

SERTP SPONSOR SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO WRITTEN COMMENTS

SERTP values and encourages stakeholder participation towards creating an efficient and effective Order 1000 process. As discussed in the quarterly SERTP meetings and in the interim Order 1000 stakeholder meetings, stakeholder comments can be provided to SERTP Sponsors either verbally or in written form. All of the comments received from stakeholders, regardless of the form, have been and will continue to be considered in the development of and modifications to the SERTP Sponsors' strawman to satisfy the requirements of Order 1000. As discussed in the aforementioned meetings, the SERTP Sponsors encourage stakeholders to raise comments during meetings in order to allow for an effective, consultative dialogue concerning matters that remain of issue to stakeholders. Stakeholders have engaged extensively in this approach and the SERTP Sponsors believe that the vast majority of matters raised in the written comments they have received have been vetted during the various stakeholder meetings that have been held by the SERTP Sponsors for purposes of Order No. 1000.

To address some additional themes raised in written stakeholder comments that may not have been raised at the stakeholder meetings, the SERTP Sponsors provide the following supplemental responses.

- One common theme in some of the written comments pertains to ensuring stakeholders have access to such matters as the modeling assumptions, data inputs, system enhancements, and scenarios to be evaluated and opportunities for stakeholder input into the transmission planning process. These types of coordination, openness, transparency, and information exchange issues were addressed in Order No. 890 and the transmission planning principles adopted by that Order. In Order No. 1000, FERC did not abrogate or require modifications to those principles but instead clarified which of the Order No. 890 principles now apply to local planning processes and which apply to regional planning principles. The SERTP has been found Order No. 890 compliant, and its open, transparent, and coordinated planning processes are explained in Attachment K of Southern Companies' OATT. The Sponsors also provided training to stakeholders related to the SERTP transmission planning processes and the opportunities for stakeholder involvement at the SERTP's 1st RPSG meeting (held on March 14, 2012).
- Another theme in some written comments pertains to the consideration of non-transmission alternatives ("NTAs") in the transmission planning process. While Order No. 1000 discusses NTAs on several occasions, the substantive requirements pertaining to NTAs are also primarily found in Order No. 890 and, therefore, have already been incorporated into the existing SERTP process. To clarify, when evaluating between alternatives to address identified transmission needs, SERTP Sponsors consider all cost effective and reliable solutions. Stakeholders have today, and will continue to have, the opportunity to propose both transmission and non-transmission alternatives.

August 13, 2012

SERTP appreciates stakeholder comments, both verbal and written, and encourages stakeholders to continue to engage in future SERTP meetings as the development process continues toward satisfying the requirements of Order 1000. Aside from the stakeholder meetings, comments, feedback, or questions can be provided to the SERTP via the SERTP website at:

<http://www.southeasternrtp.com/contactus.asp>.