SOA Pilot General Q&A
Last revised on July 30, 2018

BPA's SOA Non-Wires Pilot (SOA Pilot) was designed to reduce north-south summer peak flows on a day-ahead, pre-schedule basis. The SOA Pilot is under contract for two years; ending on September 30, 2018. To this end, BPA will hold a workshop on November 15, 2018 with stakeholders to review the post-event performance and lesson's learned from the SOA Pilot. In the meantime, below are a few general questions and answers.

1) What is the congestion threshold for which the Pilot will be dispatched this summer? Is the threshold for dispatch of the Pilot based on the commercial TTC, the Dynamic TTC, or some other value?

   For summer 2018, BPA plans to use an algorithm consistent to last summer that subtracts a modest amount of operational variability from the Commercial TTC. As the summer progresses, BPA will continue to monitor the triggering threshold and make course corrections, if warranted.

2) How has BPA evaluated the congestion relief provided by EIM compared to the congestion relief provided by the Pilot? How does BPA expect the path to perform this year with new EIM participants? Will the Pilot remain in effect if BPA joins the EIM?

   The SOA Pilot will contractually expire at the end of September 30, 2018 so will not have an impact on BPA's decision to join the EIM or not.

   As we re-evaluate continued use of non-wires, impacts of the EIM will be considered at that time.

3) Will BPA post real-time path information similar to that for NOEL, the NI, and SOC? This information would be useful to the region to be prepared for potential curtailments as the SOA path flow approaches the path TTC.

   The real-time path information requested is already available via Peak's RFF tool.

4) On July 20, 2018 BPA revised and updated on OASIS the time frame of the SOA Bilateral Redispatch Pilot event window scheduled for July 23, 2018. Please explain.

   BPA recently implemented a new automated OASIS posting notice procedure for SOA Bilateral Redispatch events that experienced a system glitch on July 20, 2018. Due to the glitch that caused confusion, BPA originally posted the event window as "16:00 through 20:00" then revised it to be "15:00 through 21:00" later in the day.

   BPA's intent is to post one notice for the SOA Bilateral Redispatch Pilot and one notice of TLR Avoidance for each event.

In regard to TLR Avoidance, if a reliability driven need warrants more hours of TLR Avoidance is needed than the SOA Bilaterial Redispatch Pilot event window, BPA will extend the hours of TLR Avoidance as needed.

BPA has corrected the system glitch with the OASIS postings for SOA Bilateral Redispatch events.