



DRAFT OPEN SESSION MINUTES OF SPECIAL NODAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE
MEETING OF ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL OF TEXAS, INC

7620 Metro Center Drive, Austin, Texas 78744, Room 206

August 17, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Bob Helton, Chair
Mark Armentrout
Steve Bartley
Deryl Brown
Miguel Espinosa
A.D. Patton
Jean Ryall

Other Board Members

Don Ballard
Brad Cox
Andrew Dalton
Michehl Gent
Bob Kahn
Jan Newton
Dan Wilkerson

ERCOT Staff

Steve Byone
Mike Cleary
Betty Day
Vicki Gates
Matt Mereness
Richard Morgan
Mike Petterson
Tom Kleckner
Nicole Rossero
Dave Seibert
Bill Wullenjohn

Others

Ken Donohoo
Wendell Drost
Erik Goff
Shannon McClendon

Bob Helton convened the Open Session of the Meeting of the Special Nodal Program Committee (Committee) of the Board of Directors (Board) of Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) at 12:10 p.m.



Mr. Helton adjourned into Executive Session at approximately 12:10 p.m. The Open Session reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

Vote on Matters from Executive Session (Agenda Item No. 7)

Mark Armentrout moved to recommend for Board approval the contract recommendation presented to the Board as Item 21b. The motion was seconded by Steve Bartley. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote with no abstentions.

Mr. Bartley moved to recommend for Board approval the contract recommendation presented to the Board as Item 21c. The motion was seconded by Jean Ryall. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote with no abstentions.

Approval of July 20, 2009 Open Session Minutes (Agenda Item Nos. 8)

Ms. Ryall moved to approve the July 20, 2009 Open Session minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armentrout. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

PMO Nodal and Planning Update (Agenda Item Nos. 9 & 12)

Jason Iacobucci, Nodal Program Manager, provided the Project Management Office (PMO) update. Mr. Iacobucci identified the four major focus points of the Nodal Program as: 1) work and resource planning and management; 2) release strategy and management; 3) program communications; and 4) program governance and organization. Mr. Iacobucci stated that eleven of fourteen July performance milestones were met and that fourteen milestones were scheduled for August. Mr. Iacobucci discussed that the CMM Milestone slipped two weeks, but the slip would not impact the end-to-end schedule. Mike Cleary, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, stated that functionality was no longer in development and that the program was moving towards go-live. Mr. Cleary also noted that CMM is not on the critical path, but continues to be monitored closely.

Integration Testing Update (Agenda Item No. 11)

Murray Nixon, Integration Testing Manager, provided the Integration Testing Update. Ms. Nixon stated that integration and adapter testing would run through September of this year, and that end-to-end testing started in July and will run through March of 2010. Ms. Nixon presented the connector scorecard stating that connector testing is scheduled to be complete September 22, 2009. Jan Newton asked that the Committee continues to be updated regarding the cooperation of vendors throughout the testing process.

Market Readiness Update (Agenda Item No. 10)

Vikki Gates, ERCOT and Market Participant Readiness Project Manager, provided the Market Readiness Update. Ms. Gates noted that training programs and site visits have been developed based on feedback from market participants. Ms. Gates also stated that market participants have various readiness touch points, including stakeholder meetings, market training, outreach programs, standby site visits, and market trials. Ms. Gates confirmed that metrics would be provided to the Board regarding both ERCOT and Market Participant readiness. Mr. Helton confirmed with the readiness team that it was comfortable with the level of interface it has with the market.



Protocol Traceability Update (Agenda Item No. 13)

Betty Day, Director of Markets, provided the Protocol traceability update, identifying risks and issues related to achieving the Nodal Program's major milestones to ensure the Program meets all Protocol requirements. Ms. Day stated there were no gaps identified in the traceability, but the process of tracing the Protocols was is ongoing.

NPRR Parking Deck (Agenda Item No. 15)

Mr. Helton discussed the NPRR Parking Deck, stating that the version submitted to the Board this month was the same as last month, but noted that it has undergone additional vetting.

Financial Review (Agenda Item No. 14)

Steve Byone, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, provided the financial review of the Nodal Program noting that it was under budget for the month of July, primarily due to two key areas - external resource costs and software and software maintenance. Mr. Cleary advised the Committee that he will have a better understanding in October how current savings will impact the contingency fund. Ms. Newton inquired about the nodal fee case at the Public Utility Commission (Commission). Mr. Byone stated that all parties who didn't sign to the stipulation agreement would be at the Commission's hearing.

Other Business (Agenda Item No. 17)

Matt Mereness, Market Operations Technical Specialist, provided the SEM Go-live update discussing that SEM Go-live was on track for August 31, 2009. Additionally, Mr. Mereness provided the approval timeframe required by Protocol section 21.12.3.

The Open Session adjourned at approximately 2:02 p.m.

Matthew T. Morais
Committee Secretary