

Pandemic Planning Symposium  
Breakout Session Notes  
Grid Management in a Pandemic

Comparable Scenarios with issues similar to a Pandemic where we already do planning and training

- Hurricane Evacuations, Strikes, Winter Storm Drill, Black Start
  - Staffing
  - Access control (getting back into the area to man facilities after the facility has been moved to safety) This requires local, state, and/or federal coordination
  - Mutual assistance (Providing support to peers or competitors in order to ensure grid reliability)
  - Modified command and control (In the absence of executive authority, who can buy what is needed, who is to communicate with the media, and industry, state, and federal agencies, ...)
  - Press communications (Plan A, Plan B, ...)
  - Government/PUC communications (Plan A, Plan B, ...)
  - Transportation (gasoline, ...)
  - Short staff
  - Degraded communications
  - HR/Payroll
- Pandemic
  - Bereavement leave
  - Employee health
  - Vaccine shots
  - Employee communications
  - Improvised Childcare (if a spouse is unavailable but children are in the household and you need the employee at work...)
  - Hygiene
  - Food and medicine
  - Coordination with local community resources
  - Emotional counseling – EAP
  - Resources – suppliers
  - Planning and drills
  - Suspension of market rules
  - Small providers (smaller companies with smaller staffs may experience different problems than larger companies)
  - Customer communications – who to call (During hurricane Rita transmission customers were given ERCOT's phone number, which connected them to ERCOT's physical security folks. We may need a better plan on who to call when.)
  - Rep with no backup center needs 'who to call' list
  - If staff loss high, is there a plan in place to bring in outside staff resource (can two control centers hit merge resources, this would be an expanded mutual assistance plan)

### Backup Center vs. Backup Company

- Prepare for backup centers
  - Among market participants
- Identify critical assets
  - Small companies
  - Risk assessment
- Portal access for QSE data
- Security

### Where are the Risks of Grid Failure

- Staffing
  - Losses – passwords, security, people skills
- Maintenance and repair
- Regular business service orders
  - Power turned on/switched
- Contractor dependencies
  - Fuel
  - Outside communications
    - Mobile phone system
    - Cable
- Transmission
- Look at past grid failures to identify biggest risks