherance of these delegated functions in accordance with the Act, the ERO Regulations and this Agreement.

2. Representations.

(a) For purposes of its Delegated Authority, SPP hereby represents and warrants to NERC that:

(i) SPP is and shall remain during the term of this Agreement validly existing and in good standing pursuant to all applicable laws relevant to this Agreement and that no applicable law, contract or other legal obligation prevents it from executing this Agreement and fulfilling its obligations hereunder. SPP is governed in accordance with its bylaws by an independent board. Pursuant to these bylaws, no two industry sectors can control any SPP decision and no single industry sector can veto any SPP decision. The relevant portions of such bylaws are attached hereto in **Exhibit B**¹, and as so attached are in full force and effect. No other such corporate governance documents are binding upon SPP

(ii) As set forth in **Exhibit C** hereto², SPP has developed a standards development procedure, which provides the process that SPP may use to develop Regional Reliability Standards that are proposed to NERC for adoption.

(iii) As set forth in **Exhibit D** hereto, SPP has adopted the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program, Appendix 4C to the NERC Rules of Procedure, which provides for the enforcement of Reliability Standards within SPP's geographic boundaries as shown on **Exhibit A**.

(b) NERC hereby represents and warrants to SPP that:

(i) NERC is and shall remain during the term of this Agreement validly existing and in good standing pursuant to all applicable laws relevant to this Agreement and that no applicable law, contract or other legal obligation prevents it from executing this Agreement and fulfilling its obligations hereunder; and

(ii) NERC has been certified as the ERO by the Commission pursuant to the Act.

3. Covenants.

(a) During the term of this Agreement, SPP shall maintain and preserve its qualifications for delegation pursuant to the Act and shall not amend its Regional Entity Rules without NERC's approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed and which

¹ The **Exhibit B** from SPP shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit B** to this Agreement.

² The **Exhibit C** from SPP shall meet the requirements contained in **Exhibit C** to this Agreement.

shall, in the case of a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, be governed by the presumptions provided for in Section 215(d)(2) and (e)(4)(C) of the Act, and be subject to any required Commission approval.

(b) During the term of this Agreement, NERC shall maintain its qualification and status as the ERO pursuant to the Act and, subject to the provisions of Sections 17 and 18 of this Agreement, NERC shall not adopt amendments to the NERC Rules of Procedure that conflict with the rights, obligations or programs of SPP under this Agreement without first obtaining the consent of SPP, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

(c) During the term of this Agreement, NERC and SPP shall adhere to and require that all participants in their respective activities under this Agreement follow and comply with the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines.

4. Delegation of Authority.

(a) Based upon the representations, warranties and covenants of SPP in Sections 2 and 3 above, the corporate governance documents set forth in **Exhibit B**, the standards development process set forth in **Exhibit C**, and the compliance monitoring and enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D**, NERC hereby delegates authority, pursuant to Section 215(e)(4) of the Act, to SPP for the purpose of proposing Reliability Standards to NERC, as set forth in Section 5 of this Agreement, and enforcing Reliability Standards, as set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement, within the geographic boundaries and such other scope set forth on **Exhibit A**, *provided*, that SPP shall not monitor and enforce compliance with Reliability Standards for SPP or an affiliated entity with respect to reliability functions for which SPP or an affiliate is a Registered Entity. Any exclusions from this delegation of authority to SPP within, or additions to this delegation of authority to SPP beyond, the geographic boundaries set forth on **Exhibit A** are stated on **Exhibit A**.

(b) In circumstances where SPP or an affiliated entity is a Registered Entity, SPP shall enter into an agreement with another Regional Entity or NERC for the other Regional Entity or NERC to monitor and enforce SPP's or affiliate's compliance with Reliability Standards. Such agreements are subject to NERC and Commission approval.

(c) Nothing in this Agreement shall prohibit SPP from entering into an arrangement between one or more other Regional Entities to perform compliance monitoring and

enforcement activities outside of its region, on behalf of NERC and/or other Regional Entities, for Registered Entities that have registered functions monitored by more than one Regional Entity, subject to approval by NERC.

(d) For Cross-Border Regional Entities, the authority delegated by this Agreement shall extend only to the portion of the region identified on **Exhibit A** that is within the United States. Any delegation of authority by ERO Governmental Authorities in Canada or Mexico shall be governed by a separate agreement and is outside the scope of this Agreement; provided, however, that both SPP and NERC shall endeavor to ensure that this Agreement and such separate agreements are compatible.

(e) As a condition to this delegation of authority and subject to the provisions of Section 17 of this Agreement, SPP shall comply with the applicable provisions of NERC's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules of Procedure, and Reliability Standards, as from time to time adopted, approved, or amended.

5. Development and Proposal of Reliability Standards.

(a) In connection with its Delegated Authority, SPP shall be entitled to:

(i) propose Reliability Standards, Regional Variances, or modifications thereof to NERC, which shall be considered by NERC through an open and inclusive process for proposing and adopting Reliability Standards that affords SPP reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard; and

(ii) develop Regional Reliability Standards through SPP's process as set forth in **Exhibit C**. Proposals approved through SPP's process shall be reviewed by the NERC Board after NERC provides notice and an opportunity for interested persons to comment. In the case of a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, comments shall be limited to the factors identified in NERC Rule of Procedure 312.3 as it may be amended from time to time. The NERC Board shall promptly thereafter consider such proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance, applying the rebuttable presumption described in subsection 5(b) of this Agreement if the proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance is from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis, and either approve the proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance and submit it to the Commission for approval, or disapprove it in writing setting forth its reasons. SPP may appeal

any disapproval of a proposed Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance to the Commission.

(b) Pursuant to Section 215(d)(3) of the Act, NERC shall rebuttably presume that a proposal from a Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis for a Regional Reliability Standard or Regional Variance or modification thereof to be applicable on an Interconnection-wide basis is just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential, and in the public interest. Any person challenging such proposal from the Regional Entity organized on an Interconnection-wide basis shall have the burden of proof. NERC shall not find that this presumption has been rebutted except based upon substantial evidence that has been disclosed to, and been subject to comment by, the Interconnection-wide Regional Entity during NERC's review of the proposal.

6. Enforcement of Compliance with Reliability Standards.

(a) In connection with its delegated authority pursuant to this Agreement, SPP shall enforce Reliability Standards (including Regional Reliability Standards and Regional Variances) within the geographic boundaries set forth, or as otherwise specified, in **Exhibit A** through the compliance monitoring and enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D**. NERC and SPP agree that this compliance monitoring and enforcement program meets all applicable requirements of the Act, Order No. 672 of the Commission, and the ERO Regulations, including, *inter alia*, the requirement for an audit program pursuant to Section 39.7(a) of the ERO Regulations, the assessment of penalties pursuant to Section 39.7(c) through 39.7(g) of the ERO Regulations and the requirements for due process. SPP may not change its compliance monitoring and enforcement program set forth in **Exhibit D** absent NERC's approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, and the approval of the Commission. Subject to the rights and limitations specified in Sections 17 and 18 of this Agreement, SPP agrees to comply with the NERC Rules of Procedure, with any directives issued pursuant to Section 8(c) of this Agreement, and with any guidance and directions issued by the NERC Board or a Board committee pursuant to Section 8(d) of this Agreement, in implementing this program.

(b) SPP shall report promptly to NERC any Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation of a Reliability Standard, and its eventual disposition by SPP. Such report shall include the owner's, operator's, or user's name, which Reliability Standard or Reliability

Standards were the subject of the Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation, when the Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation occurred, other pertinent facts including circumstances surrounding the Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation with any known risk to the Bulk-Power System, when the Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation was or will be mitigated, the name of a person knowledgeable about the Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation to serve as a point of contact with the Commission, and any other information required by NERC compliance program procedures. NERC shall promptly forward such report to the Commission. NERC and SPP shall cooperate in filing such periodic summary reports as the Commission shall from time to time direct on Possible Violations, Alleged Violations, and Confirmed Violations of Reliability Standards and summary analyses of such Possible Violations, Alleged Violations, and Confirmed Violations.

(c) Each Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation shall be treated as nonpublic unless the matter is filed with the Commission as a Notice of Penalty, or, if disclosure is required, dismissed. The disposition of each Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation that relates to a Cybersecurity Incident or that would jeopardize the security of the Bulk-Power System if publicly disclosed shall remain nonpublic unless the Commission directs otherwise.

(d) All dispositions by SPP of Possible Violations, Alleged Violations, and Confirmed Violations of Reliability Standards shall be reported to NERC for review and, in the case of Confirmed Violations, penalties or sanctions, and settlements, for approval. Following approval of a disposition by NERC, NERC shall file the disposition with the Commission, if required by, and in accordance with, Section 215(e) of the Act and Section 39.7 of the ERO Regulations. NERC shall review SPP's dispositions based on the following criteria:

(i) whether the disposition is supported by a sufficient record compiled by SPP in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure, NERC directives and Commission requirements, taking into account the nature of the Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation,

(ii) whether the disposition is consistent with any applicable directives issued pursuant to Section 8(c) of this Agreement, any applicable directions or guidance issued by the NERC Board or a Board committee pursuant to Section 8(d) of this Agreement, or other

applicable NERC guidance, concerning the Reliability Standards to which the Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation relates,

(iii) if the disposition is a Confirmed Violation or settlement, whether it provides for a penalty or sanction, or a determination of no penalty or sanction, determined in accordance with the NERC Sanction Guidelines, Appendix 4B to the NERC Rules of Procedure, and

(iv) whether the disposition is reasonably consistent with other dispositions by SPP and by other Regional Entities of Possible Violations, Alleged Violations, and Confirmed Violations involving the same or similar facts and circumstances.

NERC may reject any disposition, with an explanation of why NERC believes the disposition does not meet the above criteria. SPP may submit a disposition requiring NERC approval that has been rejected by NERC, or a revised disposition following a rejection, directly to the NERC Board Compliance Committee for approval without revising the disposition to address all the grounds on which NERC originally rejected the disposition. The final approval of SPP's disposition of a Possible Violation, Alleged Violation, or Confirmed Violation shall be made by the NERC Board Compliance Committee, provided, that the NERC Board or NERC Board Compliance Committee may, by appropriate resolution, delegate authority for final approval of dispositions of specified categories of Possible Violations, Alleged Violations, or Confirmed Violations to the NERC President.

(e) All appeals of penalties imposed by SPP as a result of a decision by SPP's Hearing Body shall be filed with, heard by and disposed of by, NERC, in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure.

(f) SPP shall maintain the capability to conduct investigations of Possible Violations and Alleged Violations of Reliability Standards and to conduct such investigations in a confidential manner.

(g) SPP shall maintain a program of proactive monitoring and enforcement of compliance with Reliability Standards, in accordance with the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program and the annual NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Implementation Plan.

(h) As part of its compliance monitoring and enforcement program, SPP shall maintain a conflict of interest policy that assures the integrity and independence of such

program, including the integrity and independence of the persons or decision-making bodies making final determinations in compliance enforcement actions under Section 5.0 of the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program. A Regional Entity may have stakeholders lead or participate in its board compliance committee so long as integrity and independence are assured through reasonable and appropriate recusal procedures.

(i) As often as NERC deems necessary, but no less than every five years, NERC shall review SPP's compliance monitoring and enforcement program to determine that: (i) the program meets all applicable legal requirements; (ii) actual practices reflect the requirements; and (iii) the program administered pursuant to the Delegated Authority promotes consistent interpretations across North America of Reliability Standards and comparable levels of sanctions and penalties for violations of Reliability Standards constituting comparable levels of threat to reliability of the Bulk-Power System.

7. Delegation-Related Activities. NERC will engage SPP on its behalf to carry out certain of its activities that are in furtherance of Bulk-Power System reliability and NERC's responsibilities as the ERO under the Act or in support of the Delegated Authority, as specified in the NERC Rules of Procedure and listed on **Exhibit E**. These delegation-related activities shall include, but are not limited to, those described in subsections (a) through (f), each of which shall be considered a statutory activity:

(a) **Certification of Bulk-Power System Entities.** The NERC Board shall set criteria for certification in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure. SPP shall issue certifications in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure.

(b) **Registration of owners, operators, and users of the Bulk-Power System as responsible for compliance with requirements of Reliability Standards.**

(i) The NERC Board shall develop criteria for registration of owners, operators, and users of the Bulk-Power System as Registered Entities and shall apply the registration criteria to register owners, operators and users of the Bulk-Power System as Registered Entities.

(ii) NERC shall maintain a registration database of Registered Entities, based on data and information provided by SPP and other Regional Entities. SPP shall provide timely and accurate information relating to registrations to NERC, on at least a monthly basis, to enable NERC to maintain a registration database that is accurate and up-to-date.

(iii) The NERC Board Compliance Committee shall hear and decide appeals from owners, operators and users of the Bulk-Power System contesting registration, in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure. If the NERC Board Compliance Committee upholds the decision to register an owner, operator, or user, NERC shall defend the decision in any subsequent appeal of the decision by the Registered Entity to the Commission.

(c) **Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis.** SPP shall develop assessments of the reliability of the Bulk-Power System, or ensure that data and information are collected, analyzed and provided to NERC in support of the development of reliability assessments, in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure. SPP shall also develop and maintain, and collect data in support of the development and maintenance of, reliability performance metrics and assessments of risks to the Reliable Operation of the Bulk-Power System, in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure and NERC directives. NERC shall develop data-gathering quality control procedures, forms and reporting mechanisms, which shall be used by SPP and other Regional Entities in carrying out their responsibilities under this subsection (c).

(d) **Event Analysis and Reliability Improvement.** SPP shall conduct event analysis pursuant to the NERC Rules of Procedure and applicable governmental regulations. NERC and SPP shall coordinate event analysis to support the effective and efficient use of their collective resources, consistency in event analysis, and timely delivery of event analysis reports. In collaboration with NERC, SPP shall disseminate to the electric industry lessons learned and other information obtained or resulting from event analysis.

(e) **Training and Education.** SPP may provide training and education to Registered Entities, as it deems necessary, in support of its performance of delegated functions and related activities under this Agreement. NERC may also provide training and education programs to Registered Entities on topics relating to NERC's responsibilities as the ERO.

(f) **Situation Awareness and Infrastructure Security.**

(i) SPP shall gather and assess situation awareness information provided by Registered Entities pursuant to the NERC Rules of Procedure and applicable governmental regulations, and shall provide other data, information and assistance to NERC in support of NERC's activities in monitoring present conditions, and responding to events, on the Bulk-Power System

(ii) SPP shall collaborate with NERC in its efforts to coordinate electric industry activities to promote critical infrastructure protection of the Bulk-Power System in North America.

8. Oversight of Performance of Delegated Functions and Related Activities.

This Section 8 sets forth processes and procedures which the Parties intend shall be used in NERC's oversight of SPP's performance of its Delegated Authority and related activities pursuant to this Agreement. It is the intent of NERC and SPP that matters relating to NERC's oversight of SPP's performance of its Delegated Authority and related activities shall be established or resolved by collaboration between NERC and SPP and, where applicable, other Regional Entities, to the maximum extent possible, consistent with the construct that NERC and the Regional Entities are operating together in a collaborative manner to carry out the responsibilities of the ERO under Section 215 of the Act and the ERO Regulations.

(a) (i) NERC shall develop, in collaboration with SPP and other Regional Entities, performance goals, measures and other parameters (including, without limiting the scope of such goals, measures and parameters, financial performance goals, measures and parameters), and performance reports, which shall be used to measure NERC's and SPP's performance of their respective functions and related activities. The performance goals, measures and parameters and the form of performance reports shall be approved by the NERC President and shall be made public. SPP shall provide data, information and reports to NERC, in accordance with established schedules, to enable NERC to calculate SPP's performance to the agreed-upon goals, measures and parameters.

(ii) NERC shall use the performance goals, measures and parameters and performance reports to evaluate SPP's performance of its delegated functions and related activities and to provide advice and direction to SPP on performance improvements. The performance goals, measures and other parameters and the values of such goals, measures and parameters, shall be reviewed by NERC, SPP and the other Regional Entities, revised if appropriate, and made public, on the same timeline as the annual business planning and budgeting process described in Section 9 of this Agreement.

(iii) At the request of the President of NERC, SPP shall be required to develop, submit for NERC approval, and implement action plans to address areas of its performance that are reasonably determined by NERC, based on analysis of SPP's performance

against the performance goals, measures and parameters, or performance of specific activities, to be unsatisfactory, *provided*, that prior to requiring SPP to adopt and implement an action plan or other remedial action, NERC shall issue a notice to SPP of the need and basis for an action plan or other remedial action and provide an opportunity for SPP to submit a written response contesting NERC's evaluation of SPP's performance and the need for an action plan. SPP may request that the President of NERC reconsider the request, and thereafter may request that the NERC Board review and reconsider the request. NERC and SPP shall work collaboratively as needed in the development and implementation of SPP's action plan. A final action plan submitted by SPP to NERC shall be made public unless the President of NERC makes a written determination that the action plan or specific portions of the plan should be maintained as non-public.

(b) NERC shall make available to SPP standardized training and education programs, which shall be designed taking into account input from SPP and other Regional Entities, for SPP personnel on topics relating to the delegated functions and related activities.

(c) (i) NERC may issue directives to SPP concerning the manner in which SPP shall perform its delegated functions and related activities under this Agreement. The NERC Rules of Procedure, or any other ERO Rule requiring approval of the Commission, shall not be considered "directives." NERC shall initiate the development of a directive through a collaborative process with SPP and, if applicable, other Regional Entities to which the directive will apply. Any directive developed through the collaborative process shall be approved by, and issued under the signature of, the NERC President.

(ii) If after a period of time that is reasonable under the circumstances, NERC and SPP and, if applicable, other Regional Entities are unable to reach agreement on the contents of the directive, NERC may issue the directive with the approval of and under the signature of the NERC President; *provided*, that before the NERC President issues a directive pursuant to this paragraph (ii), SPP and, if applicable, other Regional Entities, shall be given a reasonable opportunity to present their positions on, and a suggested alternative version or versions of, the proposed directive to the NERC President.

(iii) Upon issuance of a directive by the NERC President, it shall be binding upon, and shall be complied with by, SPP, subject to reasonable time periods for adoption, implementation, and funding of any necessary resources. Upon request by SPP, the NERC

Board (or a committee of the Board to which the Board delegates appropriate authority) shall review and shall confirm, revise or revoke any directive that was issued by the NERC President without SPP's agreement, *provided*, that SPP shall request such review within thirty (30) days following issuance of the directive by the NERC President unless good cause can be shown for a later request.

(iv) NERC and SPP and, if applicable, other Regional Entities, shall collaborate in deciding whether a directive (whether issued pursuant to paragraph (ii) or paragraph (iii)) shall be made public. If no agreement is reached by the date of issuance as to whether the directive shall be made public, the NERC President shall decide whether the directive will be made public, *provided*, that is the intent of the Parties that the NERC President shall apply a presumption that directives should be made public, unless the NERC President makes a written determination stating a specific reason for maintaining a particular directive as non-public.

(d) In addition to the issuance of directives pursuant to subsection (c), the NERC Board (or a Board committee to which the Board has delegated authority) may issue guidance or directions as to the manner in which SPP, and, if applicable, other Regional Entities, shall perform delegated functions and related activities. The Board or Board committee shall also establish reasonable time periods for the implementation of any such guidance or directions, taking into account the impact on the reliability of the Bulk-Power System and the need for funding of additional resources. Any such guidance or directions shall be stated in writing and shall be public, unless the Board or Board committee makes a written determination stating a specific reason for maintaining particular guidance or directions as non-public. SPP, either individually or in conjunction with other Regional Entities, may request that the NERC Board or Board committee reconsider or revise the guidance or direction.

(e) NERC shall conduct collaborative reviews with SPP, either individually or in conjunction with one or more other Regional Entities, that provide for the exchange of information on practices, experiences, and lessons learned in the implementation of the delegated functions.

(f) Any audits of SPP performed by NERC shall be limited to an examination of SPP's compliance with this Agreement, NERC's Rules of Procedure, the Compliance

Monitoring and Enforcement Program, Commission requirements, and directives that are in effect pursuant to Section 8(c).

(g) The Commission and Commission staff shall have full access to action plans and remedial actions, directives, and directions and guidance issued pursuant to subsections (a)(iii), (c)(iv) and (d), respectively, that are maintained as non-public.

9. Funding. SPP and NERC shall ensure, subject to Commission approval in accordance with the ERO Regulations, that the delegated functions and related activities described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 and listed on **Exhibit E** have reasonable and adequate funding and resources by undertaking the following:

(a) SPP shall develop, through a collaborative process with NERC, and propose, an annual business plan and budget, in accordance with ERO Regulations, Commission orders and NERC business planning and budgeting policies and instructions. SPP's proposed business plan and budget shall describe the activities necessary for, and provide a budget with adequate resources for, SPP to carry out its Delegated Authority under this Agreement, including the functions and activities described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 and listed on **Exhibit E**. SPP's business plan and budget shall show the funding sources and amounts to fund the proposed budget, including as applicable assessments to end users, penalty monies, and other sources of funds.

(b) SPP and NERC agree that the portion of SPP's approved budget for the functions and activities described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 and listed on **Exhibit E** that is to be funded by assessments, will be equitably allocated among end users within the geographic boundaries described in **Exhibit A** and recovered through a formula based on Net Energy for Load, or through such other formula as is proposed by SPP and approved by NERC and the Commission. If SPP proposes to use a formula other than Net Energy for Load beginning in the following year, SPP shall submit the proposed formula to NERC in sufficient time that NERC may review and approve the proposed formula and file it with the Commission by May 15 for approval, and the proposed formula shall be effective for the following year if approved by the Commission on or before the date the Commission approves the annual business plan and budget submitted by NERC and to the Commission pursuant to the ERO Regulations for such year.

(c) NERC shall determine that the assessments to fund the costs for its statutory functions in its Commission-approved budget are first allocated fairly among the Interconnections and regions according to the applicability of this work to those Interconnections and regions, and then equitably among the end users of the applicable interconnections and regions as appropriate. Allocation on a Net Energy for Load basis will be presumed to satisfy this equitability requirement.

(d) NERC shall provide SPP with the form or forms for business plan and budget submittal, and any accompanying instructions, in accordance with the schedule for preparation of the business plan and budget developed by NERC and the Regional Entities.

(e) SPP shall submit its proposed annual business plan and budget for carrying out its Delegated Authority functions and related activities described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 and listed on Exhibit E, as well as for all other activities of SPP, to NERC for review and approval in accordance with the annual schedule for the preparation of business plans and budgets which shall be developed collaboratively by NERC and the Regional Entities, as more fully described in **Exhibit E**.

(f) NERC shall fund SPP's performance of its Delegated Authority and related activities in accordance with SPP's Commission-approved business plan and budget, in the amount of SPP's assessments to end users approved by the Commission. **Exhibit E** sets forth the procedures and timing for billing and collecting SPP's approved assessments from end users and other entities and payment of the approved assessment amount to SPP, unless otherwise modified and approved by NERC and the Commission. NERC shall not impose any material obligation or requirement regarding the Delegated Authority upon SPP that has not been provided for in an approved business plan and budget or an approved amended or supplemental business plan and budget, without SPP's consent.

(g) NERC shall develop, in consultation with the Regional Entities, a reasonable and consistent system of accounts, with a level of detail and record keeping comparable to the Commission's Uniform System of Accounts and sufficient to allow the Commission to compare each Commission-approved NERC and SPP fiscal year budget with the actual results at the NERC and Regional Entity levels. SPP shall follow NERC's prescribed system of accounts except to the extent that NERC permits a departure from the prescribed system of

accounts. NERC shall make an informational filing with the Commission describing any such waiver it permits and providing an explanation supporting the permitted departure.

(h) SPP shall submit unaudited quarterly interim financial statements in form provided by NERC no later than 20 days after the end of the fiscal quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31).

(i) SPP shall submit audited financial statements annually, including supporting materials, in a form provided by NERC no later than May 1 of the following year.

(j) **Exhibit E** to this Agreement sets forth the mechanism through which SPP shall offset penalty monies it receives (other than penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP) against its next year's annual budget for carrying out functions under this Agreement, and the mechanism by which SPP shall transmit to NERC any penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP. *Provided*, that, subject to approval by NERC and the Commission, SPP may propose and implement an alternative use of penalty monies to that set forth in **Exhibit E**.

10. Assignment. This Agreement may be assigned by either Party only with the prior written consent of the other, which consent shall be granted or withheld in such non-assigning Party's sole discretion, subject to approval by the Commission. Any assignment under this Agreement shall not relieve a Party of its obligations, nor shall a Party's obligations be enlarged, in whole or in part, by reason thereof. SPP may not delegate in whole or in part its Delegated Authority to any other entity without NERC's express consent; provided, however, that nothing in this provision shall prohibit SPP from contracting with other entities to assist it in carrying out its Delegated Authority, provided SPP retains control and responsibility for such Delegated Authority.

11. Default and Cure. Upon a Breach, the non-breaching Party shall give written notice of such Breach to the breaching Party (the "Default Notice"). Subject to a suspension of the following deadlines as specified below, the breaching Party shall have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of the Default Notice within which to cure such Breach; *provided however*, that if such Breach is not capable of cure within thirty (30) calendar days, the breaching Party shall commence such cure within thirty (30) calendar days after notice and continuously and

diligently complete such cure within ninety (90) calendar days from receipt of the Default Notice; and, if cured within such time, the Breach specified in such notice shall cease to exist. Subject to the limitation specified in the following sentence, if a Breach is not cured as provided in this, Section 11, or if a Breach is not capable of being cured within the period provided for herein, the nonbreaching Party shall have the right to declare a default and terminate this Agreement by written notice at any time until cure occurs, and be relieved of any further obligation hereunder. The deadlines for cure and the right to declare a default and terminate this Agreement shall be suspended during the pendency of any efforts or proceedings in accordance with Section 18 of this Agreement to resolve a dispute as to whether a Breach has occurred or been cured. The provisions of this Section 11 will survive termination of this Agreement.

12. Term and Termination.

(a) This Agreement shall become effective on January 1, 2011 (the “Effective Date”).

(b) The term of the Agreement shall be five (5) years from the Effective Date, prior to which time NERC shall conduct an audit pursuant to subsection 6(i) to ensure that SPP continues to meet all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements necessary to maintain its eligibility for delegation. If SPP meets such requirements, this Agreement may be renewed for another five (5) year term. This Agreement may be renewed for successive additional five (5) year renewal terms provided that prior to the end of each renewal term, NERC shall conduct an audit pursuant to subsection 6(i) to ensure that SPP continues to meet all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements necessary to maintain its eligibility for delegation. Provided, that either Party may terminate this Agreement as of the end of a term by giving written notice to terminate at least one (1) year prior to the end of the term. If this Agreement is not renewed or becomes subject to termination for any reason, the Parties shall work to provide for a transition of SPP’s Delegated Authority to NERC or to another eligible entity and to provide for the resolution of any wind-up costs associated with termination of this Agreement. The termination of this Agreement shall not take effect until such transition has been effected, unless the transition period exceeds one year, at which time SPP may unilaterally terminate.

(c) If any provision of this Agreement, or the application thereof to any person, entity or circumstance, is held by a court or regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction to be

invalid, void, or unenforceable, or if a modification or condition to this Agreement is imposed by a regulatory authority exercising jurisdiction over this Agreement, the Parties shall endeavor in good faith to negotiate such amendment or amendments to this Agreement as will restore the relative benefits and obligations of the signatories under this Agreement immediately prior to such holding, modification or condition. If either Party finds such holding, modification or condition unacceptable and the Parties are unable to renegotiate a mutually acceptable resolution, either Party may unilaterally terminate this Agreement. Such termination shall be effective one year following written notice by either Party to the other Party and to the Commission, or at such other time as may be mutually agreed by SPP and NERC.

(d) Notwithstanding any termination of this Agreement, provisions contained in Limitation of Liability (Section 13), No Third Party Beneficiaries (Section 14) and Confidentiality (Section 15) shall survive this Agreement in accordance with their terms until sixty (60) days following the expiration of any applicable statute of limitations.

13. Limitation of Liability. SPP and NERC agree not to sue each other or their directors, officers, employees, and persons serving on their committees and subgroups based on any act or omission of any of the foregoing in the performance of duties pursuant to this Agreement or in conducting activities under the authority of Section 215 of the Act, other than seeking a review of such action or inaction by the Commission. NERC and SPP shall not be liable to one another for any damages whatsoever, including without limitation, direct, indirect, incidental, special, multiple, consequential (including attorneys' fees and litigation costs), exemplary, or punitive damages arising out of or resulting from any act or omission associated with the performance of the SPP's or NERC's responsibilities under this Agreement or in conducting activities under the authority of Section 215 of the Act, except to the extent that the SPP or NERC is found liable for gross negligence or intentional misconduct, in which case SPP or NERC shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, special, multiple, consequential (including without limitation attorneys' fees and litigation costs), exemplary, or punitive damages.

14. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create any duty to, any standard of care with reference to, or any liability to, any third party.

15. Confidentiality. During the course of the Parties' performance under this Agreement, a Party may receive Confidential Information, as defined in Section 1500 of NERC's Rules of Procedure. Except as set forth herein, the Parties agree to keep in confidence and not to copy, disclose, or distribute any Confidential Information or any part thereof, without the prior written permission of the issuing Party, unless disclosure is required by subpoena, law, or other directive of a court, administrative agency, or arbitration panel, in which event the recipient hereby agrees to provide the Party that provided the Confidential Information with prompt notice of such request or requirement in order to enable such issuing Party to (a) seek an appropriate protective order or other remedy, (b) consult with the recipient with respect to taking steps to resist or narrow the scope of such request or legal process, or (c) waive compliance, in whole or in part, with the terms of this Section. In the event a protective order or other remedy is not obtained or the issuing Party waives compliance with the provisions, the recipient agrees to furnish only that portion of the Confidential Information which the recipient's counsel advises is legally required and to exercise best efforts to obtain assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded to such Confidential Information. In addition, each Party shall ensure that its officers, trustees, directors, employees, subcontractors and subcontractors' employees, and agents to whom Confidential Information is exposed are under obligations of confidentiality that are at least as restrictive as those contained herein. This confidentiality provision does not prohibit reporting and disclosure as directed by NERC, as set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement.

16. Amendment. Neither this Agreement nor any of the terms hereof, may be amended unless such amendment is made in writing, signed by the Parties, and filed with and approved by the Commission.

17. Amendments to the NERC Rules of Procedure. NERC shall not adopt amendments to the NERC Rules of Procedure that conflict with the rights, obligations, or programs of SPP under this Agreement without first obtaining the consent of SPP, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. To the extent SPP does not consent, NERC shall have the right to invoke the dispute resolution provisions of Section 18 and, if such effort fails to resolve the dispute, to petition the Commission to adopt the amendment to the NERC Rules of

Procedure. To the extent that the Commission issues an order amending or materially affecting the rights or obligations of SPP under this Agreement, SPP shall have the option, exercisable no later than 60 days after issuance of such order, to terminate this Agreement. Such termination shall be effective one year following written notice by SPP to NERC and the Commission, or at such other time as may be mutually agreed by SPP and NERC.

18. Dispute Resolution. In the event a dispute arises under this Agreement between NERC and SPP, (including disputes relating to NERC's performance of its obligations under this Agreement and/or disputes relating to SPP's performance of its obligations under this Agreement) which cannot be resolved through discussions between representatives of the Parties in the normal course of operations, the Parties shall use the following procedures ("Dispute Resolution") to attempt to resolve the dispute. SPP shall not suspend performance of any delegated function, and the Parties shall continue to make reasonable, good faith efforts to comply with their obligations under this Agreement, during the pendency of Dispute Resolution. All notices required to be sent pursuant to this Dispute Resolution procedure shall be sent in accordance with Section 19 of this Agreement. This Dispute Resolution procedure is separate from and in addition to all other processes provided for in this Agreement.

(a) The Party invoking Dispute Resolution shall send a notice to the other Party describing the dispute, stating the invoking Party's position with respect to the dispute, stating that the Party is invoking Dispute Resolution, and naming the Party's designated representative for negotiating a resolution of the dispute. The designated representative shall have authority to resolve the dispute on behalf of the invoking Party.

(b) Within three (3) business days after receipt of the notice invoking Dispute Resolution, the receiving Party shall send a notice to the invoking Party acknowledging receipt of the notice invoking Dispute Resolution, stating the receiving Party's position with respect to the dispute, and naming the Party's designated representative for negotiating a resolution of the dispute. The designated representative shall have authority to resolve the dispute on behalf of the receiving Party.

(c) During the period commencing three (3) business days and ending twenty (20) business days after the date of the receiving Party's notice, the designated representatives shall engage in good faith negotiations to attempt to resolve the dispute, *provided*, that the designated

representatives may agree prior to the end of such twenty (20) business day period that the process should move to the next step of Dispute Resolution.

(d) If the designated representatives are unable to arrive at a resolution of the dispute by the end of the time period described in subsection (c), they shall notify the chief executive officers of their respective Parties. The chief executive officers of the Parties shall thereafter engage in good faith negotiations to attempt to resolve the dispute during the period of twenty (20) business days immediately following the time period described in subsection (c), *provided*, that the chief executive officers may agree prior to the end of such twenty (20) business day period that negotiations are at impasse and the process may move to the next step as described in subsection (f). Upon mutual agreement of the Parties, the twenty (20) business day period may be extended to pursue ongoing good faith negotiations.

(e) If a resolution of the dispute is achieved by the Parties, it shall be memorialized in a writing that is acceptable in form and substance to each party and is signed by the designated representative or chief executive officer on behalf of each Party.

(f) If the Parties are unable to resolve the dispute pursuant to the process described in subsections (a) through (e), then either Party may invoke any other available dispute resolution mechanism, including, without limitation, filing a complaint or petition with the Commission requesting resolution of the dispute by the Commission, or filing a complaint for relief in a court having jurisdiction over Parties and the subject matter of the dispute in accordance with Section 20. *Provided, however*, that: (i) it is the intent of the Parties that unresolved disputes shall be presented to and resolved by the Commission if the Commission has and accepts jurisdiction over the subject matter of the dispute, (ii) the Parties may, by mutual agreement, attempt to resolve the dispute through arbitration, mediation, or other process involving resort to an impartial neutral, and (iii) it is the intent of the Parties that resolution of disputes through Commission proceedings, arbitration, mediation, or other use of an impartial neutral, is preferred over resort to judicial proceedings.

(g) This Section 18 shall not apply to compliance enforcement actions against individual Registered Entities.

19. Notice. Whether expressly so stated or not, all notices, demands, requests, and other communications required or permitted by or provided for in this Agreement shall be given in

writing to a Party at the address set forth below, or at such other address as a Party shall designate for itself in writing in accordance with this Section, and shall be delivered by hand or reputable overnight courier:

If to NERC:

North American Electric
Reliability Corporation
116-390 Village Blvd.
Princeton, NJ 08540-5721
Attn: General Counsel
Facsimile: (609) 452-9550

If to SPP:

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
415 N. McKinley
Suite 140
Little Rock, AR 72211
Attn: Stacy Dochoda
Facsimile: (501) 821-8726

20. Governing Law. When not in conflict with or preempted by federal law, this Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of New Jersey without giving effect to the conflict of law principles thereof. The Parties recognize and agree not to contest the exclusive or primary jurisdiction of the Commission to interpret and apply this Agreement; provided however that if the Commission declines to exercise or is precluded from exercising jurisdiction of any action arising out of or concerning this Agreement, such action shall be brought in any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in New Jersey. All Parties hereby consent to the jurisdiction of any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in New Jersey for the purpose of hearing and determining any action not heard and determined by the Commission.

21. Headings. The headings and captions in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not define, limit, or otherwise affect any of the terms or provisions hereof.

22. Savings Clause. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to preempt or limit any authority that SPP may have to adopt reliability requirements or take other actions to maintain reliability of the Bulk-Power System within the geographic boundaries described in **Exhibit A** that are outside the Delegated Authority, as long as such reliability requirements and actions are not inconsistent with Reliability Standards applicable to the region described in **Exhibit A** and do not result in a lessening of reliability outside the region described in **Exhibit A**.

23. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, among the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.

24. Execution of Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and each shall have the same force and effect as the original.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized representatives, effective as of the Effective Date.

NORTH AMERICAN
ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit A Regional Boundaries

The geographic boundaries of Southwest Power Pool (SPP) are determined by the service areas of its membership, comprised of investor-owned utilities, municipal, cooperative, state and federal systems, merchant electricity generators and power marketers.

The SPP Regional Entity covers an area of approximately 255,000 square miles of service territory (purple region depicted below) in all or part of eight states: Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Service provided by SPP members in areas which overlap with neighboring regions:

- ◆ The area in northeastern Oklahoma is served by Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company, Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, Grand River Dam Authority, and AEP West.
- ◆ The area in Arkansas is served by Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company, and AEP West.
- ◆ The area in western Missouri is served by Aquila, Empire District Electric Company, City Power & Light (Independence, MO), City Utilities (Springfield, MO), Grand River Dam Authority, Kansas City Power & Light Company, City Power & Light (Independence, MO), and Southwestern Power Administration.

Within the SPP region, compliance monitoring and enforcement functions with respect to reliability functions for which SPP is the registered entity are performed by SERC Reliability Corporation (SERC) pursuant to a contract between SPP and SERC dated as of (DATE).

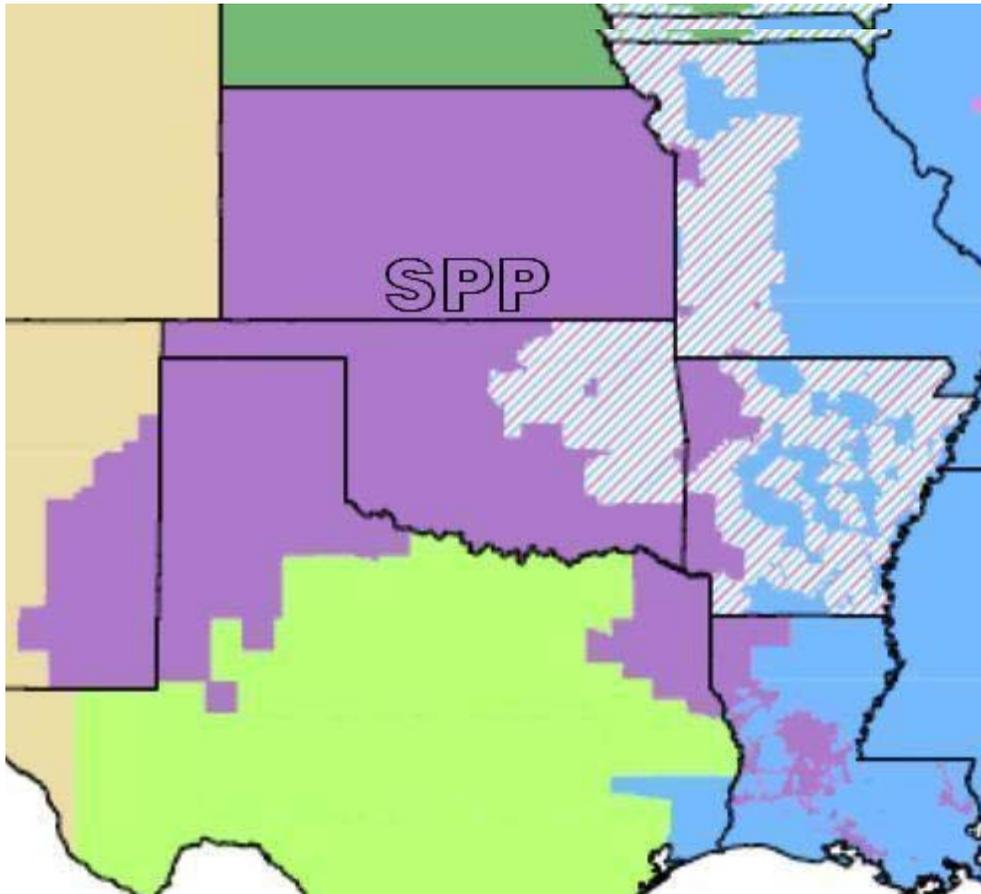


Exhibit B – Governance

Exhibit B shall set forth the Regional Entity’s bylaws, which NERC agrees demonstrate that the Regional Entity meets the following criteria:

CRITERION 1: The Regional Entity shall be governed by an independent board, a balanced stakeholder board, or a combination independent and balanced stakeholder board. (Federal Power Act § 215(e)(4)(A), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(1), Order No. 672 at ¶ 727.)

CRITERION 2: The Regional Entity has established rules that assure its independence of the users and owners and operators of the bulk power system, while assuring fair stakeholder representation in the selection of its directors. Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶¶ 699, 700.)

CRITERION 3: If the Regional Entity has members, the Regional Entity has established rules that assure that its membership is open, that it charges no more than a nominal membership fee and agrees to waive the fee for good cause shown, and that membership is not a condition for participating in the development of or voting on proposed Regional Reliability Standards. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶¶ 170-173.)

CRITERION 4: The Regional Entity has established rules that assure balance in its decision-making committees and subordinate organizational structures and assure no two industry sectors can control any action and no one industry sector can veto any action. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(A) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2), Order No. 672 at ¶ 728.)

CRITERION 5: The Regional Entity has established rules that provide reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment, due process, openness, and balance of interests in exercising its duties. (Federal Power Act § 215(c)(2)(D) and (e)(4), 18 C.F.R. § 39.8(c)(2).)

SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.

BYLAWS

**First Revised Volume No. 4
Superseding
Original Volume No. 4**

Southwest Power Pool Bylaws
Table of Contents

- 1.0 Definitions
- 2.0 Membership
 - 2.1 Qualifications
 - 2.2 Applications
 - 2.3 Member Responsibilities and Obligations
 - 2.4 Termination, Removal and Reinstatement
 - 2.5 Participation in Regional Entity Activities
- 3.0 Organizational Administration
 - 3.1 Structure
 - 3.2 Attendance and Proxy
 - 3.3 Leadership
 - 3.3.1 Appointment
 - 3.3.2 Terms
 - 3.3.3. Vacancies
 - 3.4 Executive Authority
 - 3.5 Meetings
 - 3.6 Order of Business
 - 3.7 Expenses
 - 3.8 Quorum
 - 3.9 Voting
 - 3.9.1. Markets and Operations Policy Committee and Membership
 - 3.9.2 Organizational Groups and Task Forces
 - 3.10 Appeal
 - 3.11 Staff Independence and Support
 - 3.12 Publications and Data Bases
 - 3.13 Dispute Resolution
 - 3.13.1 Instigation
 - 3.13.2 Dispute Resolution Process

- 3.13.3 Resolution Procedures
 - 3.13.4 Expenses
 - 3.13.5 Liability
 - 3.14 Meeting of Members
 - 3.15 Liability, Insurance and Indemnification
 - 3.15.1 Waiver of Liability
 - 3.15.2 Insurance
 - 3.15.3 Indemnification of Directors, Officers, Agents and Employees
 - 3.15.4 Limitations
 - 3.15.5 Modification of Rights by Agreement
 - 3.15.6 Procedural Rights Not Affected
 - 3.16 Compliance with Membership Requirements
 - 3.17 Market Monitoring
- 4.0 Board Of Directors
 - 4.1 Duties
 - 4.2 Composition and Qualifications
 - 4.2.1 Composition
 - 4.2.2 Qualifications
 - 4.2.3 Conflicts of Interest
 - 4.3 Term and Election
 - 4.4 Resignation and Removal of Directors
 - 4.5 Vacancies
 - 4.6 Functioning of the Board of Directors
 - 4.6.1 Meetings and Notice of Meetings
 - 4.6.2 Chair and Vice Chair; Election and Terms
 - 4.6.3 Quorum and Voting
 - 4.6.4 Compensation of Directors
 - 4.6.5 Executive Session
- 5.0 Committees Advising The Board Of Directors
 - 5.1 Members Committee
 - 5.1.1 Composition and Qualifications

- 5.1.2 Term and Election
 - 5.1.3 Resignation and Removal of Members Committee Representatives
 - 5.1.4 Vacancies
 - 5.1.5 Meetings
- 6.0 Committees Reporting To The Board Of Directors
 - 6.1 Markets and Operations Policy Committee
 - 6.2 Strategic Planning Committee
 - 6.3 Human Resources Committee
 - 6.4 Oversight Committee
 - 6.5 Finance Committee
 - 6.6 Corporate Governance Committee
- 7.0 Regulatory Involvement And Regional State Committee
 - 7.1 Retention of State Regulatory Jurisdiction
 - 7.2 Regional State Committee
 - 7.3 Retention of Other Regulatory Jurisdiction
- 8.0 Fiscal Administration
 - 8.1 Operating Budget
 - 8.2 Annual Membership Fee
 - 8.3 ERO and Regional Entity Costs
 - 8.4 Monthly Assessments
 - 8.5 Fiscal Agent
 - 8.6 Auditors
 - 8.7 Financial Obligation of Withdrawing Members
 - 8.7.1 Existing Obligations
 - 8.7.2 Computation of a Member's Existing Obligations
 - 8.7.3 Financial Obligations for Transmission Facilities
 - 8.7.4 Penalty Costs
- 9.0 Regional Entity Function
 - 9.1 Regional Entity
 - 9.2 Regional Entity Staff
 - 9.3 RE General Manager

- 9.4 Duties of Regional Entity Staff
- 9.5 Regional Reliability Standards Setting
- 9.6 Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program
- 9.7 Regional Entity Trustees
 - 9.7.1 Functions and Duties of the Regional Entity Trustees
 - 9.7.2 Composition and Qualifications
 - 9.7.2.1 Composition
 - 9.7.2.2 Qualifications
 - 9.7.2.3 Conflicts of Interest
 - 9.7.3 Term and Election
 - 9.7.4 Resignation and Removal of Regional Entity Trustees
 - 9.7.5 Vacancies
 - 9.7.6 Meetings and Notice of Meetings
 - 9.7.7 Chair
 - 9.7.8 Quorum and Voting
 - 9.7.9 Compensation of Regional Entity Trustees
 - 9.7.10 Executive Session
- 10.0 Amendments To These Bylaws, The Articles of Incorporation, and Membership Agreement
- 11.0 Effective Date and Transition Provisions

PREAMBLE

The values and principles upon which SPP is incorporated and formed include: a relationship-based organization; member-driven processes; independence through diversity of Organizational Group membership; recognition that reliability and economic/equity issues are inseparable; and, deliberate evolutionary, as opposed to revolutionary, implementation of new concepts. These values and principles should guide those serving this organization. The Board of Directors will endeavor to ensure equity to all Members while also assuring the continuous adaptation to controlling conditions within these stated values and principles.

1.0 Definitions

Affiliate Relationships

Affiliate Relationships are relationships between SPP Members that have one or more of the following attributes in common:

- (a) are subsidiaries of the same company;
- (b) one Member is a subsidiary of another Member;
- (c) have, through an agency agreement, turned over control of a majority of their generation facilities to another Member;
- (d) have, through an agency agreement, turned over control of a majority of their transmission system to another Member, except to the extent that the facilities are turned over to an independent transmission company recognized by FERC;
- (e) have an exclusive marketing alliance between Members; or
- (f) ownership by one Member of ten percent or greater of another Member.

Articles of Incorporation

SPP's articles of incorporation as filed with the state of Arkansas.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of SPP, which shall manage the general business of SPP pursuant to these Bylaws.

Bylaws

These bylaws.

Criteria

Planning and operating standards and procedures as approved by the Board of Directors.

Existing Obligations

Certain financial obligations as defined in Section 8.7.1 of these Bylaws.

ERO

The Electric Reliability Organization under FERC jurisdiction that regulates reliability of the electric power grid.

Federal Power Marketing Agency

This term shall include the term “Federal Power Marketing Administration” and have the same definition that is set forth in the Federal Power Act at 16 U.S.C. § 796(19), which defines “Federal power marketing agency” as “any agency or instrumentality of the United States (other than the Tennessee Valley Authority) which sells electric energy[.]”

Federal Power Marketing Agency Amendments

The amendments and revisions to the SPP Bylaws, the SPP Membership Agreement, and Section 39.3 of the OATT that are required by a Federal Power Marketing Agency for membership in SPP at the time of the Federal Power Marketing Agency's initial membership or as they may be revised in the future by mutual agreement between the Federal Power Marketing Agency and SPP.

Member

An entity that has met the requirements of Section 2.2 of these Bylaws.

Membership

The collective Members of SPP.

Membership Agreement

The contract, that specifies the rights and obligations of the parties, executed between SPP and an entity seeking to become an SPP member.

NERC

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation or successor organizations.

Net Energy for Load

The load served by transmission facilities under the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff.

Officers

The officers of SPP as elected by the Board of Directors. The Officers consist of the President and the Corporate Secretary, at a minimum. Any Officer must be independent of any Member organization.

Organizational Group

A group, other than the Board of Directors, comprising a committee or working group that is charged with specific responsibilities toward accomplishing SPP's mission.

Regional Criteria

SPP planning and operating standards and procedures as approved by the Board of Directors.

Regional Entity Trustees

A governing body of SPP, independent of the Board of Directors, which specifically oversees SPP's function as an ERO Regional Entity pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

Regional Reliability Standards

Electric reliability requirements submitted to the ERO by the Regional Entity Trustees; and once approved, implemented and enforced by SPP under authority as the Regional Entity.

Registered Entity(ies)

A bulk electric system owner, operator or user that is required to comply with ERO reliability standards pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

SPP

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

SPP Regional Entity

That part of SPP responsible for the delegated functions pursuant to the Delegation Agreement between SPP and the ERO.

SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

The program used by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) and the Regional Entities to monitor, assess, and enforce compliance with Reliability Standards within the United States.

Staff

The technical and administrative staff of SPP as hired by the Officers to accomplish SPP’s mission.

Standards Development Team

An SPP Organizational Group assigned or choosing to develop an SPP Regional Reliability Standard for submission to the ERO for approval for enforcement.

Terminated Member

An entity that was a Signatory to the Membership Agreement but whose membership in SPP has been terminated under Section 4 of the Membership Agreement.

Transmission Owning Member

A Member that has placed more than 500 miles of non-radial facilities operated at or above 60 kV under the independent administration of SPP for the provision of regional transmission service as set forth in the Membership Agreement.

Transmission Using Member

A Member that does not meet the definition of a Transmission Owning Member.

Western Area Power Administration-Upper Great Plains Region ("Western-UGP")

A division of the Western Area Power Administration that markets and transmits Federal power from reservoir projects under the control of the Department of the Army or the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to Statutory Load Obligations, including preference power customers in Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota located in a defined marketing area. Western-UGP operates the WAUW Balancing Authority Area in the Western Interconnection, where certain of its transmission facilities are located.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Qualifications

Membership in SPP is voluntary and is open to any electric utility, Federal Power Marketing Agency, transmission service provider, any entity engaged in the business of producing, selling and/or purchasing electric energy for resale, and any entity willing to meet the membership requirements, including execution of the Membership Agreement. Membership also is open to any entity eligible to take service under the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT). These entities desire the greater efficiency and service reliability gained through better coordination by voluntary association in SPP as constituted herein and in the SPP Articles of Incorporation. Members recognize that such association has a significant effect upon the availability and reliability of the bulk electric power supply of the region, and thereby affects the reliability of the nation's electric power supply.

2.2 Applications

Membership by an entity shall be obtained upon meeting the following requirements:

- (a) Meeting membership qualifications;
- (b) Providing an application for membership to the SPP President; and
- (c) Executing the Membership Agreement and delivering a signed copy to the President.

The President shall review applications, approve those meeting membership qualifications and promptly give written notice of the new Member to all other Members. The Board of Directors will review any disputes arising as to the qualifications of the new Member. Membership will commence at the beginning of the next calendar month following completion of these requirements or some other date as may be mutually agreed upon.

2.3 Member Responsibilities and Obligations

Members recognize that SPP exists and operates for the benefit of the bulk electric transmission system and to ensure the reliability of the nation's power supply. As such, Members are required to act to further these goals by participating in projects, and complying with regulatory requirements. Failure to comply with these provisions will be considered a violation of these Bylaws and the Member may be removed in accordance with the provisions for Removal of Members in the Membership Agreement.

2.4 Termination, Removal and Reinstatement

The Board of Directors may terminate the membership of any Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement. The President shall promptly give written notice of the removal to all other Members. Any former Member seeking to rejoin SPP shall apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement. In its application for reinstatement, the former Member shall:

- (a) provide evidence that it has fully paid any accrued financial obligation to SPP;
- (b) demonstrate it has corrected the reason for its removal;
- (c) establish that it will be in compliance with SPP membership requirements;
and
- (d) deliver an executed Membership Agreement to the President.

2.5 Participation in Regional Entity Activities

Participation in SPP Regional Entity activities is open to the public and does not require membership in SPP, Inc. nor any of the obligations of membership, including SPP, Inc.'s annual fee.

3.0 ORGANIZATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Structure

Member input on decision-making shall be accomplished primarily through Membership participation in Organizational Groups. Members are expected to provide representation to Organizational Groups as requested. Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, Organizational Group representation will be appointed by the Board of Directors, who shall consider the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations, to achieve a widespread and effective representation of the Membership. The Chair of any Organizational Group may appoint any ad hoc task forces as necessary to fulfill its mission. Task force appointments shall be made with due consideration of the various types and expertise of Members and their geographic locations. Criteria for serving on an Organizational Group will be determined in the group's scope. Except for any full representation group, an appointment to an Organizational Group is for an individual, not a corporate entity. Participation in certain sessions of Organizational Group meetings where market sensitive issues are discussed may be restricted to persons representing entities that have executed ERO's Confidentiality Agreement. Representatives on all Organizational Groups will be documented in the SPP directory maintained by the Staff. Organizational Group vacancies will be filled on an interim basis by appointment of the President unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.

3.2 Attendance and Proxy

Except for the Market and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC), if a representative does not attend three consecutive Organizational Group meetings, he/she will be considered to have resigned from the group, absent express waiver of this requirement by the chair of the group. Any appeal of removal from the roster of an Organizational Group should be directed to the Corporate Secretary. Any resulting vacancy will be filled in accordance with Section 3.1 Structure of these Bylaws. If a representative is unable to attend an Organizational Group meeting, he/she may in writing appoint a substitute representative who shall have such rights to participate and vote as the representative specifies. The substitute representative may be another member of the Organizational Group or another person who has the authority to act on behalf of the representative. A representative may not grant a proxy for more than three consecutive meetings without the express consent of the chair of the Organizational Group. If a representative exceeds the proxy limit, he/she will be considered to have resigned from the Organizational Group and the vacancy will be filled in accordance with these Bylaws; except, in the case of any full representation Organizational Group, in which case a new representative will be solicited from the member company.

A proxy provided to another representative of the Organizational Group will not be recorded as attendance at the meeting and will not serve to meet or maintain the quorum requirements. A proxy provided to another person with the authority to act on behalf of the representative will be recorded as attendance at a meeting for the purpose of meeting or maintaining the quorum requirements.

3.3 Leadership

3.3.1 Appointment

The Chair of all Organizational Groups shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration and appointment by the Board of Directors. A Vice Chair shall be elected by the members of an Organizational Group, unless provided otherwise in these Bylaws. A Vice Chair shall act for a Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) if the Chair becomes incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the position; or
- (c) if the position of the Chair becomes vacant, until a new Chair takes office.

3.3.2 Terms

The terms of the Chair and Vice Chair of all Organizational Groups shall coincide with the two-year term of the Chair of the Board of Directors. Organizational Group representation will be reviewed annually for compliance with the Bylaws by the Corporate Governance Committee.

3.3.3 Vacancies

Should any individual having been appointed as a Chair of any Organizational Group be unable to serve for the term specified, or be unable to serve on a NERC Organizational Group under provisions of these Bylaws, a replacement shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Directors for the unexpired term of office.

3.4 Executive Authority

The Officers shall carry out the rights, duties, and obligations of SPP pursuant to the authority granted by the Board of Directors. Officers will execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for all employees of SPP. The Officers shall be empowered to:

- (a) employ qualified technical and administrative employees;
- (b) engage office space;
- (c) employ outside technical and special service organizations;
- (d) execute contracts;
- (e) provide for independent regional reliability coordination, transmission service administration, and other services as may be directed by the Board of Directors;
- (f) serve as SPP's representative before regulatory bodies, NERC, and in other public forums;
- (g) incur reasonable expenses; and
- (h) make Staff resources available to individual Members or groups of Members on a non-firm, non-priority, first-come-first-serve basis so as not to interfere with current or future needs and priorities established by SPP.

3.5 Meetings

Organizational Groups shall meet as necessary. SPP meetings shall be open, however, any Organizational Group may limit attendance at a meeting by an affirmative vote of the Organizational Group as necessary to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information, including but not limited to Order 889 Code of Conduct requirements, personnel, financial, or legal matters. Representatives shall be given at least fifteen days written notice of the date, time, place and purpose of each regular or special meeting. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair of any Organizational Group with at least one-day prior notice.

3.6 Order of Business

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order will generally govern all SPP meetings on any point not specifically covered in these Bylaws.

3.7 Expenses

The expenses of a representative participating in the activities of SPP Organizational Groups and task forces shall be borne by that representative.

3.8 Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership shall be those Members present. The quorum for any other Organizational Group or task force shall be one-half of the representatives thereof, but not less than three representatives; provided, that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time. The quorum for a meeting must be established and maintained throughout the meeting in order for the Organizational Group to take any binding action(s). Notwithstanding the above, any actions taken before a quorum is lost are considered valid and binding. A proxy will serve to meet the quorum requirements as described in Section 3.2 Proxy of these Bylaws.

3.9 Voting

3.9.1 Markets and Operations Policy Committee and Membership

Upon joining, Members shall be assigned to one of two Membership sectors for the sole purpose of voting on matters before the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership: Transmission Owning Members, or Transmission Using Members. Each sector votes separately with the result for that sector being a percent of approving votes to the total number of Members voting. An action is approved if the average of these two percentages is at least sixty-six percent. If no Members are present within a sector, the single present sector-voting ratio will determine approval. Unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws, the Markets and Operations Policy Committee or the Membership may determine to vote on an issue by email. The outcome of any email vote must be recorded in the minutes for the group.

3.9.2 Organizational Groups and Task Forces

Each representative of an Organizational Group or Task Force shall have one vote. A simple majority of participants present or represented by proxy and voting shall be required for approval of an action for all other Organizational Group and Task Force action(s). Unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws, an Organizational Group or Task Force may determine to vote on an issue by email. The outcome of any email vote must be recorded in the minutes for the group.

If an Organizational Group is acting as a Standards Development Team as defined in Section 9.5 Regional Reliability Standards Development Process of these Bylaws, it will vote in accordance with the SPP Standards Development Process as approved by FERC.

3.10 Appeal

Should any Member or group of Members disagree on an action taken or recommended by any Organizational Group, such Member(s) may, in writing, appeal and submit an alternate recommendation to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting at which consideration of the action by the Board of Directors is scheduled.

3.11 Staff Independence and Support

SPP Staff members will be required to execute the SPP Standards of Conduct upon employment and annually thereafter. The Standards of Conduct outline the independence requirements for employees of SPP. The President shall assign to each Organizational Group an SPP Staff member, who shall attend all meetings and act as secretary to the Organizational Group and any ad hoc task forces of that group. Staff secretaries of all Organizational Groups and task forces shall be non-voting. Minutes shall be kept of pertinent discussion, business transacted, decisions reached, and actions taken at each meeting of SPP Organizational Groups or task forces by the secretary. Minutes shall be published within seven calendar days following a meeting but in any event in advance of the next meeting, and considered final documents upon their approval by the Organizational Group or task force.

3.12 Publications and Data Bases

SPP shall publish and distribute reports as necessary to fulfill the SPP mission. SPP shall also develop and maintain electronic databases of relevant technical information. The release of member-specific proprietary information will be governed by the appropriate SPP governing document (the OATT, the Membership Agreement, the Bylaws, the SPP Criteria) and/or a properly executed confidentiality agreement. Standard publications and standard forms of non-proprietary information will be made available at no charge

3.13 Dispute Resolution

These procedures are established for the equitable, efficient and expeditious resolution of disputes. These procedures are intended to cover disputes between any two or more Members, between Members and consenting non-members, or between SPP and any Member(s) or consenting non-member(s). SPP and Members are strongly encouraged to take part in the complete process herein described prior to litigation or the utilization of other dispute resolution processes. SPP administrative involvement in the proceeding is to coordinate with an appropriate firm or panel to facilitate the resolution of the dispute and to provide meeting coordination and facilities. These procedures do not apply to disputes that are covered by the dispute resolution procedures of the SPP OATT or the SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

3.13.1 Instigation

Any Member may begin these dispute resolution procedures by making a request in writing to the President. The President will inform the Board of Directors of the initiation of any dispute resolution proceedings. This written request must contain the authorized signatures of all parties to the dispute. The request must contain:

- (a) a statement of the issues in dispute;
- (b) the positions of each of the parties relating to each of the issues;
- (c) the specific dispute resolution procedure desired; and
- (d) any agreed-upon modifications or specific additions to the proceedings described in these Bylaws by which the dispute may be resolved.

3.13.2 Dispute Resolution Process

In the event SPP is a party to the dispute, the parties shall engage a firm specializing in alternative dispute resolution to administer the dispute resolution process. The firm will be mutually determined by the parties and the process will be administered in accordance with these Bylaws and such other SPP governing documents as may be relevant to the proceeding. In the event the parties cannot

mutually agree to the engagement of a firm, the dispute resolution process will be abandoned and other available means for resolution will be pursued.

In the event SPP is not a party to the dispute, the parties to the dispute may engage a firm specializing in alternative dispute resolution to administer the dispute resolution process. The firm will be mutually determined by the parties and the process will be administered in accordance with these Bylaws and such other SPP governing documents as may be relevant to the proceeding. In the event the parties cannot mutually agree to the engagement of a firm, and do not determine some other mutually acceptable procedure, the President of SPP shall provide to each party to the dispute a list of candidates to be used in forming a three-person dispute resolution panel. The candidates shall be persons meeting the requirements for directors. The President shall then call a telephone conference meeting during which each party shall alternate striking names from the list until those remaining constitute the dispute resolution panel. This panel shall select a chair from its membership. Should any candidate decline to serve or resign from a current appointment for any reason, the candidate whose name was last struck from the list shall be contacted to serve. The President shall assign a Staff representative to assist the panel as secretary. The President shall manage the panel selection process to ensure its timely completion.

3.13.3 Resolution Procedures

The types of proceedings available for the resolution of disputes are:

- (a) An Advisory Proceeding to assist each party through discussion and advice, on a separate and individual basis without active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations, to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (b) A Mediation Proceeding to assist the parties through active participation in the joint discussions and negotiations (including specific recommendations of the issues in dispute) through which the parties indirectly attempt to resolve the dispute informally by mutual agreement;
- (c) A non-binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of

fact, and issue specific written recommendations for resolution of each issue in dispute.

- (d) A binding Dispute Resolution Proceeding to hear formal evidence on factual matters related to the issues submitted, make written findings and conclusions of fact, and issue directives and awards for resolution of each issue in dispute.

The panel chair shall determine meeting arrangements and format necessary to efficiently expedite the resolution of the dispute, and the Staff secretary shall notify the parties of these details. Each party to the dispute must have at least one representative present at all related meetings with full authority to resolve the dispute. Upon conclusion of this process, the panel chair shall notify the President of its outcome. After consultation with the parties to the dispute and the panel chair to determine the completion of the process as described herein, and/or as modified by the parties, the President shall discharge the panel, and notify the Board of Directors of the results. The parties to the dispute agree to complete the process within 90 days from selection of the panel. Final determinations may be subject to corporate or regulatory approvals, which the parties should disclose at the outset of the process. The Staff secretary shall maintain minutes of the panel meetings, which shall become part of SPP's historical records.

3.13.4 Expenses

The parties to the dispute shall share equally all reasonable charges for the meeting location, administrative costs, and related travel expenses of panel members. The parties to the dispute shall also share equally all reasonable compensation for time and service of panel members and related incremental expenses of the SPP Staff. The President shall determine reasonableness of time and service costs for panel members prior to process implementation. The SPP Staff secretary shall account for these expenses. Each party to the dispute shall be responsible for their respective associated expenses.

3.13.5 Liability

The parties to any dispute which is the subject of these dispute resolution procedures shall hold harmless SPP, its Members, Organizational Groups and each of their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives, and the panel members from any liabilities, claims, or damages resulting from any agreement or lack of agreement as a result of the dispute resolution proceedings. The foregoing hold harmless right shall not be extended to the parties to any given dispute or to their directors, officers, agents, employees or other representatives.

3.14 Meeting of Members

The Chair of the Board of Directors shall convene and preside over meetings of Members for the purpose of electing Directors, Members Committee representatives, and Regional Entity Trustees to positions becoming vacant in the ensuing year, and any other necessary business. The Membership shall meet at least once per calendar year.

3.15 Liability, Insurance and Indemnification

For purposes of this section “SPP” refers to SPP and its officers, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, employees or agents, and “Member” refers to the Members of SPP as defined in these Bylaws. None of the provisions of this section, including the waiver of liability in Section 3.15.1 below, absolving SPP or its Members, directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officer, agents, employees or other representatives of liability or any provisions for insurance or indemnification apply to actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

3.15.1 Waiver of Liability

- (a) SPP shall not be liable to any Member for damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action, or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (b) No Member shall be liable to any other Member or to SPP for damages arising out of or related to any action by the Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (c) Each Member waives any future claim it might have against SPP or other Members arising out of or resulting from any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.
- (d) SPP waives any future claim it might have against any Member arising out of or resulting from any actions taken by a Member pursuant to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria.

3.15.2 Insurance

The President is authorized to procure insurance to protect SPP, its directors, Regional Entity Trustees, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives against damages arising out of or related to any directive, order, procedure, action or requirement of SPP, under the then effective Bylaws and Criteria or pursuant to the OATT.

3.15.3 Indemnification of Directors, Officers, Agents and Employees

Except for actions which are unlawful, undertaken in bad faith, or are the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct, SPP shall indemnify its directors, officers, agents, employees, or other representatives to the maximum extent allowed by law consistent with these Bylaws. Each director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative of SPP shall be indemnified by SPP against all judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses, including legal fees, incurred as a result of, or in connection with, any threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative proceedings to which the incumbent may be made a party by reason of acting or having acted in official capacity as a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or representative of SPP, or in any other capacity which the incumbent may hold at the request of SPP, as its representative in any other organization, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative must have acted in good faith and, in the case of criminal proceedings, must have had no reasonable cause to believe that conduct was unlawful; provided, that SPP shall not provide indemnification of any conduct judged unlawful in criminal proceedings. When acting in official capacity, the incumbent must have reasonably believed that conduct was in the best interests of SPP, and, when acting in any other capacity, must have reasonably believed that conduct was at least not opposed to the best interests of SPP.
- (b) If the proceeding was brought by or on behalf of SPP, however, indemnification shall be made only with respect to reasonable expenses referenced above. No indemnification of any kind shall be made in any such proceeding in which the director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have been adjudged liable to SPP.

- (c) In no event, however, will indemnification be made with respect to any described proceeding which charges or alleges improper personal benefit to a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative and where liability is imposed on the basis of the receipt of such improper personal benefit.
- (d) In order for any director, Regional Entity Trustee, agent, employee, or other representative to receive indemnification under this provision, the person shall vigorously assert and pursue any and all defenses to those claims, charges, or proceedings covered herein which are reasonable and legally available and shall fully cooperate with SPP or any attorneys involved in the defense of any such claim, charges, or proceedings on behalf of SPP.
- (e) No indemnification shall be made in any specific instance until it has been determined by SPP that indemnification is permissible in that specific case, under the standards set forth herein and that any expenses claimed or to be incurred are reasonable. These two (2) determinations shall be made by a majority vote of at least a quorum of the Board of Directors consisting solely of directors who were not parties to the proceeding for which indemnification or reimbursement of expenses is claimed. If such a quorum cannot be obtained, a majority of at least a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including directors who are parties to said proceeding, shall designate a special legal counsel who shall make said determinations on behalf of SPP.
- (f) Any reasonable expenses, as shall be determined above, that have been incurred by a director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative who has been made a party to a proceeding as defined herein, may be paid or reimbursed in advance upon a majority vote of a quorum of the full Board of Directors, including those who may be a party to the same proceeding.

However, such director, Regional Entity Trustee, officer, agent, employee, or other representative shall have provided SPP with (i) a written affirmation under oath that the incumbent, in good faith, believes the conditions of indemnification herein have been met; and (ii) a written undertaking that the incumbent shall repay any amounts advanced, with interest accumulated at a reasonable rate, if it is ultimately determined that such conditions are not met.

3.15.4 Limitations

The provisions of this section 3.15 are subject to applicable state and Federal laws, if any, which limit the ability of a Member to waive liability or enter into agreements of indemnity. Any benefits under this Section 3.15 shall not extend to any Member so limited by state or Federal law in complying with the provisions thereof.

3.15.5 Modification of Rights by Agreement

Any provision of this Section 3.15.1 may be waived or modified by express written agreement between SPP and Member. Such express written agreement shall apply solely to the subject matter of the agreement and is not intended to be a general waiver or modification of the rights provided in Section 3.15.1.

3.15.6 Procedural Rights Not Affected

The limitations of liability provided in Section 3.15.1 shall not affect any procedural rights or obligation a Member may have at law or equity.

3.16 Compliance with Membership Requirements

Compliance monitoring of Members and Staff shall be performed to ensure compliance with all requirements of Membership. Certain SPP compliance monitoring and enforcement functions, as detailed in Section 9.0, shall be performed in concert with related ERO programs, and will be overseen by the Regional Entity Trustees. Other monitoring functions shall be provided by appropriate SPP staff under the oversight of the Oversight Committee and the Board of Directors. Compliance monitoring shall be an after-the-fact investigative and assessment function. Monitoring functions shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved Bylaws, Regional Criteria, OATT, and agreements between SPP and its Members;
- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible non-compliance with Membership requirements;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in order to investigate non-compliance with Membership requirements upon approval from the Oversight Committee;
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of Membership requirements are determined and documented;
- (e) Imposition of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance associated with the results of investigations or audits pursuant to approved standards, policies and/or Criteria;
- (f) Confirmation that SPP is conforming to its own Regional Criteria, OATT, business practices, and reliability operations in a manner that does not stifle the efficiency of the energy markets;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and

- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define requirements and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance with Membership requirements.

3.17 Market Monitoring

SPP shall establish and provide appropriate support to a market monitoring function in accordance with its OATT. Market monitoring functions shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the SPP transmission system, the operation of a robust, competitive and non-discriminatory electric power market, and the principle that a Market Participant as defined in the SPP OATT, or group of Market Participants, shall not have undue influence or impact.

The market monitoring unit shall report to the Board of Directors, except that any management representatives on the Board of Directors are excluded from oversight of the internal market monitor. Any public reports submitted shall be provided to the Board of Directors and concurrently to Commission staff, staff of interested state commissions, SPP management, and the market participants. The President shall ensure that the market monitoring entity has adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of its duties.

Market monitoring functions shall include those duties as delineated and approved in SPP's OATT.

4.0 Board of Directors

4.1 Duties

The Board of Directors shall at all times act in the best interest of SPP in its management, control and direction of the general business of SPP. The Board of Directors shall solicit and consider a straw vote from the Members Committee as an indication of the level of consensus among Members in advance of taking any actions other than those occurring in executive session. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Direct activities of all SPP Organizational Groups;
- (b) Serve on SPP Organizational Groups;
- (c) Remove Members, and approve the re-entry of Members that have been removed;
- (d) Authorize all substantive contracts and debt instruments;
- (e) Select and review the performance of SPP Officers, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors;
- (f) Approve policies by which positions, duties, qualifications, salaries, benefits and other necessary matters pertaining to the SPP Officers are determined;
- (g) Review, approve, disapprove or recommend revision to the actions of any Organizational Group;
- (h) Act on appeals pursuant to Section 3.10;
- (i) Approve and implement Regional Criteria for enforcement under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement;
- (j) Provide input with the Members Committee to the Regional Entity Trustees, on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval;
- (k) Approve or revise the operating and capital budgets and any additional expenditures;
- (l) Convene a meeting of Members at least annually;
- (m) Approve amendments to these Bylaws as permitted by these Bylaws;

- (n) Approve amendments to the Membership Agreement as permitted by the Membership Agreement;
- (o) Approve Regional Criteria pertaining to planning and operating standards and policies and penalties for non-compliance with such Criteria; and
- (p) Authorize filings with regulatory bodies.

4.2 Composition and Qualifications

4.2.1 Composition

The Board of Directors shall consist of up to ten persons, but no less than seven persons. The directors shall be independent of any Member; one director shall be the President of SPP. A Director shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve. The President shall be excluded from voting on business related to the office of President or the incumbent of that office. No other Staff member shall be permitted to serve as a director

4.2.2 Qualifications

Directors shall have recent and relevant senior management expertise and experience in one or more of the following disciplines: finance, accounting, electric transmission or generation planning or operation, law and regulation, commercial markets, and trading and associated risk management.

4.2.3 Conflicts of Interest

Directors shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member or customer of services provided by SPP. Directors may invest in accordance with SPP's Standards of Conduct. Participation in a pension plan of a Member or customer shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's or customer's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

4.3 Term and Election

Except for the President, a director shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least 90 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members when election of new directors is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons equal in number to the directors to be elected;
- (b) At least 45 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall determine the persons it nominates for election as directors, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The Corporate Secretary shall prepare the ballot accordingly and shall deliver same to Members at least 30 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members;
- (c) For purposes of electing or removing directors only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) Any additional nominee(s) may be added to the ballot if a petition is received by the Corporate Secretary at least 15 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members and evidencing support of at least 20 percent of the existing Membership; and
- (e)
 - 1) If only one candidate is nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for or against the nominee. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 Voting of these Bylaws, which requires a super majority. In the event a director position is not filled, the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting;
 - 2) If multiple candidates are nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for only one nominee, but may vote against each

candidate. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 Voting of these Bylaws, with the exception that a simple majority of votes cast will determine which nominee is elected. In the event a director position is not filled, the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting.

4.4 Resignation and Removal of Directors

Any director may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a director with cause by vote in accordance with Section 3.9 Voting of these Bylaws. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A director who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

4.5 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will present a nominee to the Membership for consideration and election to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term at a special meeting of Members following 30 calendar days notice from the Corporate Secretary. The election will be held in accordance with Section 4.3 Term and Election of these Bylaws. The replacement director shall take office immediately upon election.

4.6 Functioning of the Board of Directors

In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of any Organizational Group or task force, the Board of Directors shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws.

4.6.1 Meetings and Notice of Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet at least three times per calendar year and additionally upon the call of the Chair or upon concurrence of at least a majority of directors. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the President to each director, the Members Committee, and the Regional State Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting of the Board of Directors, unless such notice is waived by the Board of Directors. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the Chair with at least one-day prior notice. Board of Directors' meetings shall include the Members Committee, a representative from the Regional Entity Trustees, and a representative from the Regional State Committee (as defined in Section 7.2) for all meetings except when in executive session; provided however, the failure of representatives of the Members Committee and/or of the Regional Entity Trustees and/or of the Regional State Committee to attend, in whole or in part, shall not prevent the Board of Directors from convening and conducting business, and taking binding votes. The Chair shall grant any Member's request to address the Board of Directors.

4.6.2 Chair and Vice Chair; Election and Terms

The Board of Directors shall elect from its membership a Chair and Vice Chair for two-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office or until their term as a director expires without re-election. The President of SPP may not serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Vice Chair shall act for the Chair:

- (a) at the request of the Chair;
- (b) in the event the Chair should become incapacitated and unable to discharge the functions of the office; or

- (c) if the office of Chair becomes vacant, until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. The Chair shall appoint a director to fill a vacant Vice Chair position until the next meeting of the Board of Directors, at which meeting a new Vice Chair shall be elected by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy.

4.6.3 Quorum and Voting

A majority plus one of the directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors; provided, that a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later time. Decisions of the Board of Directors shall be by simple majority vote of the directors present and voting. Directors must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. Voting will be by secret ballot. The Corporate Secretary will collect and tally the ballots, and announce the results of a vote. Only voting results will be announced and recorded in the minutes; individual votes will not be announced or recorded.

4.6.4 Compensation of Directors

Directors shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, and approved by the Membership, and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

4.6.5 Executive Session

Executive sessions (open only to directors and to parties invited by the Chair) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Board of Directors to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial, or legal matters.

5.0 Committees Advising The Board Of Directors

5.1 Members Committee

The Members Committee shall work with the Board of Directors to manage and direct the general business of SPP. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Provide individual and collective input to the Board of Directors, including but not limited to a straw vote from the Members Committee representatives as an indication of the level of consensus among Members, on all actions pending before the Board of Directors;
- (b) Serve on committees reporting to the Board of Directors as appointed by the Board of Directors; and
- (c) Provide input with the Board of Directors to the Regional Entity Trustees on SPP Regional Reliability Standards presented by the MOPC to the Trustees or otherwise developed under the auspices of the Trustees for submission to the ERO for its approval.

5.1.1 Composition and Qualifications

5.1.1.1 Composition

Provided that Membership is sufficient to accommodate these provisions, the Members Committee shall consist of up to 24 persons. Six representatives shall be investor owned utilities Members; five representatives shall be cooperatives Members; two representatives shall be municipals Members (including municipal joint action agencies); three representatives shall be independent power producers/marketers Members; two representatives shall be state power agencies Members; one representative shall be from a Federal Power Marketing Agency; two representatives shall be alternative power/public interest Members; one representative shall be from an independent transmission company Member, defined as having assets under the OATT and no Affiliate Relationships in other categories of Membership; one representative shall be a large retail customer Member, defined as non-residential end-use customers with individual or aggregated loads of 1-MW or more; and one representative shall be a small retail customer Member, defined as residential customers and other customers with

individual or aggregated loads of less than 1-MW. Representatives will be elected in accordance with Section 5.1.2 of these Bylaws.

5.1.1.2 Qualifications

A representative shall be an officer or employee of a Member with decision-making responsibility over SPP related activities, and must be the Member's representative to the Membership.

5.1.2 Term and Election

Representatives shall be nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee and elected each year at the meeting of Members to staggered three-year terms commencing upon election and continuing until their duly elected successors take office. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least 90 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members at which election of new representatives is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall nominate persons equal in number to the representatives to be elected;
- (b) At least 30 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall determine the persons it nominates for election as representatives, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The Corporate Secretary shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least two weeks prior to the meeting of Members;
- (c) For purposes of electing and removing representatives only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single vote;
- (d) At the meeting of Members, any additional nominee or nominees may be added to the ballot if a motion is made and seconded to add such nominee or nominees; and
- (e) The required number of representatives shall be elected by written ballot. A Member shall be entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of representatives to be elected. A Member may not cumulate votes. The candidates in each sector receiving the greatest number of votes will fill vacancies.

5.1.3 Resignation and Removal of Members Committee Representatives

Any representative may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. A representative may be removed, with cause, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members at a meeting of Members. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A representative who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

5.1.4 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee may elect an interim representative from the same sector to serve until a replacement representative from the same sector is elected and takes office. A special election shall be held at the next meeting of Members to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The replacement representative shall take office immediately following the election.

5.1.5 Meetings

The Members Committee shall meet only with the Board of Directors.

6.0 Committees Reporting to the Board of Directors

This section describes the general scopes and responsibilities of the Organizational Groups reporting directly to the Board of Directors. Nothing in this section is meant to limit these responsibilities or activities in the effort to fulfill SPP's mission.

6.1 Markets and Operations Policy Committee

The Markets and Operations Policy Committee is responsible, through its designated Organizational Groups, for developing and recommending policies and procedures related to the technical operations for the company in accordance with its scope as approved by the Board of Directors.

Each SPP Member shall appoint a representative to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC). Each representative designated shall be an officer or employee of the Member. The Board of Directors will appoint the Chair and Vice Chair of the MOPC. Each member of the MOPC may continue to be a member thereof until the appropriate Member appoints a successor.

The MOPC shall meet at least three times per calendar year, and additionally as needed. The MOPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each MOPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the MOPC deems necessary.

6.2 Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) is responsible for the development and recommendation of strategic direction for the company in accordance with its scope as approved by the Board of Directors.

The SPC shall be comprised of eleven members. Three representatives shall be from the Board of Directors; four representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and four representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the SPC. Each representative of the SPC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The SPC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The SPC shall report to the Board of Directors following each SPC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the SPC deems necessary.

6.3 Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee (HRC) is responsible for the development of personnel policies, including benefits structures, for the company in accordance with its scope as approved by the Board of Directors.

The HRC shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the HRC. Each representative of the HRC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The HRC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The HRC shall report to the Board of Directors following each HRC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the HRC deems necessary.

6.4 Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee (OC) is responsible for monitoring compliance with SPP and regulatory policies for the company in accordance with its scope as approved by the Board of Directors.

The OC shall be comprised of three members from the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the OC. Each representative of the OC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs, the Board of Directors will fill the vacancy.

The OC shall meet as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The OC shall report to the Board of Directors following each OC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the OC deems necessary.

6.5 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee (FC) is responsible for all aspects of financial operations and risk management for the company in accordance with its scope as approved by the Board of Directors.

The FC shall be comprised of six members. Two representatives shall be from the Board of Directors, one of whom shall serve as the Chair; two representatives from the Transmission Owning Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee; and two representatives from the Transmission Using Member sector as nominated by the Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the representatives of the FC. Each representative of the FC shall continue to be a representative thereof until the Board of Directors appoints his/her successor. Where a vacancy occurs the Corporate Governance Committee will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

The FC shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The FC shall report to the Board of Directors following each FC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the FC deems necessary.

6.6 Corporate Governance Committee

The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for the overall governance structure, including nominations, for the company in accordance with its scope as approved by the Board of Directors.

To the extent that the membership allows, the CGC shall be comprised of eleven members. One representative shall be the President of SPP who will serve as the Chair; one representative shall be the Chairman of the Board, unless his/her position is under consideration, in which case the Vice Chairman of the Board; one representative shall be representative of and selected by investor owned utilities Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by co-operatives Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by municipals Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by independent power producers/marketers Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by state power agencies Members; one representative shall be representative of and selected by alternative power/public interest Members; one representative shall be from an independent transmission company Member, defined as having assets under the OATT and no Affiliate Relationships in other categories of Membership; one representative shall be representative of and selected by large/small retail Members; and one representative shall be representative of and selected by a Federal Power Marketing Agency Member(s).

Where a vacancy occurs with respect to a representative of a sector, the representatives from the appropriate sector will fill the vacancy. For purposes of selecting or removing representatives only, each group of Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member.

The CGC shall meet at least once per calendar year, and additionally as needed, provided that a quorum, as defined in these Bylaws, is present. The CGC shall report to the Board of Directors following each CGC meeting with respect to its activities and with such recommendations, as the CGC deems necessary.

7.0 Regulatory Involvement and Regional State Committee

Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member may participate fully in all SPP activities, including participation at the SPP Board of Directors meetings. These representatives shall have all the same rights as Members except the right to vote. Participation includes the designation of representatives by each of the regulatory jurisdictions to participate in any type of committee, working group, task force, and Board of Directors meetings.

7.1 Retention of State Regulatory Jurisdiction

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish existing state regulatory jurisdiction and authority. Each state regulatory agency is expressly reserved the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

7.2 Regional State Committee

An RSC, to be comprised of one designated commissioner from each state regulatory commission having jurisdiction over an SPP Member, shall be established to provide both direction and input on all matters pertinent to the participation of the Members in SPP. This direction and input shall be provided within the context of SPP's organizational group meetings as well as Board of Directors meetings. The SPP Staff will assist the RSC in its collective responsibilities and requests by providing information and analysis. SPP will fund the costs of the RSC pursuant to an annual budget developed by the RSC and submitted to SPP as part of its budgeting process, which budget must ultimately be approved by the Board of Directors.

The RSC has primary responsibility for determining regional proposals and the transition process in the following areas:

- (a) whether and to what extent participant funding will be used for transmission enhancements;
- (b) whether license plate or postage stamp rates will be used for the regional access charge;
- (c) FTR allocation, where a locational price methodology is used; and
- (d) the transition mechanism to be used to assure that existing firm customers receive FTRs equivalent to the customers' existing firm rights.

The RSC will also determine the approach for resource adequacy across the entire region. In addition, with respect to transmission planning, the RSC will determine whether transmission upgrades for remote resources will be included in the regional transmission planning process and the role of transmission owners in proposing transmission upgrades in the regional planning process.

As the RSC reaches decisions on the methodology that will be used to address any of these issues, SPP will file this methodology pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act. However, nothing in this section prohibits SPP from filing its own related proposal(s) pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act.

7.3 Retention of Other Regulatory Jurisdiction

Nothing in the formation or operation of SPP as a FERC recognized regional transmission organization is in any way intended to diminish the jurisdiction or authority of any other regulatory body. Any regulatory agency having utility rates or services jurisdiction over a Member or the regional transmission organization reserves the right to exercise all lawful means available to protect its existing jurisdiction and authority.

8.0 Fiscal Administration

The fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year.

8.1 Operating Budget

SPP Staff and the Finance Committee will prepare an annual budget of expenditures for the next fiscal year and an estimate for an additional two years. The proposed budget shall be submitted to the Board of Directors not less than two weeks prior to the meeting at which the budget is to be considered for approval. Except as addressed in Section 9.0 Regional Entity Function, once approved by the Board of Directors, the budget shall constitute the authority required by the Officers for expenditures for the ensuing year. Modifications to the budget during the fiscal year must be recommended to the Board of Directors by the Finance Committee. The President shall have the authority to approve expenditures in accordance with SPP policy as approved by the Board of Directors.

8.2 Annual Membership Fee

All SPP Members will be subject to an annual membership fee in the amount of \$6,000, or other amount established by the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise agreed, Membership fees for new Members are due at the execution of the Membership Agreement. Membership fees are not subject to refund. The Board of Directors shall determine the annual membership fee for the upcoming year in advance of the last meeting of Members in a calendar year. Legitimate public interest groups (e.g. consumer advocates, environmental groups, or citizen participation groups) may seek a waiver of the annual membership fee. The request for waiver must be directed to the President in writing 90 days in advance of the start of each fiscal year.

8.3 ERO and Regional Entity Costs

SPP is a Regional Entity of the Electric Reliability Organization and is subject to the terms of the Delegation Agreement executed by SPP and the ERO. SPP will have certain functions as signatory to the Delegation Agreement related to the establishment and submission of annual budgets related to fulfillment of Regional Entity functions as well as participation in the costs incurred by ERO. The Delegation Agreement may specify SPP's responsibility to collect ERO costs from SPP's Regional Entity footprint, and may specify ERO's responsibility to fund SPP's Regional Entity budget.

SPP will clearly set out the costs associated with its operation as a Regional Entity within SPP's annual budget.

8.4 Monthly Assessments

SPP will assess certain Members described herein on a monthly basis all costs not otherwise collected. Costs recovered under the assessment will include but are not limited to all operating costs, financing costs, debt repayment, and capital expenditures associated with the performance of SPP's functions as assigned by the Board of Directors. Significant among these are costs associated with regional reliability coordination and the provision of transmission service. SPP shall determine the assessment rate based on its annual budgeted net expenditures divided by estimated annual Schedule 1 billing units for service sold under SPP's OATT and Member load eligible to take, but not taking, Network Integration Transmission Service under SPP's OATT. The Board of Directors may review the assumptions used in determining the assessment rate at any time and may adjust the assessment rate appropriately should conditions warrant. Each load-serving Member shall then be assessed the monthly assessment rate applied to its load eligible to take Network Integration Transmission Service under the SPP OATT. Further, each load-serving Member shall receive a credit against the monthly assessment for that month's Schedule 1-A fees paid for Network Integration Transmission Service and for Point-to-Point Transmission Service that had a delivery point within the SPP region, under the SPP OATT.

8.5 Fiscal Agent

The President shall serve as the fiscal agent of SPP. The President shall keep an up-to-date record of receipts and disbursements and furnish reports to the Board of Directors and the Finance Committee.

8.6 Auditors

The Board of Directors shall annually engage an independent certified public accounting firm to perform an annual audit of SPP's financial records and prepare a report on the financial condition of SPP. The Finance Committee shall present the audit report to the Board of Directors upon completion.

8.7 Financial Obligation of Withdrawing Members

8.7.1 Existing Obligations

“Existing Obligations” are the following:

- a. Member’s unpaid annual membership fee.
- b. Member’s unpaid dues, assessments, and other amounts charged under Section 3.8 of the Membership Agreement, section 8.4 of the Bylaws, or otherwise under the Bylaws, plus the Member’s share of costs SPP customarily includes in such dues, assessments or other charges, but which as of the Termination Date SPP had not included in such dues, assessments or other charges.
- c. Member’s share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of the entire principal amounts of all SPP Financial Obligations outstanding as of the Termination Date. “Financial Obligations” are all long-term (in excess of six (6) months) financial obligations of SPP, including but not limited to the following:
 - i. debts under all mortgages, loans, loan agreements, borrowings, promissory notes, bonds, and credit lines, under which SPP is obligated, including principal and interest;
 - ii. all payment obligations under equipment leases, financing leases, capital leases, real estate and office space leases, consulting contracts, and contracts for outsourced services;
 - iii. any unfunded liabilities of any SPP employee pension funds, whether or not liquidated or demanded; and
 - iv. the general and administrative overhead of SPP for a period of three (3) months.
- d. Any costs, expenses or liabilities incurred by SPP directly due to the Termination, regardless of when incurred or payable, and including without limitation prepayment premiums or penalties arising under SPP Financial Obligations.
- e. Member’s share (computed in accordance with the Bylaws) of all interest that will become due for payment with respect to all interest

bearing Financial Obligations after the Termination Date and until the maturity of all Financial Obligations in accordance with their respective terms (“Future Interest”). In the event that a Financial Obligation carries a variable interest rate, the interest rate in effect at the Termination Date shall be used to calculate the applicable Future Interest. In determining the Member’s share of Future Interest, SPP shall take into account any reduction of Financial Obligations due to mitigation under this Section.

8.7.2 Computation of a Member’s Existing Obligations

For purposes of computing the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or terminated Member in accordance with the Membership Agreement, such “Member’s share” is a percentage calculated as follows:

$$A = 100 [0.25(1/N) + 0.75(B/C)]$$

Where: A = Member’s share (expressed as a percentage)

N = Total number of Members

B = The Member's previous year Net Energy for Load

C = Total of factor B for all Members

The Finance Committee shall have the discretion to reduce the Existing Obligations of any withdrawing or Terminated Member, to reflect any SPP costs or expenses that may be mitigated in connection with such Member’s withdrawal or termination. In the event of consolidation of affiliate memberships or the transfer of membership from one corporate entity to another, whereby one entity remains a member of SPP, the withdrawal obligation for the departing company(ies) may be waived at SPP’s sole discretion.

8.7.3 Financial Obligations for Transmission Facilities

To the extent that Section 4.3.3A of the Membership Agreement is applicable, a Terminated Member shall remain financially responsible for all financial obligations incurred and costs allocated to its load for transmission facilities approved prior to the Termination Date.

8.7.4 Penalty Costs

A Terminated Member shall remain liable for its share of costs associated with penalties assessed against SPP by FERC, the FERC-approved Electric

Reliability Organization, any Electric Reliability Organization-approved Regional Entity, or any other governmental or regulatory authority with jurisdiction over SPP that SPP incurs as a result of events that occurred prior to Member's Termination Date but that SPP is unable to recover under the SPP OATT.

8.7.5 Limitation on Financial and Penalty Obligations

(a) Notwithstanding the delineation of Members' financial obligations in Section 8.7, a Federal Power Marketing Agency shall not be subject to the financial obligations listed in this Section 8.7 in the event FERC finds that SPP has not adhered to all of the Federal Power Marketing Agency Amendments as that term is defined in Section 1.0 of these Bylaws or if SPP files and FERC approves material changes to the Federal Power Marketing Agency Amendments.

(b) Provided further, notwithstanding any language to the contrary in these Bylaws, a Federal Power Marketing Agency has not waived or conceded any defense it may have, including sovereign immunity, intergovernmental immunity, or lack of subject matter jurisdiction in any action against it by an Enforcement Authority, nor has it accepted any liability, responsibility, or obligation to pay any civil monetary penalties or fines imposed by an Enforcement Authority to which it would not have been subject in the absence of these Bylaws. SPP, in accepting Western-UGP as a member, does not thereby concede or accept responsibility for any portion of a penalty or fine attributable to the actions or omissions of Western-UGP. SPP will identify the amount of any penalty or fine that SPP allocates to Western-UGP or that SPP determines is attributable to Western-UGP and will identify that amount to FERC as uncollectable and not otherwise owed by SPP. Enforcement Authority in these Bylaws means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Electric Reliability Organization (ERO), or Regional Entities with enforcement authority pursuant to a delegation from an ERO or FERC for the purpose of proposing and enforcing reliability standards.

9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION

9.1 Regional Entity

SPP operates as a Regional Entity under FERC jurisdiction with oversight powers delegated to it by the ERO. The Regional Entity Trustees shall appoint representatives to ERO organizational groups as necessary to represent the interests of the SPP Regional Entity. SPP may pay appropriate associated travel expenses of those appointed representatives upon receipt by the Secretary to the Trustees of an expense report as normally filed within the representative's system.

9.2 Regional Entity Staff

The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee staffing requirements for the SPP Regional Entity. All SPP Regional Entity staff shall report through the Regional Entity (RE) General Manager to the Trustees.

9.3 RE General Manager

The RE General Manager shall be selected by and report to the SPP Regional Entity Trustees, and will provide leadership and vision, oversee the execution of RE strategic direction, and direct the day-to-day operations of the RE. The RE General Manager shall carry out the rights, duties and obligations of the SPP RE pursuant to the authority granted by these Bylaws, the Regional Entity Trustees, and SPP corporate policies. The RE General Manager's responsibilities shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Providing guidance and oversight of the execution of the performance of delegated statutory functions from the ERO;
- (b) Developing and managing an appropriate organizational structure and staffing levels to accomplish the RE functions;
- (c) Developing an annual RE business plan and budget for RE Trustee, NERC and FERC approval;
- (d) Providing sound fiscal management;
- (e) Ensuring compliance with SPP's Bylaws and Regional Entity Delegation Agreement, as well as other applicable federal, state, and local laws; and
- (f) Interfacing with SPP members and stakeholders, federal and state regulators, other Regional Entities, and NERC on matters related to the reliability of the bulk power system.

The President shall ensure that the RE General Manager has adequate resources, access to information, and the full cooperation of Staff and Organizational Groups for the effective execution of his/her duties.

9.4 Duties of Regional Entity Staff

Regional Entity functions related to compliance monitoring and enforcement shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Investigation of all reports or discoveries of non-compliance with approved ERO policies and standards;
- (b) Obtaining all information needed to investigate all facets of possible noncompliance with ERO policies and standards;
- (c) Performance of in-depth reviews of operations in conjunction with the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP);
- (d) Comprehensive audits when recurring issues covering a broad spectrum of violations of ERO policies and standards are determined and documented;
- (e) Recommendation of financial penalties and/or sanctions for non-compliance with ERO policies and standards pursuant to ERO guidelines;
- (f) Assist the Regional Entity Trustees with third party audits to confirm that SPP is conforming to ERO policies and standards;
- (g) Utilization of dispute resolution procedures as necessary to resolve conflicts or appeals; and
- (h) Coordination of policy modifications to clearly define ERO requirements, and penalties in order to objectively monitor compliance.

9.5 Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

When an SPP working group or task force is considering an SPP Regional Reliability Standard, it will be designated the Standards Development Team (SDT) for that Standard in accordance with the SPP Regional Entity Standards Development Process Manual. For purposes of an SDT, participation and voting will be open to any interested party in accordance with the Standards Development Process and without regard to membership status in SPP.

9.6 Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

The Regional Entity Trustees will oversee SPP's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP). The CMEP will enforce compliance according to ERO reliability standards for Registered Entities. Regional Entity staff shall oversee compliance auditing of registered entities, and will report audit results to the Regional Entity Trustees. All audits of SPP's compliance with ERO reliability standards will be performed by external third party auditors as coordinated and managed by the Regional Entity Trustees.

9.7 Regional Entity Trustees

9.7.1 Functions and Duties of the Regional Entity Trustees

The Regional Entity Trustees shall at all times act in the best interests of SPP's role as the SPP Regional Entity in its management, control, and direction of the general business of the Regional Entity functions. In reaching any decision and in considering the recommendations of an appropriate entity, the Regional Entity Trustees shall abide by the principles in these Bylaws. Its duties shall include, but are not limited to oversight of the following:

- (a) Select, oversee and review the performance of the SPP RE General Manager in carrying out the statutory functions and duties as defined in the Delegation Agreement between ERO and SPP;
- (b) Approve the annual RE business plan and budget;
- (c) Perform function assigned by the SPP Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program;
- (d) Track and review Regional Standards from MOPC for submission to the ERO and FERC for approval and implementation.
- (e) Complete a self-assessment annually to determine how effectively the Regional Entity Trustees are meeting their responsibilities; and
- (f) Provide an annual report to the Board of Directors regarding the effectiveness of the Regional Entity function and processes.

9.7.2 Composition and Qualifications

9.7.2.1 Composition

The Regional Entity Trustees shall consist of three (3) persons. The trustees shall be independent of the SPP Board of Directors, any Member, industry stakeholder, or SPP organizational group. Regional Entity Trustees do not serve as members of the SPP Board of Directors. A trustee shall not be limited in the number of terms he/she may serve.

9.7.2.2 Qualifications

Regional Entity Trustees shall have relevant senior management expertise and experience in the reliable operation of the bulk electric transmission system in North America.

9.7.2.3 Conflicts of Interest

Regional Entity Trustees shall not be a director, officer, or employee of, and shall have no direct business relationship, financial interest in, or other affiliation with, a Member, a customer of services provided by SPP, or a Registered Entity in the SPP footprint. Trustees may invest in accordance with the SPP Standards of Conduct. Participation in a pension plan of a Member, customer, or Registered Entity in the SPP footprint shall not be deemed to be a direct financial benefit if the Member's, customer's, or Registered Entity's financial performance has no material effect on such pension plan.

9.7.3 Term and Election

Regional Entity Trustees shall be elected at the meeting of Members to a three-year term commencing upon election and continuing until his/her duly elected successor takes office. The election process shall be as follows:

- (a) At least 90 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members when election of a new trustee is required, the Corporate Governance Committee shall commence the process to nominate persons for the position to be elected;
- (b) At least 45 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members, the Corporate Governance Committee shall determine the person it nominates for election as a trustee, specifying the nominee for any vacancy to be filled. The Corporate Secretary shall prepare the ballot accordingly, leaving space for additional names, and shall deliver same to Members at least 30 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members;
- (c) For purposes of electing or removing trustees only, Members with Affiliate Relationships shall be considered a single Member;
- (d) Any additional nominee(s) may be added to the ballot if a petition is received by the Corporate Secretary at least 15 calendar days prior to the meeting of Members and evidencing support of at least 20 percent of the existing Membership; and

- (e) 1) If only one candidate is nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for or against the nominee. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 Voting of these Bylaws, which requires a super majority. In the event a trustees position is not filled the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held but no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting;
- 2) If multiple candidates are nominated for a seat, each Member shall be entitled to cast a vote for only one nominee, but may vote against each candidate. The votes will be calculated in accordance with Section 3.9 Voting of these Bylaws, with the exception that a simple majority of votes cast will determine which nominee is elected. In the event a trustee position is not filled, the Corporate Governance Committee will determine a new nominee for recommendation for election by the Membership at a special meeting of Members to be held no later than the next regular Board of Directors/Members Committee meeting.

9.7.4 Resignation and Removal of Regional Entity Trustees

Any Regional Entity Trustee may resign by written notice to the President noting the effective date of the resignation. The Membership may remove a trustee with cause in accordance with Section 3.9 Voting of these Bylaws. Removal proceedings may only be initiated by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent of the Members. The petition shall state the specific grounds for removal and shall specify whether the removal vote is to be taken at a special meeting of Members or at the next regular meeting of Members. A trustee who is the subject of removal proceedings shall be given fifteen days to respond to the Member petition in writing to the President.

9.7.5 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs, the Corporate Governance Committee will present a nominee to the Membership for consideration and election to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term at a special meeting of Members following 30 calendar days notice from the corporate

Secretary. The election will be held in accordance with Section 9.7.3 Term and Election of these Bylaws. The replacement trustee shall take office immediately upon election.

9.7.6 Meetings and Notice of Meetings

Regular Regional Entity Trustees' meetings will be scheduled in conjunction with the regularly scheduled SPP Board of Directors meetings, provided the meeting schedule may be adjusted for good cause and with sufficient notice, and additionally upon the call of the chair or upon concurrence of at least two trustees. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, all meetings will be open to any interested party. At least fifteen days' written notice shall be given by the chair to each trustee, the Board of Directors, and the Members Committee of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting, unless such notice is waived by the trustees. Telephone conference meetings may be called as appropriate by the chair with at least one-day prior notice. The chair shall grant any party's request to address the Regional Entity Trustees.

9.7.7 Chair

The Regional Entity Trustees shall elect from its membership a chair for a two-year term commencing upon election and continuing until the chair's duly elected successor takes office or until the chair's term as a trustee expires without re-election. The panel may elect to rotate the chair to the senior member of the panel when the initial, or subsequent, chair's term expires.

9.7.8 Quorum and Voting

Two trustees shall constitute a quorum of the Regional Entity Trustees necessary for a binding vote. Decisions of the Regional Entity Trustees require two affirmative votes. Trustees must be present at a meeting to vote; no votes by proxy are permitted. All Regional Entity Trustee decisions regarding the Regional Entity are final except as subject to oversight by the ERO and FERC.

9.7.9 Compensation of Regional Entity Trustees

Regional Entity Trustees shall receive compensation as recommended by the Corporate Governance Committee, and approved by the Membership submitted for approval as part of the ERO budget process. Trustees shall be reimbursed for actual expenses reasonably incurred or accrued in the performance of their duties.

9.7.10 Executive Session

Executive sessions (open only to Trustees and parties invited by the chair of the Regional Entity Trustees) shall be held as necessary upon agreement of the Regional Entity Trustees to safeguard confidentiality of sensitive information regarding employee, financial or legal matters, or confidential information related to compliance matters.

10.0 Amendments To These Bylaws, The Articles Of Incorporation, And Membership Agreement

Except for modifications to Section 4.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 5.0 COMMITTEES ADVISING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 8.7.5 LIMITATION ON FINANCIAL AND PENALTY OBLIGATIONS, Section 9.0 REGIONAL ENTITY FUNCTION, and Section 10.0 AMENDMENTS, these Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or added to by the Board of Directors only upon 30 days written notice to the Membership of the proposed modification(s). Approval of amendments to the Bylaws by the Board of Directors must be by an affirmative vote of a majority plus one of directors. Sections 4.0, 5.0, 8.7.5, 9.0, and 10.0 of these Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation may be amended, repealed, or added to only by approval of the Membership. Provided, that all changes to Federal Power Marketing agency/administration representation in Section 5.1.1 and any change to Section 8.7.5 must be mutually agreed to by the Federal Power Marketing Agency Member and SPP. All amendments are subject to the requisite regulatory approval(s).

11.0 Effective Date And Transition Provisions

These Bylaws shall become effective the day following acceptance at FERC and remain in force thereafter as may be amended. These Bylaws hereby cancel and supersede SPP Bylaws; provided, that these Bylaws do not relieve any Member from any financial obligation incurred thereunder. Binding obligations entered into by authority of Officers or the Board of Directors, or the Regional Entity Trustees under these Bylaws are hereby assumed and confirmed as obligations of SPP under these Bylaws.

Exhibit C – Regional Standard Development Procedure

Exhibit C shall set forth the Regional Entity’s standards development procedure, which NERC agrees meets the following common attributes:

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 1

Proposed regional reliability standards shall be subject to approval by NERC, as the electric reliability organization, and by FERC before becoming mandatory and enforceable under Section 215 of the FPA [add reference to any applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico]. No regional reliability standard shall be effective within the SPP area unless filed by NERC with FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico] and approved by FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico].

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 2

SPP regional reliability standards shall provide for as much uniformity as possible with reliability standards across the interconnected bulk power system of the North American continent. An SPP reliability standard shall be more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the continent-wide reliability standard does not, or shall be a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the bulk power system. A regional reliability standard that satisfies the statutory and regulatory criteria for approval of proposed North American reliability standards, and that is more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, would generally be acceptable.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 3

SPP regional reliability standards, when approved by FERC, shall be made part of the body of NERC reliability standards and shall be enforced upon all applicable bulk power system owners, operators, and users within the SPP area, regardless of membership in the region.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 4

Requester — The requester is the sponsor of the regional reliability standard request and may assist in the development of the standard. Any member of SPP or group within SPP shall be allowed to request that a regional reliability standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn. Additionally, any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) that is directly and materially affected by the reliability of the bulk power system in the SPP area shall be allowed to request a regional reliability standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 5

[Standards or other named] committee — The SPP [standards] committee manages the standards development process. The [standards] committee will consider which requests for new or revised standards shall be assigned for development (or existing standards considered for deletion). The [standards] committee will advise the SPP board on standards presented for adoption.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 6

[Alternative 6B: For a Regional Entity that chooses to vote using a balanced ballot body of stakeholders.]

Registered ballot body — The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that qualify for one of the stakeholder segments; are registered with SPP as potential ballot participants in the voting on standards; and are current with any designated fees. Each member of the registered ballot body is eligible to vote on standards. [Each standard action has its own ballot pool formed of interested members of the registered ballot body. Each ballot pool comprises those members of the registered ballot body that respond to a pre-ballot survey for that particular standard action indicating their desire to participate in such a ballot pool.] The representation model of the registered ballot body is provided in Appendix A.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 7

SPP will coordinate with NERC such that the acknowledgement of receipt of a standard request identified in step 1, notice of comment posting period identified in step 4, and notice for vote identified in step 5 below are concurrently posted on both the SPP and NERC websites.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 8

An acceptable standard request shall contain a description of the proposed regional reliability standard subject matter containing sufficiently descriptive detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information of the proposed standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 9

Within [no greater than 60] days of receipt of a completed standard request, the [standards] committee shall determine the disposition of the standard request.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 10

The [standards] committee may take one of the following actions:

- Accept the standard request as a candidate for development of a new standard, revision of an existing standard, or deletion of an existing standard. The [standards] committee may, at its discretion, expand or narrow the scope of the standard request under consideration. The [standards] committee shall prioritize the development of standard in relation to other proposed standards, as may be required based on the volume of requests and resources.

- Reject the standard request. If the [standards] committee rejects a standard request, a written explanation for rejection will be delivered to the requester within [no greater than 30] days of the decision.

- Remand the standard request back to the requester for additional work. The standards process manager will make reasonable efforts to assist the requester in addressing the deficiencies identified by the [standards] committee. The requester may then resubmit the modified standard request using the process above. The requester may choose to withdraw the standard request from further consideration prior to acceptance by the [standards] committee.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 11

Any standard request that is accepted by the [standards] committee for development of a standard (or modification or deletion of an existing standard) shall be posted for public viewing on the SPP website within [no greater than 30] days of acceptance by the committee.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 12

The standards process manager shall submit the proposed members of the drafting team to the [standards] committee. The [standards] committee shall approve the drafting team membership within 60 days of accepting a standard request for development, modifying the recommendations of the standards process manager as the committee deems appropriate, and assign development of the proposed standard to the drafting team.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 13

At the direction from the [standards] committee, the standards process manager shall facilitate the posting of the draft standard on the SPP website, along with a draft implementation plan and supporting documents, for a no less than a [30]-day comment period. The standards process manager shall provide notice to SPP stakeholders and other potentially interested entities, both within and outside of the SPP area, of the posting using communication procedures then currently in effect or by other means as deemed appropriate.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 14

The drafting team shall prepare a summary of the comments received and the changes made to the proposed standard as a result of these comments. The drafting team shall summarize comments that were rejected by the drafting team and the reason(s) that these comments were rejected, in part or whole. The summary, along with a response to each comment received will be posted on the SPP website no later than the next posting of the proposed standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 15

Upon recommendation of the drafting team, and if the [standards] committee concurs that all of the requirements for development of the standard have been met, the standards process manager shall post the proposed standard and implementation plan for ballot and shall announce the vote to approve the standard, including when the vote will be conducted and the method for voting. Once the notice for a vote has been issued, no substantive modifications may be made to the proposed standard unless the revisions are posted and a new notice of the vote is issued.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 16

The standards process manager shall schedule a vote by the SPP [registered ballot body/[standards] committee]. The vote shall commence no sooner than [15] days and no later than [30] days following the issuance of the notice for the vote.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 17

[Alternative 17B: For an RE that chooses to vote using a balanced ballot body of stakeholders.]

The SPP registered ballot body shall be able to vote on the proposed standard during a period of [not less than 10] days.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 18

[Alternative 18B: For an RE that chooses to vote using a balanced ballot body of stakeholders.]

All members of SPP are eligible to participate in voting on proposed new standards, standard revisions or standard deletions. [Alternatively: Each standard action requires formation of a ballot pool of interested members of the registered ballot body.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 19

[Alternative 19B: For an RE that chooses to vote using a balanced ballot body of stakeholders.]

Approval of the proposed regional reliability standard shall require a [two thirds] majority in the affirmative (affirmative votes divided by the sum of affirmative and negative votes). Abstentions and non-responses shall not count toward the results, except that abstentions may be used in the determination of a quorum. A quorum shall mean [XX%] of the members of the [registered ballot body/ballot pool] submitted a ballot.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 20

Under no circumstances may the board substantively modify the proposed regional reliability standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 21

Once a regional reliability standard is approved by the board, the standard will be submitted to NERC for approval and filing with FERC [and applicable authorities in Canada and Mexico.]

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 22

- **Open** - Participation in the development of a regional reliability standard shall be open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by the SPP bulk power system reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in SPP, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of drafting teams shall be open to the SPP members and others.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 23

- **Balanced** – The SPP standards development process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests and shall not be dominated by any two interest categories and no single interest category shall be able to defeat a matter.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 24

- **Inclusive** — Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the bulk power system in the SPP

area shall have a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, and c) having the right to appeal.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 25

- **Fair due process** — The regional reliability standards development procedure shall provide for reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At a minimum, the procedure shall include public notice of the intent to develop a standard, a public comment period on the proposed standard, due consideration of those public comments, and a ballot of interested stakeholders.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 26

- **Transparent** — All actions material to the development of regional reliability standards shall be transparent. All standards development meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the regional entity's Web site.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 27

- Does not unnecessarily delay development of the proposed reliability standard.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 28

Each standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that each standard serves a purpose in support of the reliability of the regional bulk power system. Each standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 29

While reliability standards are intended to promote reliability, they must at the same time accommodate competitive electricity markets. Reliability is a necessity for electricity markets, and robust electricity markets can support reliability. Recognizing that bulk power system reliability and electricity markets are inseparable and mutually interdependent, all regional reliability standards shall be consistent with NERC's market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure that standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 30

To ensure uniformity of regional reliability standards, a regional reliability standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of the procedure. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of standards. This discipline is necessary to achieving standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 31

All mandatory requirements of a regional reliability standard shall be within the standard. Supporting documents to aid in the implementation of a standard may be referenced by the standard but are not part of the standard itself.

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 32

Applicability	Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions. If not applicable to the entire SPP area, then a clear identification of the portion of the bulk power system to which the standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.
----------------------	---

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 33

Measure(s)	Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measures. Measures are used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measure will identify to whom the measure applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required demonstrating compliance. Each measure shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. It is important to realize that measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measure should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirement(s) to which it applies.
-------------------	--

COMMON ATTRIBUTE 34

<p>Compliance Monitoring Process</p>	<p>Defines for each measure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The specific data or information that is required to measure performance or outcomes.• The entity that is responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes.• The process that will be used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes.• The entity that is responsible for evaluating data or information to assess performance or outcomes.• The time period in which performance or outcomes is measured, evaluated, and then reset.• Measurement data retention requirements and assignment of responsibility for data archiving.
---	---



**SPP RE Regional Reliability
Standards Development Process
Manual**

January 31, 2014



Table of Contents

- I. Introduction2**
- II. Background3**
- III. Regional Reliability Standard Definition, Characteristics, and Elements4**
 - A. Definition of a Regional Reliability Standard.....4
 - B. Definition of SPP Criteria4
 - C. Characteristics of a Regional Reliability Standard4
 - D. Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard5
- IV. Roles in the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process8**
- V. SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process10**
 - A. Assumptions and Prerequisites 10
 - B. SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps 11
 - Step 1 – Request to Develop, Revise or Retire a SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard 11
 - Step 2 – Notification to Regional Entity Trustees & Public Notice..... 11
 - Step 3 –Standard Drafting Team Formation 12
 - Step 4 – Scoping and Drafting 12
 - Step 5 – Post Draft for 30 Day Public Comments..... 13
 - Step 6 – Open Voting..... 14
 - Step 7 – Prepare Consensus Draft & Minority Report..... 18
 - Step 8 – Post Draft Standard for Action on the MOPC Agenda 19
 - Step 9 – MOPC Review 19
 - Step 10 – SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee Review 19
 - Step 11 –Presentation to SPP RE Trustees..... 20
 - Step 12 – SPP RE Trustees Action..... 20
 - Step 13 – Submit to NERC for Approval as SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard 21
 - C. Filing of Regional Reliability Standards with Regulatory Agencies..... 21
- Appendix A22**
 - I. Maintenance of SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Manual22
 - II. Appeals 22
- Appendix B: SPP Regional Standard Request Form23**
- Appendix C: SPP Regional Standard Request Comment Form25**
- Appendix D: SPP Standards Development Procedure.....26**

I. Introduction

This Manual defines the fair and open process for adoption, approval, revision, reaffirmation, and deletion of a Regional Reliability Standard by Southwest Power Pool (SPP), a Regional Entity (RE). Regional Reliability Standards provide for the reliable regional and sub-regional planning and operation of the Bulk Electric System (BES), consistent with Good Utility Practice within an RE's geographical footprint.

Due process is the key to ensuring Reliability Standards are developed in an environment that is equitable, accessible and responsive to the requirements of all interested and affected parties. An open and fair process ensures that all interested and affected parties have an opportunity to participate in a Regional Reliability Standard's development.

Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO (Regional Transmission Organization) region has a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, c) voting on a proposed Regional Reliability Standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and d) having the right to appeal.

II. Background

An RE may develop, through its own processes, separate Regional Standards that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC Reliability Standards, or otherwise address issues that are not addressed in NERC Reliability Standards.

NERC Reliability Standards and the RE's Regional Standards are all to be included within the RE's Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program.

SPP RE's Regional Reliability Standards are developed consistent with the following philosophies and according to the process defined in this Manual:

- A fair and open process that provides an opportunity for all interested parties to participate;
- Avoid any impact on commerce that is not necessary for reliability;
- Provide a level of BES reliability that is adequate to protect public health, safety, welfare, and national security and does not have a significant adverse impact on reliability; and
- A justifiable difference between regions or between sub-regions within the regional geographic area.

The NERC Board of Trustees has adopted reliability principles and market interface principles to define the purpose, scope, and nature of Reliability Standards. These principles are fundamental to reliability and the market interface, and provide a constant beacon to guide the development of Reliability Standards. The NERC Board of Trustees may modify these principles from time to time, as necessary, to adapt its vision for Reliability Standards. Persons and committees that are responsible for the RE Regional Reliability Standards process shall consider these NERC principles in the execution of those duties.

NERC Reliability Standards are based on certain reliability principles that define the foundation of reliability for the North American BES. Each Reliability Standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring it serves a purpose in support of reliability of the North American BES. Each Reliability Standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring no Reliability Standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

While NERC Reliability Standards are intended to promote reliability, they must at the same time accommodate competitive electricity markets. Reliability is a necessity for electricity markets, and robust electricity markets can support reliability. Recognizing that BES reliability and electricity markets are inseparable and mutually interdependent, all Reliability Standards shall be consistent with the market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure Reliability Standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

III. Regional Reliability Standard Definition, Characteristics, and Elements

A. Definition of a Regional Reliability Standard

A NERC Reliability Standard defines certain obligations or requirements of entities that operate, plan, and use the BES of North America. The obligations or requirements must be material to reliability and measurable. Each obligation and requirement shall support one or more of the stated reliability principles and shall be consistent with all of the stated reliability and market interface principles in the NERC Standards Processes Manual.

SPP RE may develop, through the process described in this Manual, separate SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC Reliability Standards, or that cover matters not addressed in NERC Reliability Standards. SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards may be developed and exist separately from NERC Reliability Standards, or may be proposed as NERC Reliability Standards.

SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards that exist separately from NERC Reliability Standards shall be more stringent than a NERC Reliability Standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the NERC Reliability Standard does not, or shall be based on a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the BES. SPP Regional Reliability Standards, if approved by the SPP RE Trustees, are forwarded to NERC for review and approval and submitted to FERC for approval.

B. Definition of SPP Criteria

SPP Criteria are requirements used by SPP members for purposes others than those specified for SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards. SPP Criteria are enforceable only under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement. SPP Criteria may be developed in accordance with SPP Bylaws outside the process described within this Manual, since these Criteria are not intended to be used by the SPP Regional Entity for compliance and enforcement under its authority delegated by the *NERC–SPP Regional Delegation Agreement*.

C. Characteristics of a Regional Reliability Standard

SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards define obligations or requirements for the operation and planning of interconnected systems and market interface practices that will be enforceable under SPP RE's authority. The format and process defined by this Manual applies to all SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards.

A Regional Standard shall have the following characteristics:

- **Material to Reliability** - A Regional Reliability Standard shall be material to the reliability of the BES of the RE's region. If the reliability of the BES could be compromised without a particular Regional Reliability Standard or by a failure to comply with that Regional Reliability Standard, the Regional Reliability Standard is material to reliability.

- **Measurable** – A Regional Reliability Standard shall establish technical or performance requirements that can be practically measured.
- **Relative to NERC Reliability Standards** - A Regional Reliability Standard must go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC Reliability Standards, or cover matters not addressed in NERC Reliability Standards.

D. Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

A Regional Reliability Standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of this Manual. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of Regional Reliability Standards. This discipline is necessary to achieve Regional Reliability Standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent. The format allows a clear statement of the purpose, requirements, measures, and penalties for non-compliance associated with each Regional Reliability Standard. Supporting documents to aid in the implementation of a Regional Reliability Standard may be referenced by the Regional Reliability Standard but are not part of the Regional Reliability Standard itself. All mandatory requirements of a Regional Reliability Standard shall be within an element of the Regional Reliability Standard.

Performance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

Identification Number	A unique identification number assigned in accordance with an administrative classification system to facilitate tracking and reference RE documentation. Format for Regional Standard Request will be: RSR-000.
Title	A brief, descriptive phrase identifying the topic of the Regional Reliability Standard.
Effective Date and Status	The effective date of the Regional Reliability Standard or, prior to adoption of the Regional Reliability Standard by the RE through its own processes, the proposed effective date. The status of the Regional Reliability Standard will be indicated as active or by reference to one of the numbered steps in the RE’s Regional Reliability Standards development process.
Purpose	The purpose of the Regional Reliability Standard. The purpose shall explicitly state what outcome will be achieved or is expected by this Regional Reliability Standard. The purpose is agreed to early in the process as a step toward obtaining approval to proceed with the development of the Regional Reliability Standard. The purpose should link the Regional Reliability Standard to the relevant principle(s).
Requirement(s)	Explicitly stated technical, performance, and preparedness requirements. Each requirement identifies the responsible entity and the action to be performed or outcome to be achieved. Each statement in the requirements section shall be a statement for which compliance is mandatory. Any additional comments or statements for which compliance is not mandatory, such as background or explanatory information, should be placed in a separate document and referenced. (See <i>Supporting Information</i> below).
Applicability	Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions. If not applicable to the entire SPP area, there should be a clear identification of the portion of the BES to which the

	<p>standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the Regional Reliability Standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.</p>
<p>Risk Factor(s)</p>	<p>The potential reliability significance of each requirement, designated as a High, Medium, or Lower Risk Factor in accordance with the criteria listed below:</p> <p>A High Risk Factor requirement (a) is one that, if violated, could directly cause or contribute to BES instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the BES at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could - under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations - directly cause or contribute to BES instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures; or could place the BES at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures; or could hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Medium Risk Factor requirement (a) is a requirement that, if violated, could directly affect the electrical state or the capability of the BES, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the BES, but is unlikely to lead to BES instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could - under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations - directly affect the electrical state or capability of the BES or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the BES, but is unlikely - under emergency, abnormal, or restoration conditions anticipated by the preparations - to lead to BES instability, separation, or cascading failures, nor to hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Lower Risk Factor requirement is administrative in nature and (a) is a requirement that, if violated, would not be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the BES or the ability to effectively monitor and control the BES; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, would not, under the emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the BES or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the BES.</p>

<p>Measure(s)</p>	<p>Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measurements. Measurements will be used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measurement identifies to whom the measurement applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required to demonstrate compliance. Each measurement shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. Measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measures should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirements(s) to which it applies.</p>
--------------------------	---

Compliance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

<p>Compliance Monitoring Process</p>	<p>The following compliance elements, which are part of the Regional Reliability Standard and are balloted with the Regional Reliability Standard, are developed for each measure by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the standard drafting team (SDT):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific data or information required to measure performance or outcomes. • Entity responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes. • Process used to evaluate data or information for assessing performance or outcomes. • Entity responsible for evaluating data or information to assess performance or outcomes. • Time period in which performance or outcomes is measured, evaluated, and then reset. • Measurement data retention requirements and assignment of responsibility for data archiving.
<p>Violation Severity Levels</p>	<p>Defines the degree to which compliance with a requirement was not achieved. The violation severity levels are part of the Regional Reliability Standard and are balloted with the Regional Reliability Standard, and are developed by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the SDT.</p>

Supporting Information Elements

<p>Interpretations</p>	<p>Formally approved interpretations of the Regional Reliability Standard. Interpretations are temporary, as the standard should be revised to incorporate the interpretation. Interpretations are developed and approved through the Regional Reliability Standards Process steps outlined in Section V., Part B of this Manual.</p>
<p>Implementation Plan</p>	<p>Each Regional Reliability Standard shall have an associated implementation plan describing the effective date of the Regional Reliability Standard or effective dates if there is a phased implementation. The implementation plan may also describe the implementation of the Regional Reliability Standard in the compliance program and other considerations in the initial use of the Regional Reliability Standard, such as necessary tools, training, etc. The implementation plan must be posted for at least one public comment period and is approved as part of the ballot of the Regional Reliability Standard.</p>
<p>Supporting References</p>	<p>This section references related documents that support reasons for, or otherwise provide additional information related to, the Regional Reliability Standard. Examples include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development history of the Regional Reliability Standard and prior versions • Notes pertaining to implementation or compliance • Regional Reliability Standard references • Regional Reliability Standard supplements • Procedures • Practices • Training references • Technical references • White papers • Internet links to related information

IV. Roles in the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region shall be allowed to request a SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard be developed, modified, or retired.

Originator - Any entity (person, organization, company, governmental agency, individual, etc.) within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region is allowed to request a SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard be developed or an existing SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard be modified or retired.

Registered ballot body - The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that qualify for one of the voting segments and are registered with SPP RE as a ballot participant to vote on a proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. Membership in SPP is not a requirement for registration. Registration in a ballot body must be completed by close of business the day before voting begins on the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard action. Each SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard action has its own registered ballot body. The representation model of the registered ballot body is provided in *Sec V. Part B. (Step 6 – Open Voting)*. The outcome of the vote of the registered ballot body is forwarded to the SPP RE Trustees regardless of advisory voting outcomes at the MOPC or SPP Board level.

SPP Regional Entity Trustees (SPP RE Trustees) – The SPP RE Trustees shall act on any proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard that has gone through the process contained in this Manual. Upon approval by the SPP RE Trustees, the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard will be submitted to NERC for approval. SPP RE Trustees are notified of all proposed SPP Regional Reliability Standards requests and receive progress reports from SPP RE staff. They also receive notice of the outcome of votes by the ballot body and any advisory recommendations and reports on proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards made by the Standards Drafting Team (SDT), Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) and SPP Board.

Regional Entity Staff (RE staff) – SPP RE staff shall support the SPP RE Trustees in their oversight authority over the Regional Reliability Standard Development and any other function or responsibility ascribed to them in the *NERC- SPP Delegation Agreement*.

SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) – If accepted in Step 1, the MOPC will assign SPP RE Regional Standards requests to a SDT for development, revision, or retirement.

SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee (BOD/MC) – The BOD/MC provide advisory votes to the SPP RE Trustees on reliability matters as they pertain to SPP RE. The BOD/MC votes on proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards or changes to SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards for the sole purpose of providing an additional stakeholder forum for review and valuable input to the SPP RE Trustees’ decision on a SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, based on the BOD/MC’s expertise on reliability, operations, and market matters, as well as its wide diverse representation of the SPP membership.

Compliance Director – The SPP RE staff responsible for the administration of the SPP RE Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program. This staff member’s duties include but are not

limited to providing inputs and comments during the SPP Regional Reliability Standards development process to ensure the measures will be effective and can be practically implemented.

Standard Drafting Team (SDT) – An SDT is comprised of technical experts that work cooperatively in the development and modification of SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards in accordance with the processes defined in this Manual. Any interested party may participate in meetings and provide input and comments on the proposed SPP RE Regional Standard under provisions of the SPP RE Regional Standards Development Process Manual. However, only SDT members may vote on SDT actions and decisions outside of the open voting process (*Step 6*).

V. SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

A. Assumptions and Prerequisites

The process for developing and approving SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards is similar to procedures accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), like that employed by the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB). The SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards development process has the following characteristics:

- **Inclusive** - Any entity representing an organization in the SPP RE or SPP RTO region has a right to participate by:
 - a) Expressing an opinion and its basis,
 - b) Having that position considered,
 - c) Voting on a proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and
 - d) Appealing any negative decision

- **Openness** - Participation is open to all entities that are within the SPP RE or RTO region. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in SPP or registration with SPP RE, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of SDTs are open to all interested parties and are noticed on the public SPP website at least seven days in advance. Since pre-existing SPP committees, working groups, or task forces may serve as the base for a SDT, the agenda for these organizational group meetings will note that an SDT activity is being undertaken to distinguish such activity from other non-SDT related agenda items. The openness provisions of this Manual apply only and explicitly to the SDT activities. Meetings of subcommittees and working groups serving as a SDT shall follow the SPP Bylaws Sec 3.5 Meetings.

- **Balance** - The SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests. The process prevents any two voting sectors from dominating voting outcomes and no single voting sectors from defeating a proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability standard.

- **Due Process** – The SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process provides reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At a minimum, the procedure shall include public notice of the intent to develop a standard, a public comment period on the proposed standard, due consideration of those public comments, and a ballot of interested stakeholders.

Transparent – All actions material to the development of an SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard shall be transparent. All SDT meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the public SPP website.

SPP RE staff will communicate about SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards under development using the customary communication procedures and processes then in place, including but not limited to: posting documents to the public SPP website, publishing newsletter articles, making announcements at SPP organizational group meetings, and sending notifications to SPP public email exploder lists such as the MOPC, Board of Directors, RE Trustees, and RE Standards Development lists. Interested parties may subscribe to public exploder lists via the SPP public website or by contacting the SPP customer relations department.

B. SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps

Notes: The term “days” below refers to calendar days. The following process steps apply to developing, revising, or retiring an SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard.

Step 1 – Request to Develop, Revise or Retire a SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard

Any entity within the geographical footprint of SPP RE or SPP RTO region may submit a request to the MOPC for the development, modification, or deletion of a SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. Any such request shall be submitted to the MOPC Chairman, or his/her designee, or by another process as otherwise posted on the public SPP website. The request should be made using the SPP RE Regional Standard Request Form (RSR) in Appendix B.

The MOPC or a designee will work with the Originator to develop a description of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard’s subject matter containing sufficient detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information related to the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. Following the development of a request, the MOPC may take one of the following actions:

- Remand the request back to the Originator for additional work and information.
- Accept the request as a candidate for a new or revised regional standard.
- Reject the request. If the MOPC rejects a request, it will provide a written explanation for rejection to the Originator and the RE Trustees within 30 days of the rejection decision.

If rejected by MOPC, the RE Trustees may accept MOPC’s decision or move it forward for consideration (Step 2).

Step 2 – Notification to Regional Entity Trustees & Public Notice

Once accepted as a candidate for a new or revised SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, the Chairman of the MOPC or his/her designee will forward the request to the SPP RE Trustees. SPP RE staff will post the request on the public SPP website for public notice and may utilize any customary communication procedures then in effect. The request is not to be judged as appropriate or useful at this stage.

Step 3 –Standard Drafting Team Formation

For each new SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard request, MOPC will use the customary communication procedures and processes then in effect to request that interested parties who wish to serve on the SDT submit their names and qualifications to MOPC. The request will also be posted on the public SPP website. MOPC will establish a 30-day window for submittal of nominations. MOPC will then appoint to the SDT individuals with the necessary technical expertise. SDT membership shall not be conditioned upon membership in SPP or registration with SPP RE. If the open nominations process does not solicit enough SDT members, MOPC may assign the request to an existing working group.

The MOPC's assignment to the SDT will include any necessary deadlines and due dates for the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard.

Any documentation of the deliberations of the SDT concerning the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard shall be made available in accordance with the SPP Bylaws requirements for meeting and organizational groups then in effect. Meetings of the SDT are open to any interested party, but only SDT members may vote on SDT actions and decisions outside of the open voting process (*Step 6*). Meeting dates and actions on the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard are publicly noticed on the public SPP website.

The SDT shall provide a report to the SPP RE Trustees and the MOPC on a periodic basis (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) noting the status of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard that has been assigned to it for consideration.

Step 4 – Scoping and Drafting

The SDT will draft the language of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard per the description provided by the MOPC and the Originator. The SDT may recommend changes to the scope, purpose, need or other relevant aspects of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, including termination of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, through consultation with the MOPC.

The SDT will develop a work plan for completing the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard development work, including the establishment of milestones for completing critical elements of the work in sufficient detail to ensure that the SDT will meet the date objective in the assignment, or an alternative date. This plan will be provided to the SPP RE Trustees and the MOPC.

The SDT may meet in person or via electronic means as necessary, may establish sub-work teams (made up of members of the SDT) as necessary, and may perform other activities to address the parameters of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and the established milestone date(s).

The SDT should consider:

- The impact of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard on neighboring regions and seek appropriate input from the neighboring regions if the proposed SPP RE Regional

Reliability Standard is determined to have such an impact.

- An implementation plan, including the nature, extent and duration of field-testing, if any.
- The need for any existing proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard to be retired, in part or whole, or otherwise impacted by the implementation of the draft proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard.
- Technical reports, white papers and/or work papers that provide technical support for the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard under consideration.
- Documenting the perceived reliability impact should the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard be approved.

The SDT will regularly (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) report to the SPP RE Trustees and the MOPC on its progress in meeting a timely completion of the draft proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. The SDT may request consideration of scope changes or termination of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard at any point in the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard development process.

The SPP RE Trustees or the MOPC may at any time direct the SDT move to *Step 5-Public Comments* and post for comment the current work product, or terminate activity if there is no further need for the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. If the activity is terminated, SPP RE staff will notify the Originator and the SPP RE Trustees within 30 days.

If there are competing drafts, all will be posted on the public SPP website for comment. The MOPC may take this step at any time after a SDT has been commissioned to develop the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard.

For proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards in progress, the MOPC must take action to move to *Step 5-Public Comments* or reject the proposal. If the MOPC votes to terminate the activity, the SPP RE Trustees must be notified with supporting reasons provided to them. The proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard would then go directly to *Step 12 – SPP RE Trustees Action*.

Step 5 – Post Draft for 30 Day Public Comments

SPP RE staff will post the draft of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard on the public SPP website, along with any supporting documents, for a 30-day comment period. SPP RE staff shall also inform Registered Entities and other potentially interested stakeholders of the posting using the customary communication procedures and processes then in effect. Comments may be submitted using the RSR Comment Form in Appendix B, also available on the public SPP website.

Within 30 days of the conclusion of the 30-day comment period, the SDT shall convene and consider the written views and objections of all participants as they relate to the draft proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, the implementation plan, and/or supporting technical documents. The SDT shall prepare a summary of the comments received and any changes made as a result of the comments. The summary, along with a response to each comment received, will be posted on the SPP website no later than the next posting of the proposed standard. Following its consideration of

comments, the SDT may elect to return to Step 4 *Scoping and Drafting* to further revise the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and/or any supporting documentation.

Step 6 – Open Voting

The SDT shall direct SPP RE staff to post the revised draft proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and other relevant documents, including but not limited to, the implementation plan, supporting technical documentation, and summary of comments.

First Ballot

SPP RE staff will schedule a vote by interested parties to commence no sooner than 15 days and no later than 30 days following the posting of the revised draft. Ballot body registration will begin the day the revised draft is posted. Interested parties may register for the ballot body over a period of 15 days. The 15-day ballot body registration will be followed by a 15-day voting period. SPP RE staff will use the customary communication procedures and processes then in effect to notify interested parties of the ballot body registration period and the voting period and will post the notification on the public SPP website.

Votes must be submitted by close of business on the final day of the voting period. Voting will be through electronic means or other means provided by SPP.

SPP Segment Weighted Voting

Entities within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region may participate in the voting process. To vote on a proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, an entity must register in a ballot body created for that specific draft of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. Registration must be submitted by close of business on the final day of the ballot body registration period. The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that qualify for one of the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards segments and are registered with SPP RE as a ballot body participant. A registered ballot body participant cannot change segments during a balloting period once the participant has cast a vote or designated a proxy. When registering for a subsequent ballot(s) of the same proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, an entity cannot change the segment for which it previously registered.

The five SPP voting segments for Regional Reliability Standards are:

- 1) Transmission
- 2) Generation
- 3) Marketer/Broker
- 4) Distribution/Load Serving Entity
- 5) End User and Public Interest

Any entity that can meet any one of the segment qualifications below is entitled to register and vote in that segment. Only one vote per entity per segment is permitted. For purposes of SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard ballot body registration and voting, an entity is defined as an individual or organization that has a separate legal identity. Affiliates (subsidiary, parent, or sibling corporations) shall be treated as one entity except in instances where the affiliates are separately registered in the NERC Compliance Registry, in which case the affiliates may be treated as separate

entities. Entities registered in multiple regions will not be able to register on behalf of more than one regional registration.

The segment qualifications are as follows (only one of the segment qualifications must be met):

1) Transmission

- a. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that owns and maintains transmission facilities
- b. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region responsible for the reliability of its local transmission system and operates or directs the operations of the transmission facilities
- c. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the reliability (adequacy) of the interconnected bulk electric transmission systems within its portion of the PA area
- d. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that administers the transmission tariff and provides transmission service to transmission customers under applicable transmission service agreements
- e. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that coordinates and integrates transmission facility and service plans, resource plans, and protection systems
- f. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that is responsible for the reliable operation of the BES, has the wide area view of the BES, and has the operating tools, processes and procedures, including the authority to prevent or mitigate emergency operating situations in both next-day analysis and real-time operations

2) Generation

- a. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that owns and maintains generating units, including variable and other renewable resources
- b. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that operates generating unit(s) and performs the functions of supplying energy and interconnected operations services
- c. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that integrates resource plans ahead of time, maintains load-interchange-generation balance within a BA area, and supports Interconnection frequency in real-time
- d. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that authorizes implementation of valid and balanced Interchange Schedules between Balancing Authority Areas, and ensures communication of Interchange information for reliability assessment purposes
- e. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that coordinates and integrates transmission facility and service plans, resource plans, and protection systems
- f. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that purchases or sells and takes title to energy, capacity, and interconnected operations services
- g. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that is responsible for the reliable operation of the BES, has the wide area view of the BES, and has the operating tools, processes and procedures, including the authority to prevent or mitigate emergency operating situations in both next-day analysis and real-time operations
- h. Any entity within the SPP RE or RTO region that develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the resource adequacy of specific loads (customer demand and energy requirements) within a planning authority area

3) Marketer/Broker

- a. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region serving end-use customers under a power marketing agreement or other authorization not classified as a regulated tariff
- b. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that buys, sells, or brokers energy and related services for resale in wholesale or retail markets, whether a non-jurisdictional entity operating within its charter or an entity licensed by a jurisdictional regulator
- c. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that is a Generation and Transmission (G&T) cooperative or joint-action agency that performs an electricity broker, aggregator, or marketer function
- d. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that is an agent or association that represents groups of electricity brokers, aggregators, or marketers
- e. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that is a demand-side management provider

4) Distribution/Load Serving Entity

- a. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that provides and operates the “wires” between the transmission system and the end-use customer
- b. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that secures energy and transmission service (and related interconnected operations services) to serve the electrical demand and energy requirements of its end-use customers
- c. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that purchases or sells and takes title to energy, capacity, and interconnected operations services

5) End User and Public Interest

- a. Any entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region with service delivery taken that is not purchased for resale
- b. Any governmental entity or agency within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region, including public utility commissions
- c. An entity within the SPP RE or SPP RTO region that qualifies for registration in another segment may not register in the End User/Public Interest segment. Any individual currently employed by an entity that is eligible to join one or more of the other segments shall not be qualified to join the End User/Public Interest segment.

SPP RE staff will accept votes any time during the 15-day ballot period for the draft proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. Votes must be submitted by close of business on the final day of the ballot period. Votes will be counted by voting segment. Each voting segment will receive 20% of the vote, unless there are less than five votes in the segment and then the segment vote will be adjusted as provided for below.

Criteria for Ballot Pool Approval

For a Regional Reliability Standard action to be approved by the ballot body and passed on for further consideration (*Step 8- Post Draft Standard for Action on the MOPC Agenda*) the following is required:

- A quorum of registered ballot body members, which is established by at least 75% of the members of the registered ballot body casting a ballot, whether that ballot is affirmative, negative, or an abstention. A quorum is not reached when 75% of the registered ballot body is equal to or less than three; and
- A two-thirds (66.67%) majority of the weighted segment votes cast shall be affirmative. The number of votes cast is the sum of affirmative and negative votes, excluding abstentions and non-responses.

The following process will be used to determine if there are sufficient affirmative votes for ballot body approval:

- For each segment with five or more votes, the number of affirmative votes shall be divided by the sum of affirmative and negative votes to determine the fractional vote for the segment. This resulting fractional percentage shall be carried forward to the combined total of affirmative votes for all segments; the negative votes shall be tallied in the same manner and shall be carried forward in the combined total of negative votes for all segments. Abstentions and non-responses shall not be counted in the segment's fractional affirmative or negative vote.
- For each segment with less than five votes, the segment's vote weight shall be proportionally reduced. Each affirmative or negative vote (excluding abstentions and non-responses) within that segment shall receive a weight of 20% of the segment vote (.20) within the appropriate vote column (affirmative or negative). The fractional sum total for each of the columns, affirmative and negative, shall be carried forward to the combined total of affirmative and negative votes for all segments.

The result of the total fractional sum of affirmative votes combined from all voting segments, divided by the total fractional sum of total affirmative and negative votes from all voting segments, shall be the percentage used to determine if the ballot has attained a two-thirds (66.67%) needed for ballot body approval of the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard action and to be moved on for further consideration.

If the vote fails to achieve the required two-third majority of those voting as provided for herein, the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard will be returned to the SDT for consideration for future action (*Step 4- Scoping and Drafting*). The SDT may revise the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, post the draft proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard again for comments, reballot the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, ask the SPP RE Trustees to terminate the request, or take any other action it deems appropriate.

In the event that the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard receives the required two-third majority of those voting but also receives negative votes with comments during the ballot period, those comments shall be addressed in accordance with *Step 5* and included with a re-circulation ballot.

Recirculation Ballot

In the recirculation ballot, members of the ballot body shall again be presented the proposed standard (unchanged from the first ballot) along with the reasons for negative votes, the SDT responses, and any resolution of the differences.

All members of the ballot body eligible to vote shall be permitted to reconsider and change their vote from the first ballot. Eligible voting members of the ballot body that did not respond to the first ballot shall be permitted to vote in the recirculation ballot. Only one vote will be accepted from each entity within a segment.

In the recirculation ballot, votes will be counted by exception only - members on the recirculation ballot may indicate a revision to their original vote, otherwise their vote shall remain the same as in the first ballot. If a recirculation ballot is conducted, the results of the recirculation ballot shall determine the status of the standard, regardless of the outcome of the first ballot.

The voting time window for the recirculation ballot is ten (10) days. The 15-day posting is not required for the recirculation ballot. Members of the ballot body may submit comments in the recirculation ballot but no response to those comments is required.

The SPP RE Trustees are notified of the outcome of the vote(s) and any actions taken by the SDT as a result of the vote(s). The SPP RE Trustees will determine any additional action to be taken. (*Step 12-SPP RE Trustees Action.*)

Step 7 – Prepare Consensus Draft & Minority Report

When a draft of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard is approved by the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard registered ballot body, the SDT will present the approved draft of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard (Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard) to SPP RE staff, the MOPC and the BOD/MC before final action by the SPP RE Trustees.

Minority Report and Appeals

A minority report will be prepared if there are issues not resolved by the SDT during the drafting phase (*Step 4*), from the public comments (*Step 5*) or from the open voting process (*Step 6*).

- The minority report will be prepared by SPP RE staff or in coordination with the SDT. SPP RE staff may work in conjunction with the dissenting parties to prepare the report.
- The minority report will include a summary of comments that were rejected by the SDT during the development of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and the reason(s) that these comments were rejected, in part or whole.
- A minority report will include any appeals from interested parties that the SPP RE Regional Standards Development Process Manual was violated in the development of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard.
- The minority report will remain a part of the record of the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and will be available to any interested party during any subsequent steps.

- The Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and any minority reports will be presented to the MOPC for its consideration and an advisory vote.

Step 8 – Post Draft Standard for Action on the MOPC Agenda

The Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard will be noticed for consideration on the MOPC agenda. The agenda materials will be made available per the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.5. If a Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard requires consideration by the MOPC prior to a regularly scheduled meeting, SPP RE staff will notify the MOPC Chairman, who will notice a special meeting in accordance with the SPP Bylaws.

Step 9 – MOPC Review

The MOPC will provide an advisory vote on the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard under the governance provisions of the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.9-Voting. If the MOPC opposes the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, the MOPC may request revision of the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard or termination of further activity on the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard. If the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard is terminated, notice will be provided to the SDT, SPP RE staff, and SPP RE Trustees for further action (*Step 12*). If further revision is requested by the MOPC, the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard will be remanded back to the SDT with comments from the MOPC.

The MOPC shall be provided:

- The Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)
- Technical documentation supporting the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the votes, including a Minority Report if applicable

If the MOPC concurs with the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard will proceed to the SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee for review (*Step 10-SPP RE Trustees Action*).

The SPP RE Trustees will be notified of the outcome of the MOPC review.

Step 10 – SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee Review

A Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard submitted to the SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee (BOD/MC) for review must be publicly posted at least seven days prior to consideration by the BOD/MC. The BOD/MC may consider the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting or as determined by the Chairman of the BOD/MC.

The BOD/MC shall be provided:

- The Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)
- Technical documentation supporting the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the votes, including a Minority Report if applicable
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any comments
- Any other information relevant to the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard

The BOD/MC will:

- Provide an advisory vote to the SPP RE Trustees on the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard (*Step 11- Presentation to SPP RE Trustees*); or
- Return the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard to the MOPC with comments

In the case of a second return of a proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard from the BOD/MC to MOPC, the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard will be forwarded to the SPP RE Trustees for action (*Step 12-SPP RE Trustees Action*).

Step 11 –Presentation to SPP RE Trustees

A Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard submitted to the SPP RE Trustees for action must be publicly posted at least seven days prior to consideration by the SPP RE Trustees.

The SPP RE Trustees shall be provided:

- The Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)
- Technical documentation supporting the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the vote including a Minority Report if applicable
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any associated comments
- The results of the BOD/MC advisory vote and any associated comments
- Any other information relevant to the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard

Step 12 – SPP RE Trustees Action

The SPP RE Trustees will:

- Recommend NERC approve the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard through the NERC process; or
- Remand the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard to the SDT through the MOPC with comments and instructions; or
- Determine there is no need for the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard and terminate any future activity.

The SPP RE Trustees may consider the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting, or as determined by the Chairman of the SPP RE Trustees.

If a Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard is forwarded to the SPP RE Trustees for action as a result of an opposing MOPC vote (*Step 9- MOPC Review*) or if automatically forwarded to them as a result of two or more returns by the MOPC or SPP BOD/MC (*Step 10- SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee Review*), the SPP RE Trustees will take definitive action, including initiating the process from *Step 4-Scoping and Drafting*. The SPP RE Trustees may not submit a proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard to NERC for approval without a positive outcome from open and balanced voting per *Step 6-Open Voting*.

Advisory votes of the MOPC and the BOD/MC do not impact the SPP RE Trustees' authority to submit a Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard to NERC. However, the SPP RE Trustees shall give full consideration to the results of the balloting and any dissenting opinions presented within the Minority Report or opinions of the MOPC and BOD/MC.

Step 13 – Submit to NERC for Approval as SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard

SPP RE staff will notify interested parties of submission of a Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard to NERC by the SPP RE Trustees through the customary communication procedures and processes then in effect. SPP RE staff will publicly notice any further steps necessary to have a Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard reviewed and/or approved through the NERC.

C. Filing of Regional Reliability Standards with Regulatory Agencies

The development of Regional Reliability Standards must be administered in coordination with NERC's Standards Development Processes. At the discretion of the NERC Board of Trustees, adopted Reliability Standards may be filed with applicable regulatory agencies in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Regional Reliability Standards, once approved by FERC, are made part of the NERC Reliability Standards and shall be enforced accordingly.

Appendix A

I. Maintenance of SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Manual

Any interested party may propose changes to this manual. Such manual change requests will follow all the steps of the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Process outlined in Section V, Part B of this manual.

II. Appeals

Persons who have directly and materially affected interests and who have been or will be adversely affected by any substantive or procedural action or inaction related to the development, approval, revision, reaffirmation, or retirement of a SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard shall have the right to appeal. This appeals process applies only to the SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Process as outlined in Section V, Part B of this Manual.

The burden of proof to show adverse effect shall be on the appellant. Appeals shall be made within 30 days of the date of the action purported to cause the adverse effect, except appeals for inaction, which may be made at any time. In all cases, the request for appeal must be made prior to the next step in the process.

The appeal will be addressed by the SPP RE Trustees. The appeal is included in a Minority Report of the Consensus Draft SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard, which remains a part of the record for the proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard throughout the SPP RE Regional Standards Development Process.

The SPP RE Trustee's final decisions of any appeal shall be documented in writing and made public.

A complaint will be noted in a Minority Report, including the substantive or procedural action or inaction associated with a proposed SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard or the SPP RE Regional Standards Development Process. The complaint should describe the actual or potential adverse impact to the appellant. The SPP RE Trustees will provide a written response to the complaint. The appellant's response to the SPP RE Trustees determination will be included in the Minority Report.

The SPP RE Trustees shall provide a response to any remaining open complaints.

Appendix B: SPP RE Regional Standard Request Form

RSR Number _____		RSR Title _____	
SPP RE Regional Reliability Standard Name (include Section No., Title, and existing Standard Version if any) _____			
Requested Resolution Date (if applicable) _____			
Description _____			
Reliability Need or Purpose – Try to identify if known: Technical requirements, reliability risk factor, measurements (refer to SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Manual for descriptions). _____			
Tariff Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes) _____			
Criteria Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes) _____			
NERC Standard Implications (Yes or No, and summary of impact) _____			

Sponsor _____

Name	
E-mail Address	
Company	
Company Address	
Phone Number	
Fax Number	

Proposed Regional Standard Language
--

Appendix C: SPP RE Regional Standard Request Comment Form

RSR Number _____	_____	RSR Title _____	_____
----------------------------	-------	---------------------------	-------

Date _____	_____
----------------------	-------

Submitter's Information	
Name _____	_____
E-mail Address _____	_____
Company _____	_____
Company Address _____	_____
Phone Number _____	_____
Fax Number _____	_____

Comment Form Instructions (please delete before submitting comments):

Comments are to be submitted electronically and are due by close of business of the comment due date. Please follow this file naming convention:
###PRR <Company Name> Comments<date>.doc.

Comments

Revised Regional Standard Language

Appendix D: SPP RE Regional Reliability Standards Development Procedure

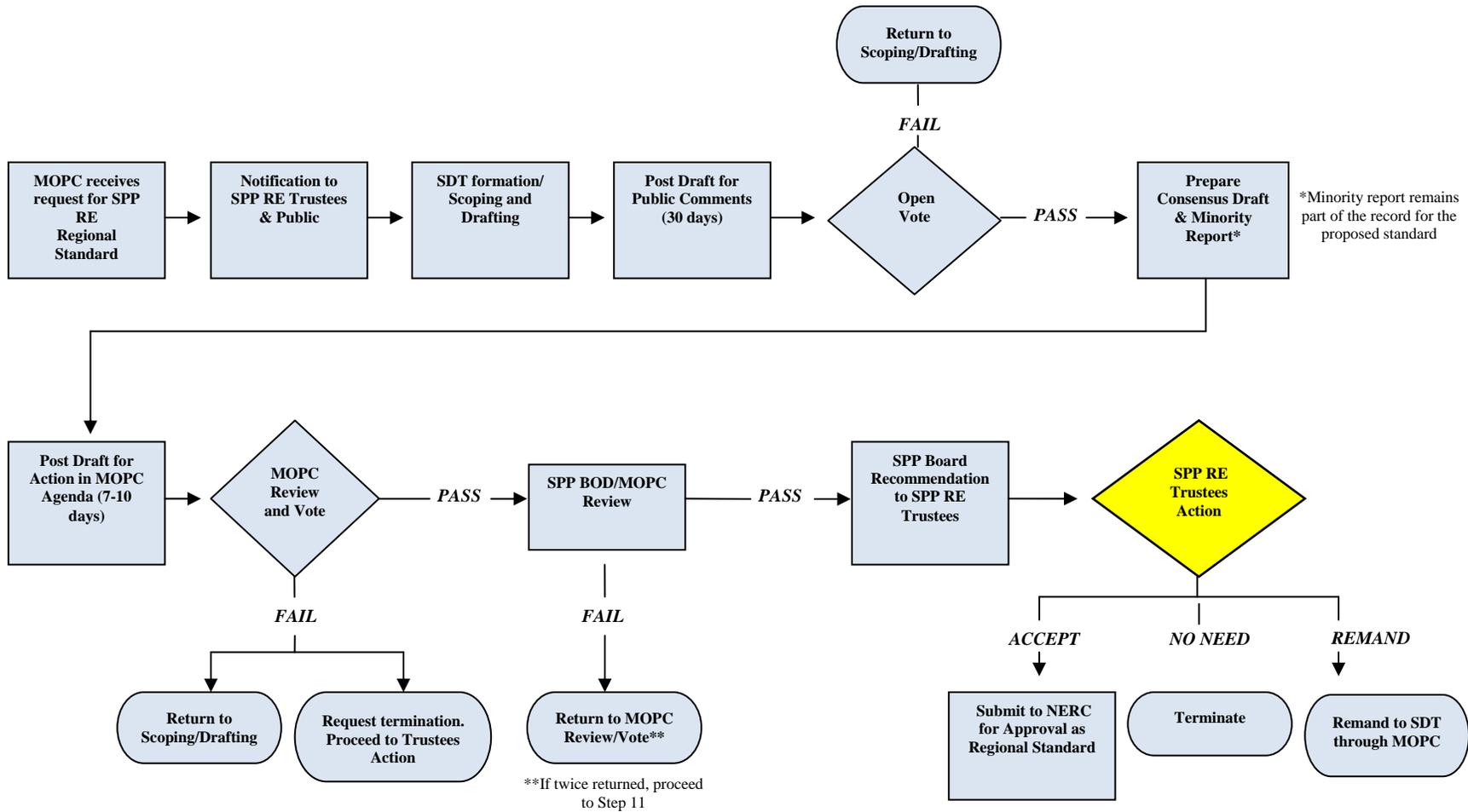


EXHIBIT D – COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

1.0 REGIONAL COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

SPP will implement the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program, Appendix 4C to the NERC Rules of Procedure (which for purposes of this section 1.0 shall not include Attachment 2, Hearing Procedures), to monitor and enforce compliance with Reliability Standards by the owners, operators, and users within **SPP's** geographic or electrical boundaries, and such other scope, set forth on **Exhibit A** of this Agreement.

2.0 REGIONAL HEARING OF COMPLIANCE MATTERS

SPP shall establish and maintain a hearing body with authority to conduct and render decisions in compliance hearings in which a Registered Entity may contest a finding of alleged violation, proposed penalty or sanction, or a proposed mitigation plan, which shall be either **SPP's** board or a balanced compliance panel reporting directly to **SPP's** board. **SPP's** hearing body is the SPP Regional Entity Trustees.

SPP shall conduct all compliance hearings in which a Registered Entity may contest a finding of alleged violation, proposed penalty or sanction, proposed Mitigation Plan, or a proposed Remedial Action Directive, in accordance with Attachment 2, Hearing Procedures, to the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program, subject to the following deviations, if any: None.

3.0 OTHER DECISION-MAKING BODIES

SPP has engaged the SERC Reliability Corporation (SERC) to oversee the compliance monitoring and enforcement responsibility within the SPP Region as related to **SPP's** compliance with Reliability Standards requirements that are applicable to the functions for which SPP is a Registered Entity.

Exhibit E — Funding

1. Scope of activities funded through the ERO funding mechanism

SPP shall include in its annual budget submission to NERC amounts for costs it will incur in performing its delegated functions and related activities as described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Agreement. These activities shall include:

- Reliability Standard Development
- Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement
- Organization Registration and Certification
- Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis (including necessary data gathering activities)
- Event Analysis and Reliability Improvement
- Training and Education
- Situation Awareness
- Infrastructure Security

2. Preparation of Annual Business Plan and Budget

- (a) NERC and SPP, in conjunction with the other Regional Entities, shall collaboratively develop an annual schedule for the development, submission, review and approval of SPP's business plan and budget. The annual schedule for the preparation of business plans and budgets shall require SPP (i) to submit to NERC draft(s) of SPP's proposed business plan and budget and other preliminary documents and information, and (ii) to submit a final proposed business plan and budget that has been approved by SPP Board of Trustees to NERC by July 1 or such other agreed date as provides sufficient time for NERC's review, approval and submission of SPP's business plan and budget to the Commission 130 days in advance of the beginning of each fiscal year. The SPP business plan and budget submission shall include supporting materials, including SPP's complete business plan and organization chart, explaining the proposed collection of all assessments, dues, fees and charges, and the proposed expenditure of the funds to be collected in sufficient detail to justify the requested budgeted expenditures and assessments. SPP's business plan and budget and proposed assessments shall provide for reasonable reserve mechanisms for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses and other contingencies, consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.
- (b) NERC shall review and approve SPP's proposed business plan and budget and proposed assessments for performing the delegated functions and related activities described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of this Agreement and listed above in Section 1 of this **Exhibit E**, or shall direct SPP to make such revisions as NERC deems appropriate prior to approval. NERC shall submit SPP's approved business plan and budget and proposed assessments to the Commission for

approval as part of NERC's overall business plan and budget submission, in accordance with the ERO Regulations.

3. Allocation of Costs

Assessments to fund the costs of SPP's delegated functions and related activities pursuant to the Agreement shall be allocated among all load-serving entities on the basis of Net Energy for Load, unless a different method(s) of allocating and calculating such assessments has been submitted to and approved by NERC and the Commission in accordance with Section 9(b) of the Agreement. SPP shall submit to NERC annually at the same time it submits its budget request a list of the load-serving entities or designees within its geographic boundaries that shall be responsible for paying SPP's assessment and the load-serving entities' proportionate Net Energy for Load, and such other data and information as is necessary to allocate and calculate the allocation of SPP's assessment to the load-serving entities or designees under the method(s) of allocation and calculation that will be used.

4. Collection of Funding

- (a) NERC shall submit invoices to the load-serving entities or designees identified by SPP covering the NERC and SPP assessments approved for collection.
- (b) NERC shall pursue any non-payments of assessment amounts and shall request assistance from ERO Governmental Authorities as necessary to secure collection. To the extent reasonably practicable, SPP shall assist NERC in pursuing and collecting any non-payments. Notwithstanding the foregoing, SPP is not responsible and does not assume any liability for recovering non-payments or underpayments of assessment amounts. NERC shall retain sole responsibility for recovering non-payments or underpayments of assessment amounts. NERC shall add the amount of any non-payments by end-users or designees within SPP's region, that are reasonably determined to be uncollectible, to NERC's assessments for a subsequent year with the amount of such non-payments to be allocated to end-users within SPP's region.
- (c) Upon approval by ERO Governmental Authorities of SPP's annual assessment to fund the costs of its delegated functions and related activities, NERC shall pay SPP's annual assessment to Regional Entity in four equal quarterly payments on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of the budget year.

5. Application of Penalties

Except as otherwise approved by the Commission, all penalty monies received by SPP, other than penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP, shall be applied as a general offset to SPP's budget requirements for U.S.-related activities under this Agreement for the subsequent fiscal year. Funds from financial penalties shall not be directly applied to any program maintained by the

investigating entity. Except as otherwise approved by the Commission, any penalty monies received from an operational function or division or affiliated entity of SPP shall be transmitted to or retained by NERC and shall be used by NERC as a general offset to NERC's budget for its activities as the ERO under the Act for the following year.

6. Budget and Funding for SPP's Non-Statutory Activities

In addition to its delegated functions and related activities as specified in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Agreement and in Section 1 of this **Exhibit E** (such delegated functions and activities referred to in this Section 6 as "statutory activities"), SPP performs the following other functions and activities (such other functions and activities being referred to in this Section 6 as "non-statutory activities"):

SPP's performs non-statutory activities as a Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO"). As a RTO, SPP is mandated by the Commission to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure, and competitive wholesale prices of electricity. In furtherance of this mandate, SPP's specific non-statutory activities are the following primary services:

1. **Tariff Administration:** Independent administration of the Open Access Transmission Tariff that provides one-stop shopping for regional transmission service with consistent rates and terms.
2. **Reliability Coordination:** SPP monitors power flow throughout our footprint. We anticipate problems and take preemptive action to mitigate operating limit violations. SPP coordinates regional response in emergency situations or blackouts.
3. **Regional Scheduling:** SPP ensures that the amount of power sent is coordinated and matched with power received. SPP's regional scheduling service reduces the number of entities with which SPP members and customers have to coordinate.
4. **Market Operations:** SPP administers an Energy Imbalance Marketplace, monitors resource/load balance and ensures that less expensive power is used to serve load before expensive power, all while ensuring system reliability is met.
5. **Expansion Planning:** SPP's planning process seeks to identify system limitations and develop transmission upgrades for increased capacity.
6. **Contract Services:** SPP provides reliability, tariff administration, and scheduling for non-members on a contract basis.

SPP shall employ the following methods and procedures to (i) keep its funding mechanisms for its statutory activities separate from its funding mechanisms for its non-statutory activities, and (ii) record the costs it incurs in the performance of its non-statutory functions separately from the costs it incurs in the performance of its statutory functions:

(i) Separation of funding sources for statutory activities and non-statutory activities. As a RTO, SPP is a public utility under the Federal Power Act, and is required to submit its budget to the Commission. The Commission already has approved SPP's RTO activities and has ordered that SPP's budgets be filed with the Commission.

SPP's non-statutory activities are funded separately from its Regional Entity statutory activities through the imposition of a Commission-approved Tariff Administration Fee charged by SPP to all load under the SPP Open Access Tariff, except for Contract Services activities, which are funded by contract fees. Additionally, SPP's members are assessed an annual membership fee.

SPP shall provide its budget for such non-statutory activities to NERC at the same time that SPP submits its annual budget to FERC. SPP agrees that no costs of non-statutory activities are to be included in the calculation of SPP's dues, fees, and other charges for its statutory activities.

As provided in section 4(c) of this Exhibit E, on a quarterly basis, NERC will pay SPP an amount equal to one-fourth of the current year approved annual funding amount for SPP's statutory activities. Upon receipt of payment from NERC, SPP will deposit these funds into an account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC pursuant to SPP's performance of statutory activities under the Delegation Agreement. On a monthly basis, all expenses incurred by SPP for statutory activities and for non-statutory activities are recorded and paid from the SPP operating account. Throughout the year, as expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities are paid from the SPP operating account, transfers are made from the account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC to the SPP operating account in the amounts of payments made for expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities. The RE General Manager shall have sole authority to approve all withdrawal of funds from the SPP Regional Entity bank account.

(ii) Separation of costs of statutory activities and non-statutory activities. All employees performing functions directly attributed to SPP's delegated responsibilities who also perform functions related to SPP's non-statutory activities will utilize a time tracking system to accurately reflect their time spent on statutory activities. Periodically, but no less frequently than annually, SPP will input the time associated with its direct function staff performing statutory activities into a cost calculation model. Specific, direct costs attributable to the direct function staff performing statutory activities are salary, SPP-paid medical insurance, Medicare and Social Security taxes, and other SPP-paid benefits. These costs are then combined with other directly assignable costs of statutory activities, such as travel, meetings, contractors, professional services, fees and expenses of Regional Entity independent trustees, and other direct administrative expenses, and reported on the NERC Statement of Activities.

In addition, an allocation of SPP overhead costs to statutory activities is calculated and the allocated overhead costs are recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities. These overhead costs are shared throughout the SPP organization and include costs for payroll and accounts payable processing, human resources and benefits management, accounting, information

technology, executive leadership, corporate affairs and communications, office costs and other support services and expenditures. This allocation is calculated using a standard hourly rate multiplied by the number of SPP staff hours spent directly performing SPP's statutory activities. The hourly rate for allocated overhead costs is developed using SPP's current year expenses, by separating SPP's shared services support costs which support all of SPP's functions (*i.e.*, the costs for the activities identified in the second sentence of this paragraph) from SPP's operational resource pool. The total indirect costs are then divided by estimated total annual available work hours for SPP's operational resource pool. The average annual employee utilization rate assumes each employee works an eight-hour work day with adjustments to reflect SPP's employment policies related to vacation allotment, SPP holidays and other non-productive leave. The total expenses for statutory activities in a month as recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities are used to determine the amount of transfer to be made to the SPP operating account to reimburse the SPP operating account for the payment of expenses of SPP's statutory activities. The RE General Manager shall have sole authority to approve all withdrawal of funds from the SPP Regional Entity bank account.

SPP shall provide its budget for such non-statutory activities to NERC at the same time that SPP submits its proposed annual business plan and budget for statutory activities to NERC pursuant to Section 9 of the Agreement SPP's budget for non-statutory activities that is provided to NERC shall contain a detailed list of SPP's non-statutory activities and a description of the funding sources for the non-statutory activities. SPP agrees that no costs (which shall include a reasonable allocation of SPP's general and administrative costs) of non-statutory activities are to be included in the calculation of SPP's assessments, dues, fees, and other charges for its statutory activities.

7. Amended or Supplemental Business Plans and Budgets

During the course of the fiscal year, if SPP determines it does not or will not have sufficient funds to carry out its delegated functions and related activities, SPP shall submit to NERC one or more proposed amended or supplemental business plans and budgets and requests for approval of supplemental assessments, reflecting costs, cost increases or funding shortfalls not provided for in SPP's approved business plan and budget for the fiscal year. NERC shall review and approve the proposed amended or supplemental business plan and budget and proposed supplemental assessment, or shall direct SPP to make such revisions as NERC deems appropriate prior to approval. NERC shall submit SPP's approved amended or supplemental business plan and budget and proposed supplemental assessment to the Commission for approval.

8. NERC Review of Regional Entity Financial Records

Upon a request made to SPP with reasonable notice, NERC shall have access to and may review all financial records of SPP Regional Entity, including records used to prepare SPP Regional Entity's financial statements. NERC shall conduct reviews of the quarterly and annual financial statements submitted by SPP pursuant to Section 9(h) and

(i) of the Agreement. SPP shall provide supporting documentation for the quarterly and annual financial statements as reasonably requested by NERC.