



Final

July 14, 2006

Study Committee No : C3

WORKING GROUP FORM

<b>Group No : WG C3.06</b>	<b>Name of Convener : Ricardo Furtado (BR)</b>
<b>TITLE of the Group : STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT</b> [Joint WG, with SC C1]	
<b>Background:</b> <p>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), also called Environmental Evaluation of Plans and Programs, is becoming a normal practice in many Countries (EU, Brazil, South Africa...), as part of the planning process for large infrastructure and/or service projects. It is also applicable to the development of Power Systems.</p> <p>SEA may be requested e.g. for the planning of new transmission links and/or new generation plants, mainly for choice between alternative locations or types of infrastructure. Even in countries where the electricity market liberalisation is well established, National or Regional authorities still control the licensing of new plants and the approval of new lines so that, in both cases, SEA might be requested as supporting evidence for final choices.</p> <p>SEA can be quite complex, and – generally speaking - requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- definition of different planning alternatives (including the so-called “zero alternative”, i.e. not realising the plants or infrastructures planned);</li><li>- evaluation of the environmental impact of each alternative, at both local and “global” level;</li><li>- consideration of cumulative and synergic impacts of multiple activities;</li><li>- comparison among alternatives, from technical, environmental and economic points of view</li><li>- evidence on how environmental considerations were taken into account</li><li>- participation of Stakeholders, Authorities and the public in the evaluation and decision process</li><li>- coordination with other planning aspects.</li></ul> <p>SEA practice is very recent, with few application experiences and no harmonised methodologies.</p>	
<b>Scope :</b> <p>The aim of the WG is to define procedures and methods to apply Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to Power Systems Development.</p> <p>The WG shall proceed by developing the steps that follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Collection and analysis of legislation and technical standards about SEA in different countries, with specific reference to Power Systems development.</li><li>- Collection and analysis of practical experience (literature and/or “case studies”).</li><li>- Synthesis and benchmarking of standards and experiences.</li><li>- Identification of critical issues.</li><li>- Definition of criteria and recommendations for a standardisation of methodologies applicable to Power Systems.</li><li>- Dissemination of conclusions (Target Groups: Electric Utilities, Authorities, Regulators)</li></ul>	



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**Deliverables:** Technical brochure on the proposed evaluation procedure and summary to be published on ELECTRA

**Time Schedule**

- a) Launch of WG: September 2006
- b) Interim Report: December 2007
- c) Final Report: June 2008
- d) Technical Brochure: December 2008
- e) Disbanding: March 2009

**Approval by TC Chairman : Aldo Bolza**

**Date : July 19, 2006**