Minutes No. [22]

Southwest Power Pool
OPERATIONS TRAINING WORKING GROUP
March 20, 2006
Teleconference
• M I N U T E S •

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order and Approval of Agenda
Allen Klassen called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. CST

Allen requested that two items be included in the agenda for the meeting:
1. Description of NERC CEH Requirements- John Taylor
2. Overview of NERC Training SAR- John Taylor

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the 2/13/2006 meeting were approved.

Attendees:
Allen Klassen (Chair) - Westar
Ron Maki (Vice-Chair) - Aquila
Mike Wech – SWPA
Bob Cochran- SPS
Hermes Arevalo – OKGE
Barry Warren – EDE
Rick Favret – AEP
Jim Williams – SPP Staff
John Taylor – SPP Staff
Donna Freeman- SPP Staff
Jim Gunnell (Secretary) – SPP Staff

Agenda item 3 – Review discussions from February 13, 2006 meeting
  o Ron Maki provided a status on the Spring System Operations Conference scheduled for April 11-13, 2006. All speakers have been arranged, 37 participants have registered to date, food will be arranged next week by John Taylor, presentation materials and handouts are being sent to John Taylor who will have them printed and delivered to Springfield. John will also submit the NERC application for CEH approval.
  o Ron Maki informed the group of the North Subregion Black Start exercise scheduled for May 18, 2006. Ron requested an SPP reliability coordinator participate in the drill. Terry Oxandale and Jim Williams will arrange for one to attend.
  o John Taylor discussed the SPP Regional Black Start drills scheduled for September 6-7, 2006 and September 26-27, 2006
Allen updated the group on the concern with training staff usage. He reported that he had not been able to discuss the matter with Stacy Duckett, but would speak to her within the week.

Jim Gunnell reported speaking with Julie Pierce from MISO about a standard contract to use with vendors. Jim spoke with Stacy Duckett about the possibility and will follow up on this. Jim Gunnell and John Taylor suggested that what she would likely say is to propose what is needed so it can be considered in the resource allocation and budget process. The OTWG had identified regional training needs in its January 18, 2006 meeting. Jim Gunnell and John Taylor agreed to work up a resource request using this information and present it to the OTWG at its next meeting for approval before submission into the SPP resource planning and budget process. This process begins in June.

Jim Gunnell announced that Jim Williams is being designated as the regional training coordinator and member contact for regional training activities in an effort to devote more resources to regional training within current constraints.

Agenda Item 4 – Action Items Update

John Taylor described the pros and cons between using the SOS Simulator, the PowerSmith Simulator, and the SPP DTS Simulator. John felt that SPP should be able to accomplish its training goals by using the in-house DTS simulator. This simulator is already in place and has support staff to work with the training on this.

- **SOS, Intl. (PowerSimulator)** – SOS will load the SPP footprint into the PowerSimulator for use on an SPP subregion level for emergency operations and other regional training for $14,000 per region. They did not have a price for the entire footprint at once.

- **SPP DTS Simulator** – SPP has purchased an Areva simulator (DTS) that has full simulator capabilities. The SPP full footprint has been loaded and the SPP operations trainers have been trained to build and operate simulations with it. The DTS would be available for regional training on SPP laptops with SPP trainers if the request is approved by SPP management.

- **SPP EMSDSR** – SPP has a standalone EMS they use for their Backup Site and for SPP coordinator training prior to purchasing the DTS. The EMSDSR is very trainer intense, requiring every breaker and flow to be changed individually, and those one at the time changes often result in delayed response such as the breaker on both ends of a line showing open but the line still loaded. The DTS is very superior to the EMSDSR for training purposes.

- **PowerSmith** – The OTWG had previously met with this company and had decided that their small (20 bus model) generic footprint version of PowerWorld Simulator was not specific enough for regional emergency operations training.
o **Recommendation** - John recommended pursuing the use of the SPP DTS for these reasons:
  
  - Any simulator will require some user navigation training at the beginning because not all SPP members use the same EMS.
  - The members have already purchased a full capability simulator – the SPP DTS. Why spend money on another?
  - SPPs coordinator training using the DTS would be enhanced by participation of members in their emergency operations training.
  - Reliability will be enhanced by regional emergency operations training using the actual SPP model.
  - SPP already owns 15 laptops (and plans to budget more next year) that could be used for regional training some of the year.

**Agenda Item 5 – OTWG Open Positions**

After the resignation of Les Munsch from MWE, the OTWG has three vacancies. Allen encouraged participants on the call to think about joining the OTWG or speaking with others from their company that might be interested. Ron Maki encouraged the inclusion of someone with a system operations background to the OTWG. Barry Warren (OKGE) volunteered to fill one position until his new training and compliance position was filled, at which time that person would take his place on the committee.

**Action Item 6 – Course Registration Process**

Ron Maki noted that it is not possible for a supervisor to register multiple participants using the SPP event registration interface. Jim Gunnell noted that the website was being revised and that he would speak with the SPP IT contact about resolving the multiple registration issue.

**Action Items:**

A – Explore drafting a contract that can be used with vendors in order to standardize the format and expedite the contract process – Jim Gunnell

B – Discuss SPP Registration Event page functionality with IT – Jim Gunnell

C – SPP Training team to develop Regional Operations Training Plan for Fall 2006 and 2007; the following training needs were identified on January 18, 2006
  1. Voltage control, system stability regionally oriented
  2. Regional simulator with all memebers participating using instability scenarios across SPP
  3. TLR, EEA, Other Extreme Conditions, Reserve Sharing System (RSS), SPP procedures
  4. SPP structure, groups, and operations areas
5. Regional scenarios
6. Interconnected power system operations, energy shortages
7. Core curriculum (training that applies to all system operators)
8. IROLs - system operator response, SPP Reliability Coordinator response

D – Allen Klassen to discuss staff usage with Stacy Duckett

E – Discuss Chief Operations Meeting with Robert Rhodes – John Taylor

F – Form Black Start training subcommittee to discuss the BS training plan for the fall – John Taylor

G – Note to training contacts requesting participation in BS planning - John Taylor

H – Forward Les Munsch resignation to Nick Brown – Jim Gunnell
    Forward Barry Warren nomination for OTWG to Nick Brown – Jim Gunnell
    Forward Hermes Arevalo nomination to replace Don Hargrove to Nick Brown – Jim Gunnell

**Agenda Item 7 – Future Calls/Meetings**
Face-to-Face Meeting and Teleconference following the SOC on April 13, 2006
The meeting and call will begin at 12:30 CST
Dial In Information: 1-210-453-4662 Passcode: 5177357

**Agenda Item 8 – Adjournment**
Allen Klassen adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m. CST

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Gunnell, SPP staff secretary