

Proposed Modifications to Generation Interconnect Queue Process

June 19, 2007



Evolution of the Queue *



^{*}All requests received as of May 1, 2007



Active Projects by State*







Proposal

- Identify an additional interconnection project type: Regionally Planned Generation Interconnect Project (RPGIP)
 - Designed to aggregate needs of multiple smaller projects; resulting project capacity is greater than any single generator interconnect would require
 - Applies the project cost applicable to generation developers to all generators who will use to the line rather than just the first
 - Funded up front by any interested party (Sponsor): Load-serving entity, developer, transmission owner, etc.



Proposed Mechanics

- Utilize the Midwest ISO 2008 MTEP long-range planning process to estimate upgrade capacity and preliminary costs
- Sponsor will nominate interconnection amounts required for a 20 year horizon
 - Adjustments will be made to original upgrade size estimate based on nomination results
 - Adjustments will be permitted to the nominations based on material changes to cost estimates
- Load-serving entities or other investors will subscribe to the project, thereby funding the portion of the transmission line cost applicable to the generators
- As additional generators come on-line, they will pay their prorata share of the total cost applicable to generators



Expected Outcomes

- More efficient transmission build through reduction in incremental investment to satisfy minimal need and/or reduction in rebuild requirements
- Reduced re-study time due to elimination of redundant or superfluous requests
- Flexible enough to support all fuel sources (not just renewables)
- Better integration of long-term (MTEP) and shortterm (Interconnection Queue) processes through utilization of integrated multi-year plan to determine capacity requirements



Critical Success Factors

Subscription by Load Serving Entities of long-term procurement levels (~20 years) to eliminate need to conduct same process in similar regional area within a short time horizon (5-10 years)

- Generators representing some threshold capacity level (tentatively 50%) sign interconnection agreements in the first wave to ensure reasonable cost levels for the generators and reduce risk for the investing parties
- Commitment by states to allow this process, and the associated capacity definition, to serve as a premise for Certificates of Need



Next Steps

Commence stakeholder process

- Incorporate preliminary feedback on Midwest ISO's Open Season White Paper draft
 - June 22nd Distribute White Paper to all Stakeholders
 - July 11th (tentative) First stakeholder Meeting to discuss general concept and financing mechanism (funding and repayment)
- Develop Tariff changes to incorporate the concepts as a supplement to the current queue process
- File tariff changes along with the FERC 890 Compliance Filing in October 2007



Appendix

Generation Interconnection Queue History



| | 218 | | |
|---|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 766 | | 324 | |
| | | | 224 |
| Total Request ince October 1 (166 GW) | s Reached 998 Interconnection Agreement (32 GW | Withdrawn (94 GW) | Current Requests (40 GW) |

- 324 requests totaling 94 GW of generation have entered the queue and withdrawn
 - Each request takes up to 658 days to process through Interconnection Agreement (excludes state regulatory approval and construction time) per tariff
 - Withdrawals mean restarting study for requests later in queue that are impacted by withdrawn requests (tariff requires sequential processing)
 delays resolution to requests and increases cost
- Current requests represent a 33% increase over Midwest ISO market peak load – not probable that all will be financed and approved



Current Interconnection Queue Process



- Up to 658 days are allowed for the tariff process, which requires decisions and actions by the Midwest ISO, The Developer, and the Transmission Owners
 - This timeline does not reflect an additional 36 72 months for state regulatory approval and construction
- Per the tariff, requests must be processed sequentially and the first requestor requiring the upgrade pays for it
- To provide improved customer service, Midwest ISO begins processing the next study in the queue in parallel, typically starting the next request evaluation once the prior request has entered the Feasibility Study Phase
 - When projects withdraw from the queue, the entire process (and the 658 day tariff timeline) starts again
 - Alternative to parallel processing is to wait 19-20 months before addressing the next item in the queue; based on the current queue, this would result in the queue being cleared in 2050



Impact of Withdrawals



This dynamic, multiplied between 3 and 30 times, shows the effect of the churn on a group study. All the time in the looped part is essentially wasted. As 60% of projects drop out, this translates to a lot of FTE's reworking on lots of projects.



Evolution of the Queue*



Shift to larger projects, driven largely by wind Reduction in CT projects more easily accommodated by current processes



* Size of bubble indicates number of requests; Queue as of May 1, 2007

Developers with More than 1700 MW in Queue*



