

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ELECTRICAL COALITION

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The Electric Coalition conducted one official meeting in Q1. Electrical Coalition members also participated in calls and small workgroups during the quarter as legislation effecting electrical operations were brought to our attention. The official meeting was held virtually on January 15, 2021, and had the purpose of discussing the proposed house bill addressing Generic Transmission Constraints (GTCs) and congestion. At the time of this meeting very few, if any, other bills on electrical issues had been floated for our consideration.

The meeting was our first opportunity to get feedback from member participants on the perceived advantages or disadvantages of the proposed changes to transmission project protocols under the offered bill. As proposed, it was suggested that the bill could not be supported by the members of the PBPA. At the request of the bill's author, we requested input from our members at this meeting on changes that would alleviate concerns with the current language. The Electric Coalition was interested in evaluating the bill's potential to expedite transmission projects that addressed historical congestion experienced in the West and Far West Texas load zones. These two load zones have historically been subjected to the highest congestion costs, and directly impact our members' operations. Various stakeholders participated in several meetings over the course of the quarter to suggest modifications to the bill's language that could make it supportive of PBPA ends.

Following the winter weather event, PBPA also called upon Electric Coalition participants to gauge the response of TDSPs in restoring power to the Basin in support of continued natural gas production and distribution. Member organizations were notified of the efforts of regulators to restore power and to exempt appropriate natural gas production, gathering, and distribution facilities from further rolling outages. One area of concern was many members were not aware of the form or the procedures to add facilities to the critical infrastructure list. Evaluation of this effort to identify areas that could be improved for future events, along with review of recommendations on proposed bills, will continue into Q2.