Reliability Assurance Initiative
NERC Compliance and Certification Committee

April 29, 2013

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What is the Reliability Assurance Initiative?

The Reliability Assurance Initiative (RAI) is a collaborative effort to identify changes enhancing the effectiveness of the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) compliance and enforcement program. Multiple groups (within NERC and industry) are working to ensure these efforts, in accordance with the FPA Section 215, continue to promote and facilitate the reliability and security of the bulk power system. The goal of these efforts is to focus resources of all stakeholders on activities adding value to reliability and security without losing sight of the roles all parties must fulfill.

Components of RAI

- Assessing Reliability Risk
- Scoping Compliance Monitoring
- Processing Violations In Accordance With Risk
- Strengthening the Feedback Loop to the Standards Development Process

RAI Projects – CCC participation

- RAI Opportunities and Benefits White Paper
  - Risk Based Reliability Compliance Working Group
- RAI Frequently Asked Questions Document
  - Risk Based Reliability Compliance Working Group
- RSAW Improvements
  - NERC CCC Standards Interface Subcommittee
- Data Retention (Reasonable Record Retention)
  - CCC Retention Task Force
- Internal Controls
  - CCC Internal Controls Task Force

SPP Member Participants: Oklahoma Gas & Electric, Rayburn Electric, KCP&L

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RAI Project Definitions

1. RAI Opportunities and Benefits White Paper

   a. Identification of benefits and impacts to registered entities document or matrix that organizes these benefits and impacts. This product will be posted on the NERC web page for industry reference. Has a scheduled deliverable for the May 2013 NERC Board meeting.

RAI Project Definitions

2. RAI Frequently Asked Questions Document

   a. Translate feedback on the RAI conceptual white papers to develop written responses generating an Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. This product will be posted on the NERC web page for industry reference. This document needs to be managed and revised based on fresh input from the RAI projects. NERC has a scheduled deliverable for the May 2013 NERC Board meeting.

RAI Project Definitions

3. RSAW Improvements
   a. Refine the RSAW to provide input and guidance to define how industry:
      i. Currently uses the RSAW tool – regional inconsistencies.
      ii. What changes or revisions to the RSAW would help make the tool more efficient, less burdensome and still provide the ERO the necessary level of compliance assurance.
      iii. How should standard drafting team frame up guidance and input for NERC to consider for new RSAWs.
      iv. The deliverable would be a document for the RSAW project team to consider in the design of a refined RSAW and how they should be used. NERC will receive progress reports and a scheduled deliverable for the end of Q2 2013.

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RAI Project Definitions

4. Data Retention (Reasonable Record Retention)
   a. Understand and establish reasonable data retention requirements providing input about how industry:
      i. Prepares data and evidence for compliance engagements
      ii. Views the current data retention requirements under the NERC reliability standards
      iii. Determines what is reasonable to retain relative to the NERC reliability standards.
      iv. Feedback on reasonable time periods to verify and validate compliance with the standards. Feedback on how administrative burden can be reduced while mandating an acceptable level of compliance assurance.
      v. The deliverable would be a document for the NERC project team to consider while designing a more refined compliance data retention program. NERC will receive progress reports and a scheduled deliverable for the beginning of Q4 2013.

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Project Definitions for CCC stakeholders – RAI efforts

5. Internal Controls
   a. Work with active efforts in the industry to guide outcomes on additional understanding, frameworks, guidelines, tools and training related to internal controls and the risk relationship. Existing efforts are still being identified and more formal project scope is in development. This task force was not requested by NERC but is still working closely with all stakeholders.