

November 21, 2014

To: Transmission Planners in SPP RE footprint

RE: Compliance Requirements TPL-001-4 – Collaborative Efforts of the Planning Coordinator and Transmission Planner

Greetings:

TPL-001-4 allows for collaboration in the transmission planning process (R7), but also stipulates that each TP and PC must do certain activities (R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6) including Planning Assessments and studies. The SPP RE was asked to clarify which requirements take precedent. The SPP RE supports and believes that the collaborative effort of the Transmission Planners in the SPP RE footprint results in a superior product over uncoordinated individual efforts. Therefore, we are issuing this notice to the registered Transmission Planners in the SPP RE footprint to provide additional guidance for this standard.

Individual studies (elements of the Planning Assessment):

In Order 786, FERC agreed with R7 as filed by NERC. NERC's filing stated:

Requirement R7: Mandates coordination of individual and joint responsibilities for the Planning Coordinator and the Transmission Planner which is intended to eliminate confusion regarding the responsibilities of the applicable entities and assures that all elements needed for regional and wide area studies are defined with a specific entity responsible for each element and that no gaps will exist in planning for the Bulk-Power System.

The SPP RE will assess the compliance of each Transmission Planner and Planning Coordinator according to the agreed upon respective R7 responsibilities. As R7 mandates a minimal level of performance, no Transmission Planner will be in Possible Violation of the Requirements by running additional studies beyond those in the agreement as it deems necessary.

Planning Assessments:

Each Transmission Planner must have its own unique Planning Assessment in which it assesses its own system. A Planning Coordinator Planning Assessment, on its own, is **NOT** sufficient for a Transmission Planner's Planning Assessment. The Planning Assessment must be written, dated, unique to your company, and filed within your company. The Transmission Planner should ensure the Planning Assessment references the relevant studies in R2, R3, and R4 performed in accordance with R5, regardless of whether those studies were performed by the Planning Coordinator or the Transmission Planner. In particular, Transmission Planners should verify that all studies required by the TPL-001-4 studies were performed. Transmission Planners should also ensure that the Planning

Assessments document the criteria or methodology used in the analysis to identify System instability as addressed in R6. **The preparation of these assessments helps to demonstrate the depth of knowledge that your individual subject matter experts have concerning both the collaborative planning process and the impact on your individual footprint.** In addition, these Planning Assessments should include discussions about specific areas of your footprint that have known operational or study-identified voltage, thermal or stability issues, which in some cases may not show up on the Planning Coordinator's Planning Assessment, as the Planning Coordinator's assessment is considering a wider view.

Implementation:

Annual Planning Assessments submitted for compliance after January 1, 2016 will need to be supported by studies compliant with TPL-001-4 (R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R8).

Supersedes previous guidance

This notice covers TPL-001-4 and supersedes previous guidance from the SPP RE dated April 8, 2011, which covered TPL-001-0.1, TPL-002-0b, TPL-003-0b, TPL-004-0a.

Sincerely,



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