

The States appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on NorthernGrid's Draft Final Regional Transmission Plan (DFRTP).

The States value the DFRTP's responsiveness to comments on the Draft Regional Transmission Plan (DRTP), including the exposition of contingency criteria and rankings, supplementary analysis on contingency results, and overall clarification of base case development. NorthernGrid's continued diligence in incorporating the States' and other stakeholder comments in the Final Regional Transmission Plan will enhance planning transparency and yield greater regional participation.

NorthernGrid's efforts to improve WECC's Anchor Data Set for use in the Regional Transmission Plan is a useful result of this cycle's transmission planning process. NorthernGrid should consider summarizing these improvements in the Final Regional Transmission Plan, in addition to the language included in the appendix, to appropriately communicate the value of such effort.

The States also reiterate <u>comments submitted on the DRTP</u> with respect to scoping, policy, and cost. As stated in those comments, the States are looking forward to proactive discussions, collaboration, and strengthened communication on the Study Scope for the 2022-2023 planning cycle.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine Hanhan – Co-Chair, on behalf of State participants NorthernGrid Enrolled Parties and States Committee October 20, 2021