

**COMMENTS OF THE WESTERN PUBLIC AGENCIES GROUP
REGARDING BPA FINANCIAL PLAN REFRESH WORKSHOP 1/12/22 ON
STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT APPROACH AND PROGRESS¹**

The utilities comprising the Western Public Agencies Group (“WPAG”) appreciate the progress at BPA in focusing asset investment on the business case for each asset and the value it provides to customers. It is essential to the success of the region for BPA to invest in the most valuable aspects of the Federal Power and Transmission System.

Overall, the benefits to customers take a little dissecting between the various processes. Assuming these processes in themselves don’t cost more than the efficiency of investment gained, we support the additional scrutiny on asset plans in a more organized and industry standardized way. There does seem to be strategic focus at BPA that starts with the Strategic Plan, feeds into the Strategic Asset Management Plan, which feeds into the Asset Plans that form the Budget for Integrated Program Review costs that go into rates and capital projects that ultimately get authorization to proceed, funding and procurement.

BPA admits that measuring success in this area is still a work in progress, but there does seem to be evidence of increased sophistication in approach and of success in the overall stable rates with budgets focused in business value areas. Unfortunately, some of the resulting delivery of efficient capital execution suffered from pandemic related delays and the fruit may still be on the vine.

To better understand the progress and benefits to customers, it would be useful to have follow-up responses, either in form of written responses or links to the specific data items or previous postings, to the items below:

1. Please confirm the list of Asset Categories subject to the Strategic Asset Management Plan process and any Asset Categories that are not?
2. Please provide a list of prioritized assets for one of the Asset Categories subject to the Strategic Asset Management Plan and then a companion list of this same population of assets that made it into the Asset Plan and ultimately in to Integrated Program Review budgets.
3. Please give an example of a change that happened to Integrated Program Review budgets because of customer feedback on Strategic Asset Management Plan or Asset Plan prioritization.
4. Give an example of an asset that was a priority in the BPA 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, went through the entire process and is now in service.
5. Give an example of an asset that was not a priority in the BPA 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, went through the entire process and did not get ratepayer funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

¹ <https://www.bpa.gov/Finance/FinancialPublicProcesses/Financial-Plan-Refresh/Documents/JAN%2012%20FINAL%20workshop%20presentation.pdf>