

Comments on Tri-State's Large Generator Interconnection Concept Paper and Presentation at its February 19, 2009 Stakeholder Meeting

Time Period for comments ended March 19, 2009.

Formal written letters of comment were received from:

- Colorado Independent Energy Association/Interwest Energy Alliance
- First Solar

We also received several short comments by e-mail and one comment after the February 19th meeting; a summary follows:

- Does Tri-State have a networking process to connect Developers with Landowners?
- Can Tri-State identify interconnection facilities that have upgradeable capacity without facility modifications or added exposure to developers?
- Tri-State's requirement to accelerate site control requirements may have a negative impact on landowners because it forces a landowner to sign a lease prematurely locking up his land
- Regardless of the study technique, be it sequential or cluster, the challenge is to anticipate the future with uncertainty. A sequence can change, causing a ripple of changes in a sequential process. Likewise, a cluster can be studied, only to have the cluster make-up change prior to the construction and operation of that cluster. So, either way, the TO/TOP has to deal with that uncertainty.

The way Tri-State is approaching the studies makes sense. Finding a project's independent impact on the existing system establishes a baseline for a project. If some consolidation can optimize system additions and costs, it will be easier to implement down the road and to deviate from the established independent baseline impact.

The written comments from Colorado Independent Energy Association/Interwest Energy Alliance and First Solar, along with the transcript of the February 19, 2009 Stakeholder Meeting, are posted as separate documents and are not summarized here.