



Re: questions regarding Docket No . FD 30186, Tongue River Railroad Company,

Rachel Wilson to: Liz Stanton, Danielle.Gosselin@stb.dot.gov

07/14/2015 03:46 PM

Cc: "BlodgettK@stb.dot.gov"

History: This message has been replied to and forwarded.

Hi Danielle,

We're essentially looking for the input and output files from ICF's IPM modeling that is described in Chapter 5 of Appendix C of the DEIS, as well as any workbooks and work papers used by ICF that were used to generate the input assumptions that went into the model, or analyze the output results.

I'm happy to schedule a call at your convenience, just let me know what time works best for you.

Thanks!
Rachel

From: Liz Stanton
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2015 10:27 AM
To: Danielle.Gosselin@stb.dot.gov
Cc: BlodgettK@stb.dot.gov; Rachel Wilson
Subject: RE: questions regarding Docket No. FD 30186, Tongue River Railroad Company,

Thanks, Danielle!
I'm cc'ing my colleague Rachel Wilson who prepared the attached list of missing modeling assumptions and outputs.

I think it might be helpful for you to have a call with Rachel to discuss.

Liz

-----Original Message-----

From: Danielle.Gosselin@stb.dot.gov [mailto:Danielle.Gosselin@stb.dot.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2015 10:24 AM
To: Liz Stanton
Cc: BlodgettK@stb.dot.gov
Subject: Re: questions regarding Docket No. FD 30186, Tongue River Railroad Company,

Hi Liz,

We would be happy to help you locate information in the document that you are unable to find. What exactly are you looking for?

Thanks,
Danielle

Danielle Gosselin
Attorney Advisor
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Tel: (202) 245-0300

From: Liz Stanton <eastanton@synapse-energy.com>
To: "BlodgettK@stb.dot.gov" <BlodgettK@stb.dot.gov>,
"GosselinD@stb.dot.gov" <GosselinD@stb.dot.gov>
Date: 07/10/2015 03:21 PM
Subject: questions regarding Docket No. FD 30186, Tongue River Railroad
Company,

Hi Ken and Danielle,

The Draft EIS for Docket No. FD 30186, Tongue River Railroad Company names the two of you as the STB staff to contact with questions.

I have been engaged to analyze the Draft EIS and have technical questions, specifically regarding assumptions to the ICF analysis that I have not been able to locate in the appendices. What is the best way for me to gain access to a more complete set of assumptions? If helpful, I can send you a detailed list of the data points that have not been able to find.

Thanks!
Liz

Liz Stanton, PhD
Principal Economist
Synapse Energy Economics, Inc.

eastanton@synapse-energy.com
Direct: 617 453 7063

485 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 2
Cambridge MA 02139
Main: 617 661 3248 Fax: 617 661 0599
www.synapse-energy.com

Inputs

Outputs

1. Electric demand
 - a. Forecasted electric demand
 - b. Forecasted energy efficiency
 - c. Forecasted demand response
2. Fuel price forecasts
 - a. Coal
 - i. Reference case
 - ii. Any sensitivity cases
 - b. Natural gas
 - i. Reference case
 - ii. Any sensitivity cases
3. Emission price forecasts
 - a. CO₂
 - i. Reference case
 - ii. Any sensitivity cases
 - b. Other emissions
 - i. Reference case
 - ii. Any sensitivity cases
4. Environmental regulations
 - a. How do coal plants comply with regulations on coal combustion residuals?
5. Assumptions for new generating capacity
 - a. Costs of new generating capacity
 - b. Page C.5-20 seems to indicate that the only renewable IPM can build is wind. Is this true?
 - c. Capacity credit given for renewable generation, by region and year
 - d. Can IPM build renewables above RPS requirements?
 - e. Resulting volume of new generating capacity built, by prime mover and year
6. Assumptions about power plant operations
 - a. Generation, by prime mover and year
 - b. Resulting wholesale power prices, by region and year
 - c. Fuel consumption, by fuel type and year
 - d. Emissions output, by pollutant and year
 - e. Compliance with environmental regulations

- i. How do plants comply?
 - ii. Which plants fuel switch?
 - iii. Which plants install emissions controls?
 - 1. Which controls are installed?
 - a. Resulting heat rate changes
 - b. Energy penalty due to parasitic load
 - iv. Which plants purchase allowances?
 - v. Which plants retire?
 - f. Capacity factors of operating power plants
7. Assumptions about transmission
 - a. Timing and location of new transmission lines
 - b. Transmission flows on existing lines
 - c. Transmission flows on new lines
8. Constraints on the IPM model
 - a. What are the constraints imposed on the IPM model?
9. Coal contracts
 - a. How are coal contracts at existing plants considered in IPM?
10. Coal exports
 - a. Where do assumptions on international coal use come from?
 - i. Historic coal consumption
 - ii. Expected coal plant construction
 - iii. Economic growth on a country-by-country basis
 - b. Does IPM track the destination of US coal exports?
 - c. Provide supply curve results from the CoalDom model
 - i. Production cost
 - ii. Annual production capacity
 - iii. Coal resource limits
11. What does IPM assume about an international CO₂ policy?
12. In the results of the analysis, OEA finds that Tongue River coal displaces other domestic coal. What does IPM predict happens to the displaced coal from other parts of the United States?