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## RENEWABLE ENERGY COALITION MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** COALITION MEMBERS  
**FROM:** DR. NANCY ESTEB  
**SUBJECT:** PGE IRP MEETING  
**DATE:** DECEMBER 19, 2018

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Hello -

PGE uses WebEX, which does not always work well, so this report is primarily from the overheads that are posted on their website. Today's topics focused on transmission and distribution planning.

They began with a review of PGE's existing transmission system, which includes substations at Garrison and Broadview in Montana, to connect to Colstrip. From those points they can connect to BPA and other IOUs. There are two 500 kV transmission lines, for approximately 250 miles that are co-owned by five different utilities (in order of their ownership shares): Northwestern Energy, Puget Sound Energy, PGE, Avista, and PacifiCorp. The transmission on these lines is fully subscribed with some minor exceptions. Any interconnection requests must be made to all five owners. Three are members of the northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG) and two are members of the Columbia Grid. The Montana Intertie Agreement has six parties (the five listed above and BPA) and details the parties' transmission capacity allocations, associated costs, and what energy can be moved on the intertie.

The Montana Renewables Development Action Plan (MRDAP) is a jointly sponsored effort by BPA and the State of Montana governor's Office. It kicked off in December of 2017 and the final report was issued June 30, 2018. It found that significant transmission capacity currently exists to exit Montana. Significant incremental transmission capacity exiting Montana can be realized with construction of three projects: Remedial Action Scheme (RAS), CTS upgrade, and Montana to Washington (M2W). And, significant dynamic transfer capacity can be made available by BPA to support the dynamic scheduling of renewable to the west: 727 MW east of Garrison, 297 MW west of Garrison, and 297 MW west of Hatwai. Parties to the Montana Intertie Agreement (MIA) have agreed that the Colstrip-owning parties to the MIA can utilize their capacity rights on the intertie to move non-Colstrip station power under certain conditions.

Their distribution planning seems to focus on procurement of non-wires alternatives and managing distributed energy resources, mostly a plan that continues to 2024 and beyond.