

DOCKET 12-IEP-1D

**DATE** May 14 2012

RECD. May 16 2012

## Interconnection Process Update

May 14, 2012

# There have been many improvements to the original generator interconnection process

#### **Process Challenges**

- SCE queue has a total of 988¹ active generation interconnection (IC) requests
- Active requests:
  - SCE study queue ~31,000 MW;
  - CAISO queue ~70,000 MW
- Substantial increase in smaller capacity IC requests
- Legacy tariffs provide little incentive to remove older queued projects
- Hurdles:
  - Oversubscribed areas,
  - Load remote projects,
  - Undergrounding

#### **Process Improvements**

- Managed the serial transition projects
- Reformed the Rule 21 tariff (settlement process)
- Restructured the IC group in 2011 (New mgmt. structure & RPPM)
- Acquired scalable resources –
  Integrated contingent staffing
- Increased staffing
- Implemented electronic approval process; Developed agreement templates; Implemented crossfunctional teams
- Participated in CAISO reforms

<sup>1- 287</sup> new requests in the last 5 months (2012)

### Interconnection Results & A Look Ahead

#### Project Study Results

- 44% of projects qualified for Fast Track interconnection (28% of that total qualified after Supplemental Review) during 1/2011-3/2012
- Requests for Independent Studies are increasing
  - 25 projects were studied in the Independent Study process (3/2011-4/2012)
  - 12% signed interconnection agreements and are proceeding with construction
- The WDAT cluster study approach is more efficient than the serial study process and enables integrated analysis

#### A Look Ahead

- The proposed settlement agreement and R.11-09-011 process are driving IC reforms that should improve interconnection results
- An optimal IC process needs reasonable IC volumes and stability

These reforms will need time for realization of full benefits and post-implementation evaluation for effectiveness