Comments of the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB) on WECC’s Draft Section 1600 Data Request

The Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Committee (WIRAB) has reviewed WECC’s draft 1600 data request. WIRAB supports the execution of this request.

WIRAB believes the data requested by WECC is necessary for WECC to fulfill its obligations under the Delegation Agreement with NERC. WIRAB further believes that the uses of the requested information outlined in the draft data request are necessary to maintain and improve reliability in the Western Interconnection and that the request may help rectify some of the unintended consequences of the expiring Universal Non-Disclosure Agreement which made previously public data, such as historical path flow data, confidential.

The draft data request, which would be made of Peak Reliability, provides an efficient data collection mechanism that reduces costs that would otherwise have been borne by the companies that provided the original data and consumers who provide revenue to those organizations.

Better data sharing practices will improve reliability and build the confidence of state/provincial policy makers and regulators and the public that WECC is adequately discharging its responsibilities as the Reliability Assurer in the Western Interconnection. This is critical given the major changes in the resource mix that are underway and the need for high quality, transparent assessments of grid reliability.