



Brian Silverstein
Chair, Planning Coordination Committee
Bonneville Power Administration

(360) 418-2122
blsilverstein@bpa.gov

August 28, 2007

PLANNING COORDINATION COMMITTEE
OPERATING COMMITTEE
TECHNICAL STUDIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Subject: Montana Alberta Tie Ltd. Achieves Phase 3 Status

The MATL project initiated the WECC planning process on September 20, 2005. The Project is a 346 km, 230/240kV transmission line designed for continuous bidirectional power transfers of over 300 MW. The project consists of a new substation in Alberta that ties into the existing 240 kV Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES) system. A phase shifting transformer will be installed to control flows both north and south and to step the voltage down from the Alberta nominal system voltage of 240 kV to the transmission line voltage of 230 kV. A mid-point substation named Marias will be built south of the town of Cut Bank, Montana. The Marias Substation will contain voltage support and be a connection point for proposed wind generation projects in the area. At the south end, the MATL transmission line will terminate at the existing Great Falls, Montana, 230 kV substation.

On February 2, 2006, the Project received Phase II status. A Project Review Group (PRG) was formed and was comprised of representatives from Bonneville Power Administration, Northwestern Energy, Western Area Power Administration, Avista Corporation, AESO, British Columbia Transmission Corporation, TransCanada – Northern Lights Transmission, PacifiCorp, Powerex, and ENMAX Power Corporation.

A Final Draft of the Phase 2 Report was submitted to the MATL Project Review Group (PRG) on June 11, 2007. All comments received have been addressed to the satisfaction of each party providing comments.

On July 25, 2007, MATL sent a request to the PCC to enter Phase 3, along with the PRG Report. No additional comments were received during the 30-day review process. Therefore, in accordance with the WECC Three Phase Project Rating Process, the MATL Project is hereby granted Phase III status with an Accepted Rating of +/- 300 MW.

Sincerely,
Brian Silverstein
Brian Silverstein

cc: Kent Bolton, WECC
Peter Mackin, USE