

TDSIC technical conference questions

What is a plan?

- How does a utility plan for transmission and distribution system improvements?
 - Planning for a TDSIC should follow traditional utility planning.
 - Utilities have engaged in long-term planning for decades.
- One size does not fit all.
 - Small gas utilities have different resources.
 - Different types of projects may lend themselves to different types of detail.
- For one year, two years, 7 years out?
 - Year one detail is necessarily more detailed than year 7.
 - Assuming year 7 detail could be as detailed as year 1, the cost of preparing that detail would not be justifiable given system conditions are dynamic and frequently projects are modified in response to such changes.

Best estimate of costs.

- Approach to develop cost estimates.
- Balance estimate detail with cost and usefulness of detail.
 - Very detailed cost estimates for year 7 project that is likely to change does not provide better information and does not represent a wise investment of resources.

What are eligible T&D system improvements?

- Assets
- O&M
- Programmatic work v. asset based projects

How should a plan be updated / what flexibility is needed over time?

- New emergent projects to address reliability and dynamic system conditions
- Move from one year to another year
- Reduce scope / projects due to new information
- Expand scope due to more detailed engineering

Required legal findings under TDSIC statute?

- 7 year plan
- Best estimate of cost
- Eligible T&D system improvement
- Public convenience and necessity requires or will require the eligible improvements included in the plan
- Estimated costs of the eligible improvements included in the plan are justified by incremental benefits attributable to the plan