




Welcome to

ERCOT Pandemic Planning Symposium

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Safety & Evacuation Routes

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NERC September 2005

North American Electric Reliability Council Actions (NERC)

- **First Sounded Alarm at September 2005 Meeting in Denver, Colorado**
- **Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee (CIPC) took the lead**
 - Ontario ISO and Government of Canada provided a wealth of data from their SARS experience in 2003
- **CIPC Articulated Need for Avian Flu Pandemic Preparedness**
 - CIPC agreed to develop an Avian Flu Pandemic Preparedness Document and Response Reference Guide for the Electricity Industry
 - Distribute to the Documents to the Electricity Sector after CIPC review and ballot approval

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NERC December 2005

- **Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee Avian Flu Pandemic Preparedness Documents**
 - Avian Flu Pandemic Preparedness Document, and Response Reference Guide were tailored to address the needs of the Electricity Sector
 - CIPC Member provided additional inputs and comments at December 2005 meeting in Tampa, Florida
 - CIPC requested that members support a very short ballot cycle for document approval

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NERC Plan Highlights

- NERC finalized documents on February 8, 2006
- Business continuity planning in the Electricity Sector requires being prepared for a full range of threats facing the owners and operators
 - Lessons learned and experience from Y2K planning, adverse weather, vandalism, equipment failure, and many other threats.
 - Electricity Sector now challenged by another threat with some familiar characteristics but a threat with some **new dimensions which need special consideration**

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Avian flu Pandemic

- The new threat is the possibility of an Avian Flu Pandemic which is caused by the H5N1 virus
- The H5N1 virus is currently infecting large populations of birds
 - Started in Asia and migrated to other areas
- The H5N1 virus has also infected human beings with fatal results
 - Transmission is bird to human, not human to human
- Reports of the virus spreading rapidly has attracted serious attention by governments throughout the world and in USA and Texas
- NERC found the avian flu pandemic to be a threat to business continuity of operations
 - A threat that must be carefully and uniquely considered

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Electric Sector Business Continuity Planning

- NERC indicates that Avian flu Pandemic is unique from other threats:
 - **Worldwide Impact** — Most other threats are localized geographically
 - This Threat has potential to impact operations simultaneously across North America and around the world.
 - **Duration** — Avian flu would most likely severely disrupt operations for six to eight weeks.
 - Some level of fear would spread through the population prior to the actual outbreak
 - Actual "sickness" period would be two to four weeks for many individuals
 - This period would then be multiplied as the flu worked its way through the population
 - If the virus mutates, multiple cycles or waves of illness might then sweep through the population
 - **Mortality** — Predicted mortality rates vary significantly from .5 - 2 %
 - Even a low end mortality rate would cause severe dislocation for employees who would lose family members and friends
 - Mortality rates are usually much higher in young children, the elderly, and individuals weakened by other illnesses such as Tuberculosis, diabetes, cancer, and HIV

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Pandemic Planning Symposium Purpose

- Promote business continuity planning for an influenza pandemic event
- Provide ERCOT market participants with an opportunity to work together and identify business constraints during pandemic conditions
- Provide a forum to discuss business continuity planning and pandemic preparation efforts with key public health officials
- Cultivate a strategy and partnership that will strengthen Market Participant protection of the Texas Bulk Electric Grid and Markets

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Agenda & Breaks

9:00 – 9:15	Welcome and Opening Remarks Jim Brenton, Director of Security and Facilities, ERCOT
9:15 – 10:00	State and Local Health Department, Pandemic Plans and Activities Cynthia Morgan, PhD, RN, Texas Dept. of State Health Services Janet Pichette, Austin/Travis County Health & Human Services Dept.
10:00 – 10:45	Challenges for HR, Legal and Facilities—ERCOT Nancy Capezzuti, VP of HR Planning and Organizational Development Susan Vincent, Assistant General Council Mike McCutchen, Facilities Manager
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 11:30	Overview of TXU's Plan Jim Dixon, Vice President, Gas Plant Operations
11:30 – 12:00	Overview of Austin Energy's Plan Linda Kennedy, Emergency Management Coordinator
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 1:15	Instructions for Breakout Sessions Don Meek, Manager Risk Management
1:20 – 2:15	Breakout Sessions
2:15 – 2:30	Break
2:30 – 3:00	Summary of Breakout Sessions
3:00 – 3:45	Panel Discussion on Selected Topics & Q&A
3:45 – 4:00	Closing Remarks Don Meek, Manager Risk Management

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