

ITC's Green Power Express May 13, 2009



Green Power Express





Agenda

- Who is ITC?
- Why Green Power Express and Why Now?
 - Identified Benefits
 - 765 kV and 345 kV
 - AC and DC
- Impediments and Solutions
 - Regional Transmission Impediments
 - Energy Policy Needs
- GPE Activities



Who is ITC?



Who Is ITC?





- Only fully independent transmission company in the U.S.
- Sixth largest transmission-owning company in the U.S.
- Operate almost 15,000 miles of transmission serving peak load of over 25,000 MW.
- Established in March 2003 when DTE Energy sold transmission subsidiary ITC *Transmission*.
- Acquired Michigan Electric Transmission Company (METC) in October 2006.
- Acquired all transmission assets of Interstate Power & Light Company (IP&L) in December 2007 forming ITC Midwest.
- ITC currently is seeking opportunities to build, own, operate, and maintain transmission assets in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.



The Significance of Independence



- ITC is the first and largest fully independent transmission company in the U.S.
- Independence is defined as:
 - De minimis ownership or truly passive ownership by market participants
 - Minimal operating dependence, ongoing market participant relationship/affiliation
- The company, its employees and their immediate family members do not hold any market participant investments
- Through ITC's independence, we have been able to focus on our goals (reliability, efficiency, equal access, lower cost).
- In essence, the independent model aligns the interests of the company with those of the customer which are in turn in line with those of shareholders.
 - A non-independent model cannot do this; they are faced with conflicting interests.



Alignment of Interests





Business model aligns interests of company, employees and shareholders with those of customers, end-use consumers and regulators.



Why GPE and Why Now?



President Obama's Vision



"One of... the most important infrastructure projects that we need is a whole new electricity grid. ... if we're going to be serious about renewable energy, I want to be able to get wind power from North Dakota to population centers, like Chicago."

Source: Transcript from appearance on Rachael Maddow Show of October 28, 2008: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27464980/.



Timing of Filing - Why GPE Now?



- Over a year of internal study prior to filing
 - Submitted to MTEP in compliance with Order 890
 - Discussions with developers and stakeholders ongoing
- Initiated by federal policy discussions
 - Private capital is available for major transmission investment
- Financial disclosure and competitive considerations
- Regional planning initiatives (UMTDI, RGOS, JCSP, CARP/RECB)
 - ITC supports these efforts
 - Timing concerns
 - Studies do not build transmission
- Development of project evaluation and cost allocation criteria
 - Current methodologies not conducive to broad regional projects to move renewable sources
 - GPE can spur development of alternate metrics to refine the evaluation and cost allocation proposals for large-scale transmission overlays
- Global economy
 - Placing orders during global economic contraction can result in accelerating delivery and reducing costs



U.S. Wind Map





GPE Moves the Wind to the Load





Green Power Express Benefits





- Facilitates the movement of large amounts of high efficiency wind throughout the footprint
- Reduces carbon emissions by approximately 37 million metric tons annually, equivalent to seven to ten 600 MW coal plants or nine to twelve million automobiles
- Largely resolves Midwest ISO generation interconnection queue issues for region
- Promotes efficient use of land
- Addresses concerns with system congestion as wind comes online
- Increases electric reliability

The Green Power Express would effectively be the energy superhighway for wind.





Annual CO₂ Savings (Emissions) by Fuel, 2010-2030 (High Transmission Scenario Over Low Transmission Scenario)



Why 765kV instead of 345kV?





- 765 kV provides greatest capacity increases with least land consumption
 - One 765 kV facility can carry as much power as six 345 kV lines
 - Reduced right-of-way lowers cost as well as impacts to consumers and environment
- Supports competitive markets, reliability, and renewable energy development
- Power carried greater distances and facilitates renewable resources market
- Availability is greater than 99% of the time
- "On-ramps" and "off-ramps" provide for easy generation connections and future transmission integration



Why Not DC for GPE?





- DC is a good technology for certain applications, namely point to point without off ramps
 - GPE has a number of pick-up and drop-off points for power along the path
- DC does not allow for easy redirection of power in the case of a line outage
 - Could make system vulnerable from a reliability standpoint if used as a first step
 - May require a significant system below
- DC overlays may be required in the Eastern
 Interconnect once a robust backbone system exists to accommodate renewable development



Impediments and Solutions



Regional Transmission Impediments



- Lack of collective industry vision / stated energy policy; energy policy inertia
- Influence of market participants
- Fallacy of generation vs. transmission debate
- Sandbox mentality
- Siting challenges
- Lack of regional cost recovery mechanism for regional projects
- Voluntary nature of RTO membership



Energy Policy Needs





- ITC's Top Public Policy Priorities:
 - Independent regional planning:
 Interconnection-wide regional planning using existing infrastructure
 - Cost allocation: Method that harmonizes costs of regional transmission with benefits
 - Federal siting authority: Allows states to continue to site transmission but after one year, FERC would have backstop authority



GPE Activities



Green Power Express Activities



- On April 10th, ITC received FERC approval of several portions of its Section 205 application
 - Base ROE, incentive ROE adders, capital structure, and several non-ROE incentives (Regulatory Asset, CWIP, Abandoned Plant) were approved
 - Formula Rate and corresponding protocols were set for hearing before a settlement judge
- Future activities include the following:
 - Negotiations with potential partners and gathering of input from incumbent utilities and stakeholders
 - Participation in MISO regional planning studies
 - Implementation of a multi-regional cost allocation mechanism
 - Routing studies, EIS, and preliminary engineering
 - Application for transmission line siting in accordance with existing state protocols
 - Detailed design of the first phase of the project, including right-of-way acquisition and ordering of long-lead items
 - Construction
 - Phase 1 can be placed in service in as little as 2 to 3 years from when construction begins



Green Power Express Summary



- The GPE is a project conceived by ITC to reach the wind-rich areas of the upper Midwest with extra-high voltage transmission
 - The GPE aligns with the development of renewable resources
 - The GPE supports a national energy vision for the development of renewable resources
- GPE integrates with other Regional planning processes and visions:
 - MISO Planning processes (e.g., MTEP)
 - National green energy vision
 - Joint Coordinated System Plan (JCSP) transmission overlay for a 20%
 Renewable Energy Standard
 - Upper Midwest Transmission Development Initiative in the states of ND, SD, MN, WI, IA
- ITC intends to add local partners on the GPE to bring the project to fruition
- ITC is uniquely positioned, independent, and qualified to see this project built, without government money



Contact at ITC



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For additional information, you can also visit our project web site: www.thegreenpowerexpress.com

