



Rule 21 Working Group 3

KICK OFF CALL

NOVEMBER 28, 2018

[HTTP://WWW.UBERCONFERENCE.COM/GRIDWORKS/](http://www.uberconference.com/gridworks/)

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Working Group 3 Issues
3. Proposed Schedule
4. Working Group 2 Participant Survey Results
5. Online Collaboration Tools
6. Discussion/Proposal Approaches
7. Suggested Meeting Practices
8. Questions
9. Next steps

Introduction

- The [Scoping Memo](#) directs Working Group Three to develop proposals to address eleven issues related to streamlining the interconnection process.
- The Working Group is to submit a final report no later than June 14, 2019.
- [See the Scoping Memo](#) for the full scoping proposed for Working Group Three.

Working Group 3 Issues

Working Group 3 Issues

Issue #	Issue	Issue Proponents?
12	<p>How can the Commission improve certainty around timelines for distribution upgrade planning, cost estimation, and construction? Should the Commission consider adopting enforcement measures with respect to these timelines? If so, what should those measures be?</p> <p>Addition: When should the Commission consider results of an initial review or detailed study to be binding? Under what circumstances should the Commission allow the results to be changed?</p>	
15	<p>Should the Commission require itemized billing for distribution upgrades to enable customer comparison between estimated and billed costs and verification of the accuracy of billed costs?</p>	
16	<p>Should the Commission encourage third party construction of upgrades to support more timely and cost-effective interconnection, and if so, how?</p>	
20	<p>How should the Commission coordinate Commission-jurisdictional and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission-jurisdictional interconnection rules for behind-the-meter distributed energy resources, including modification of queuing rules for Rule 21 and Wholesale Distribution Access Tariff (WDAT) projects seeking to interconnect at the same location, clarification of the rules for projects wanting to transfer between the Rule 21 and WDAT queues, and streamlining of the transfer process?</p>	

Working Group 3 Issues

Issue #	Issue	Issue Proponents?
22	Should the Commission require the Utilities to make improvements to their interconnection application portals? If yes, what should those improvements be?	
23	Should the Commission consider issues related to the interconnection of electric vehicles and related charging infrastructure and devices and, if so, how?	
24	Should the Commission modify the formula for calculating the Cost-of-Ownership charge and, if so, how?	
27	What should be the operational requirements of smart inverters? What rules and procedures should the Commission adopt for adjusting smart inverter functions via communication controls?	
28	How should the Commission coordinate with the Integrated Distributed Energy Resource proceeding to ensure operational requirements are aligned with any relevant valuation mechanisms?	
Issue A	What changes are needed to clarify the parameters for approval of system design to achieve non-export and limited export?	
Issue B	How should utilities treat generating capacity for behind the meter paired solar and storage systems that are not certified non-export?	

Questions

1. Does the approach outlined here reflect insights we've gained in the process of Working Group 2?
2. Does the approach provide sufficient clarity as to how each issue will receive an appropriate amount of time and attention?
3. Are the issues ordered such that the more difficult ones will be tackled first?
4. Do the pairings of issues for each meeting in the proposed schedule make sense?
5. Does the schedule seem realistic?
6. Who will be the issue proponent(s) for each issue?
7. Which issues require the “consultation” approach and which would benefit from the “offline” approach?
8. Other improvements you would suggest?

Proposed Schedule



Proposed Schedule

Date	Day	Meeting	Issue Discuss	Issue Finalize
Dec 12	Wed	In person	12 & A	
Jan 3	Thu	Call		
Jan 10	Thu	In person	12 & B	A
Jan 16	Wed	Call		
Jan 23	Wed	In person	20 & 23	12 & B
Feb 6	Wed	Call		
Feb 13	Wed	In person	15 & 16	23 & 20
Feb 27	Wed	Call		
Mar 6	Wed	In person	22 & 24	15 & 16
Mar 20	Wed	Call		
Mar 27	Wed	In person		22 & 24
Apr 10	Wed	Call		
Apr 17	Wed	In person	TBD	TBD
May 1	Wed	Call		
May 8	Wed	In person	Final report	
May 22	Wed	Call		
May 29	Wed	In person		Final report
Jun 12	Wed	Call		
Jun 24	Wed	Report Due		

Proposed Schedule – Notes

1. Proposed to have two in-person meetings for each issue (except for three meetings for Issue 12):
 - First meeting “issue discussion”: framing, key questions, considerations, background knowledge, initial proposals and responses, identification of points for resolution, start of resolution.
 - Second meeting “issue finalization”: final in-person discussion. Consider near-final draft of the issue proposal, or reach consensus or agreement on key points of final proposal. After this meeting, offline discussions, fine-tuning, and final drafting can still continue.
2. The Smart Inverter Working Group will have regular calls Thursdays 1:00-2:30pm. Some of those calls will be devoted to Working Group 3 Issues 27 and 28, to be determined.

WG 2 Feedback

WG 2 Feedback (21 Responses)

Feedback on:

- What improvements would you recommend for future working groups?
- Other comments or feedback?

Proposed actions:

- New online collaboration tools
- New methods for facilitating discussion/proposals
- New meeting practices

WG 2 Feedback

“We should not have to work on email versioning issues in this age of great digital collaboration”

---Rule 21 Working Group 2 stakeholder


Online Collaboration Tools

Tools - Dropbox

Rule 21 Working Groups [Dropbox](#) folder to ensure document control and transparency.

- Invited users have full capacity to edit/create/comment on documents to outline their positions on issues.
- Editing in real-time so others immediately see your edits and can comment on them.
- Edit all files via browser in Microsoft Word Online.
- Working documents (issue proposals) will be created and edited using Dropbox.
- Does not replace the Rule 21 Gridworks website but compliments it.

Tools - Dropbox



 Files

Files




Sharing

File requests

Deleted files

Rule21 > rule21-working-groups








Name ↑	Modified ↓	Members ↓	⋮ ↓
 Issue Proposals and Comments	--	7 members	⋮
 Meeting Notes and Documents	--	7 members	⋮
 Rulings	--	7 members	⋮
 Working Group 2 Files Archive	--	7 members	⋮
 Working Group Collaboration Guides	--	7 members	⋮

Share folder





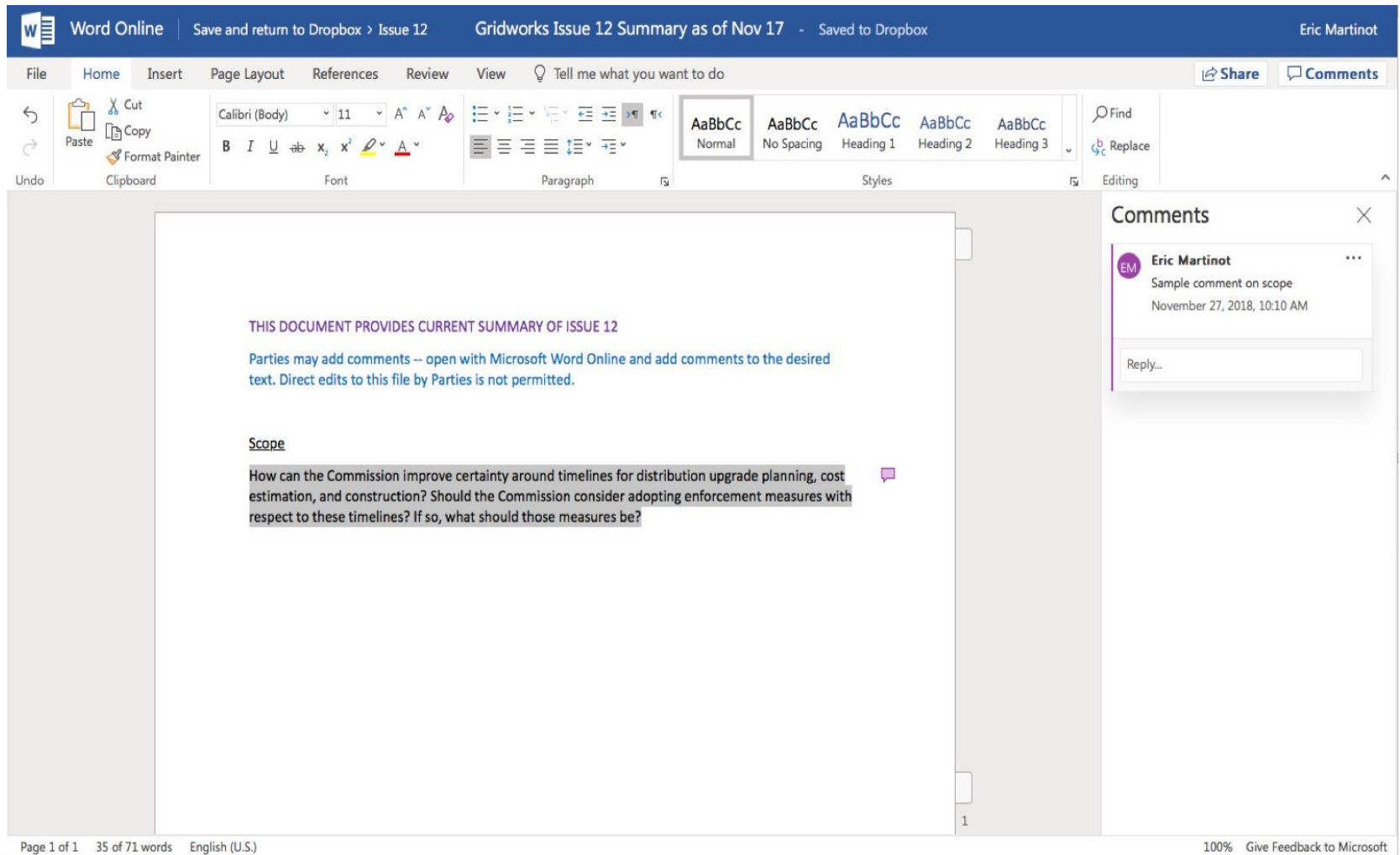


-  Upload files
-  New folder
-  Create new file
-  Show deleted files
-  View in admin console

Paper is a free workspace where your team can collaborate.
 ✕

[Check it out](#)

Tools - Dropbox



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Word Online interface. The title bar indicates the document is 'Gridworks Issue 12 Summary as of Nov 17' and is 'Saved to Dropbox'. The user is identified as 'Eric Martinot'. The ribbon includes 'File', 'Home', 'Insert', 'Page Layout', 'References', 'Review', and 'View'. The 'Home' ribbon is active, showing options for 'Clipboard' (Undo, Paste, Copy, Format Painter), 'Font' (Calibri (Body), size 11, bold, italic, underline, strikethrough, text color, background color), 'Paragraph' (bulleted list, numbered list, decrease/increase indent, left-align, center-align, right-align, justify, link, unlink), 'Styles' (Normal, No Spacing, Heading 1, Heading 2, Heading 3), and 'Editing' (Find, Replace). The main document area contains the following text:

THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES CURRENT SUMMARY OF ISSUE 12

Parties may add comments -- open with Microsoft Word Online and add comments to the desired text. Direct edits to this file by Parties is not permitted.

Scope

How can the Commission improve certainty around timelines for distribution upgrade planning, cost estimation, and construction? Should the Commission consider adopting enforcement measures with respect to these timelines? If so, what should those measures be?

A comment bubble is visible next to the 'Scope' section. On the right side, a 'Comments' pane is open, showing a comment by 'Eric Martinot' with the text 'Sample comment on scope' and a timestamp of 'November 27, 2018, 10:10 AM'. Below the comment is a 'Reply...' input field.

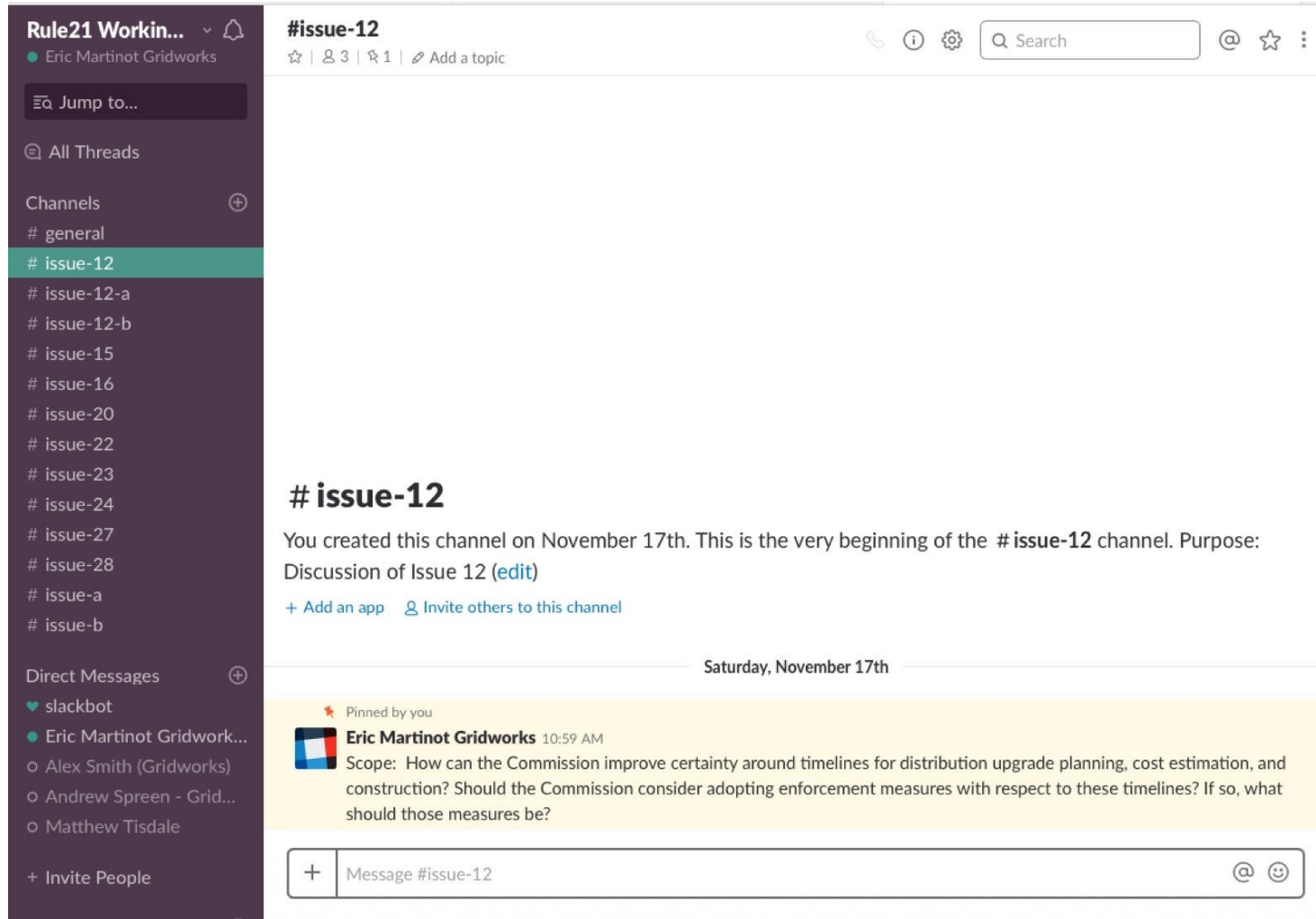
The status bar at the bottom shows 'Page 1 of 1', '35 of 71 words', 'English (U.S.)', '100%', and 'Give Feedback to Microsoft'.

Tools - Slack

Rule 21 Slack channel to help facilitate discussions
(rule21-working-groups.slack.com)

- An optional platform in addition to Rule 21 Gridworks website.
- All parties invited to Slack workspace.
- Collaborative platform for group discussion, with separate dedicated discussion channels for each issue and sub-issue
- Used to clarify positions, considerations, definitions, and technical background information relevant to the larger discussion.
- Open discussion to supplement calls and meetings.
- Participants use **full name and affiliation** in messages to ensure clarity.
- Email digests of Slack discussions possible to opt-in parties

Tools - Slack



Rule21 Workin... Eric Martinot Gridworks

#issue-12 3 | 1 | Add a topic

Jump to...

All Threads

Channels

- # general
- # issue-12**
- # issue-12-a
- # issue-12-b
- # issue-15
- # issue-16
- # issue-20
- # issue-22
- # issue-23
- # issue-24
- # issue-27
- # issue-28
- # issue-a
- # issue-b

Direct Messages

- slackbot
- Eric Martinot Gridwork...
- Alex Smith (Gridworks)
- Andrew Spreen - Grid...
- Matthew Tisdale

+ Invite People

issue-12

You created this channel on November 17th. This is the very beginning of the **# issue-12** channel. Purpose: Discussion of Issue 12 ([edit](#))

+ Add an app [Invite others to this channel](#)

Saturday, November 17th

Pinned by you

Eric Martinot Gridworks 10:59 AM

Scope: How can the Commission improve certainty around timelines for distribution upgrade planning, cost estimation, and construction? Should the Commission consider adopting enforcement measures with respect to these timelines? If so, what should those measures be?

+ Message #issue-12

Tools

All online collaboration tools can be accessed through a browser window.

A step-by-step guide on how to register and use these tools will be posted on the Gridworks Rule 21 Working Group 3 landing page:

<https://gridworks.org/initiatives/rule-21-working-group-3>

WG 2 Feedback

“Parties should play a greater role in developing their own proposals with the role of the facilitator designed to synthesize documents at the end but not take an active role at crafting the proposal on parties behalves.”

“Clear identification and refinement of issues, areas of agreement and specific areas of dispute.... a standard format or matrix to track issues was well warranted and worth pursuing.”

“Upfront construction of report is needed in order to incorporate all comments and content. Early drafts will help facilitate the final report outcome.”

---Rule 21 Working Group 2 stakeholders

Discussion/Proposal Approaches

Discussion/Proposal Approaches

1. “WG2” approach:

- Issue presentation (from WG member)
- Scoping memo (identify key questions/items of concern)
- Draft proposal (from Gridworks/WG member)
- Draft proposal written comments
- Revised proposal
- Consensus/non-consensus

This is the approach used by the Working Group for Phase 2

Discussion/Proposal Approaches

2. “Consultation” approach:

- Gridworks conducts one-on-one consultations with parties prior to issue discussion
- Consultations on issue framing, key questions, considerations, and/or pointing to relevant technical background or information.
- Gridworks/Energy Division presents the issue based on consultations
- Stakeholder presentation(s) of their perspectives and suggested path forward
- Discussion (both in meetings and offline)
 - Issue proposal by one or more parties in collaboration with Gridworks
 - Written comments
 - Final issue proposal by Gridworks

Discussion/Proposal Approaches

3. “Offline” approach:

- Stakeholders submit documents ahead of time
- Offline discussions
 - Dropbox document drafting and commenting
 - Slack discussion and resolution
 - Ad-hoc calls among subsets of parties as necessary
- In person meetings agendas limited to key points of conflict
- Collaborative approach to drafting issue proposals, with Gridworks taking the lead if necessary

Suggested Meeting Practices

1. Provide materials to participants at least 24 hours before the meeting to maximize productivity.
2. Be clear with everyone whether you're brainstorming –informally working through a problem out loud – or negotiating.
3. Expect that your motives won't be impugned and provide others the same courtesy.
4. Actively flag what you'd like entered into meeting notes.
5. We all hold ourselves responsible for the productivity of our meetings.
6. Other suggestions?

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Next Steps

- Eric Martinot from Gridworks to conduct one-on-one phone consultations with parties on initial set of issues, through December 5. If interested, please let someone from Gridworks know.
- December 12 in-person meeting at Energy Foundation, 301 Battery St, SF. Pre-registration is required. Attendee's of the 12/12 in-person meeting must register [here](#).
- Parties nominated to prepare brief issue presentations/proposals for December 12 meeting. (Who?)

WG 2 Selected Feedback

- “Stakeholder provide input on those issues, see if we have a consensus, note any objections, if no consensus is reached then facilitator should note all positions and proposals for the ALJ... It should be that you (as facilitator) would ask, who is taking the lead on the proposal? Are we having different proposals? If so then we have no consensus and here are the proposals and the conflicting parties positions.”
- “Allow voting on issues to speed up the process and allow input from everyone”
- “clear identification and refinement of issues, areas of agreement and specific areas of dispute.... a standard format or matrix to track issues was well warranted and worth pursuing. It may be helpful to make clear to participants that the working group is the place to raise and attempt to resolve issues, and that the Commission will look less favorably on objections raised by the same participants after the report is issued if they failed to bring these up and seek to have them addressed within the working group.”
- “Consensus is not necessarily the goal, but rather the clear elucidation of options and the relative merits of each for the Commission and parties in the proceeding to consider.”

WG 2 Selected Feedback

- “We should not have to work on email versioning issues in this age of great digital collaboration. Only spend allotted time on items as provided. If more discussion is needed, that should be where the issue stood. All other issues suffered given so much discussion on 8.”
- “Upfront construction of report is needed in order to incorporate all comments and content. Early draft will help facilitate the final report outcome.”
- “Parties should play a greater role in developing their own proposals with the role of the facilitator designed to synthesize documents at the end but not take an active role at crafting the proposal on parties’ behalfs.”
- “Putting things in writing earlier and ensuring circulation of the thoughts in writing earlier. This helps parties better understand each other and come prepared for discussion.”
- “Because the meeting frequency will really ramp up in December, recording calls and using a message board or other commenting / collaboration tool could help with participation.”
- “All WG's need to establish very clear objectives up front and more importantly, a common set of definitions, language and *structure* for presenting and documenting proposals.”