**40.20** **Engineering & Procurement (“E&P”) Agreement**

Prior to executing a Standard Interconnection Agreement, an Interconnection Customer may, in order to advance the implementation of its interconnection request, and Connecting Transmission Owner shall offer the Interconnection Customer, an E&P Agreement that authorizes the Connecting Transmission Owner to begin engineering and procurement of long lead-time items necessary for the establishment of the interconnection. However, the Connecting Transmission Owner shall not be obligated to offer an E&P Agreement if the Interconnection Customer is in Dispute Resolution as a result of an allegation that the Interconnection Customer has failed to meet any milestones or comply with any prerequisites specified in other parts of these Standard Interconnection Procedures. The E&P Agreement is an optional procedure, and it will not alter the Interconnection Customer’s Queue Position or Initial Backfeed Date. The E&P Agreement shall provide for the Interconnection Customer to pay the cost of all activities authorized by the Interconnection Customer and to make advance payments or provide other satisfactory security for such costs. The Interconnection Customer shall, in accordance with Attachment HH to the ISO OATT, pay the cost of such authorized activities and any cancellation costs for equipment that is already ordered for its interconnection, which cannot be mitigated as hereafter described, whether or not such items or equipment later become unnecessary. If the Interconnection Customer withdraws its Interconnection Request or either Party terminates the E&P Agreement, to the extent the equipment ordered can be canceled under reasonable terms, the Interconnection Customer shall be obligated to pay the associated cancellation costs. To the extent that the equipment cannot be reasonably canceled, Connecting Transmission Owner may elect: (i) to take title to the equipment, in which event Connecting Transmission Owner shall refund the Interconnection Customer any amounts paid by the Interconnection Customer for such equipment and shall pay the cost of delivery of such equipment, or (ii) to transfer title to and deliver such equipment to Interconnection Customer, in which event the Interconnection Customer shall pay any unpaid balance and cost of delivery of such equipment.