NERC Operating Committee

Report to the SPP Regional Entity Trustee

April 29, 2013

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Activity Update

A regular meeting of the NERC Operating Committee (OC) was held on March 5-6, 2013, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

OC meeting highlights:

- Accepted the Reliability Guideline: **Winter Weather Readiness – Current Industry Practices,** as developed by the OC. Final review incorporated industry comments from posted draft document. Statements worded with "should" in most cases. Attachment 1 of the document contains "Elements of a Winter Weather Preparation Procedure."

  On a related item, the OC will develop comments on the revised **Cold Weather Preparedness SAR**. The SAR Drafting Team has proposed revisions to EOP-001 that include expanding applicability to include GOs, inserting a new requirement R7 for the GO to have an extreme winter weather preparation plan. SAR will be posted to industry comment.

- Endorsed the work of Geomagnetic Disturbance Phase 2 Task Force. Phase 2 activities will emphasize efforts to develop transmission and generator operator operating procedure templates. These templates identify actions to consider to address internal or external indications of GMD events.

- Operations Reliability Subcommittee reported they are developing a report of its findings and conclusions focusing on the use of real-time contingency analysis (RTCA) in use by RCs, BAs, and TOPs. This activity was a result of recommendations identified in the Southwest Outage Report.

- Resources Subcommittee reported they are reviewing a proposal to have all Balancing Authorities (BAs) in each Interconnection share their Net Interchange Actual and Net Interchange Scheduled with a reliability coordinator within that Interconnection. The RC would develop an error-checking matrix that could be reviewed if frequency was significantly off-schedule and the underlying cause is not known. The matrix could also be used if a BAs EMS were down as it would provide an alternate ACE calculation for the impacted RC and RCs in the Eastern and Western Interconnection. The OC directed the ORS to find volunteer RCs in the Eastern and Western Interconnection to create proposed procedures and solutions that would create an error checking matrix of BA interchange data for their respective interconnections.

- Tom Burgess, VP and Director of Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis, reviewed the **2013-2016 ERO Strategic Plan**. The OC will develop and submit comments to NERC.

- OC Chair Tom Bowe led a discussion and review of the OC Strategic Plan. The OC formulated 5 goals to emphasize: 1) To strive for reliability excellence by prioritizing NERC reliability standards, 2) Utilization of the Event Analysis Processes to become aware of lessons learned to improve reliability operation of the BES, 3) Review the impact of Operations on protection schemes and changes of protection schemes on Operations, 4) Improve the depth of NERC reports in include operations perspectives, 5) Investigate generation resource mix and identify potential improvements in operations associated with integration of new resources.

- OC will review and develop comments on the **Gas/Electric Dependencies Phase 2 Report**. The report is expected to address 1) the vulnerabilities that can affect bulk powe3r system reliability, 2) ways to minimize those vulnerabilities, and 3) approaches where coordinated inter-industry activities could provide enhanced system reliability and improve efficiency.

- OC reviewed the revised MISO Reliability Plan. The Plan had not been reviewed by the SERC OC and the NERC ORS Executive Committee at the time of the meeting so the OC deferred action on the Plan until these groups had time for their review. The OC scheduled a webinar to further discuss the Plan on March 22 after the SERC OC and NERC ORS Executive Committee completed their review. At the March 22 meeting, the OC motion to approve the revised MISO Reliability Plan failed to pass. Many of the NO votes pointed to the need for additional coordination studies between MISO and impacting neighboring RCs and BAs. The NERC OC has scheduled a special meeting on May 15-16 where MISO will present these additional study and analysis results, and review congestion management, enhanced day ahead coordination, and enhanced real time processes. The NERC OC will reconsider the revised MISO Reliability Plan at its June regular meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Operating Committee will be on June 11-12, 2013 in Atlanta, Georgia.