

Summary of Modeling WG Call #5
Tuesday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m. ET

Call-in No.: 1-800-974-2164
ID code: 825 6616#

Official/designated WG members in attendance: Mary Ellen Paravalos, Steve Chui, Hisham Choueiki (alt. for Valerie Lemmie), Doug Hurley, Dennis Sobieski, Alan Myers, Wil Burns, Matt Schuerger, Dennis Chastain, Ryan Kind, John Buechler (EIPC), Catherine Morris (Keystone).

1. Environmental Data Task Force --

- Supporters of the proposed Environmental Data Task Force from the NGO caucus explained the rationale of the proposal. Key points included the following:
 - It is believed that impacts to land and water and resources can be handled similarly to other externalities, such as emissions – therefore several members of NGO caucus would like to try to advance effort to incorporate environmental impacts in transmission planning and modeling through this project.
 - The groups hopes to look at both the NEEM and GE MAPS models to find appropriate points to insert this info though existing parameters or adding multipliers. They are not trying to restructure the model.
 - Once the appropriate insertion points are identified, the group hoped to develop input data for those areas where strong, reliable data is available.
 - The group is not requesting additional funding or resources from EIPC to do this – they are working on securing other funding and bringing on consultants with expertise in modeling and energy resource planning to assist with the effort.
 - The proposed Task Force is different from its similarly-named counterpart in WECC – it will not be focusing as much on mapping and spatial analysis, and because it is such a nascent effort, it will not have the same level of advancement or detail as the WECC task force.
- It was discussed that it may not need to be a sub-set of the Modeling WG – rather it may be more appropriate as a stand-alone task force, since it may need to interact with multiple work groups.
- The WG did not make a decision about the group. Several WG members agreed it would be more appropriate for the SSC itself to decide the issue.

2. Other modeling issues:

- The WG members discussed some of the issues that had been brought up previously and compiled into a table. The group decided that they should proceed by identifying any issues, then examining them in greater depth and working on proposing solutions to the SSC. Issues discussed include:
 - The NEEM model does not include the Canadian economy
 - The group is unsure about how to deal with roll-up assumptions that don't fit with the Futures or Scenarios that will be developed

- Other issues are listed in the table the group will present at the SSC meeting
- The group decided to characterize these points as modeling “issues.” They discussed the appropriateness of the term “modeling limitations.” It was suggested that many of these issues are not really limitations of the model – rather, they fall outside of the model’s scope/purpose, and/or they can be addressed through post-processing analysis. The group agreed that if the term is kept in, they may insert a footnote to define this and other issue categories, so the issues are described accurately and appropriate solutions can be pursued

3. SSC Meeting Presentation

- All three WG charges will be presented all together early on in the meeting
- Items to be included in the Modeling WG’s presentation:
 - Schedule and activities of WG
 - Workplan
 - CRA Inputs Matrix
 - Table of modeling issues
- The group was mostly satisfied with the slides that had been developed by Mary Ellen Paravalos. Some minor changes to the slides were discussed. The WG members agreed to send changes to her by the end of the week so she could incorporate them in time for the SSC meeting
- The WG agreed to meet following the SSC meeting on the afternoon of the 14th.
 - The 12-2 p.m. time period worked best for the highest number of attendees.
 - The group will use this time to begin looking at the CRA matrix and discuss how to develop initial ranges of plausible values for key inputs