Operations Working Group Report

February, 2012

The Operations Working Group (OWG) met on January 30, 2012 and considered the following:

**December OWG Meeting Minutes Review –**

The working group reviewed and approved the December meeting minutes.

**Revision Request Review –**

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| **084NOGRR** |
| **Daily Grid Operations Summary Report.** |
| Impact Analysis Review |
| **OWG Action**: Tabled for one month |
| Discussion:  The Impact Analysis cost estimation ($300-500K), need for additional FTEs, and implementation timeline was a cause of concern to the working group. The OWG asked Mr. Bill Blevins, ERCOT to provide detailed information on each of the approximate 20 items included in the summary. This information will provide both ERCOT and Market Participants a clearer picture of the implementation time and cost for each of the various summary items.  The OWG will also request that the QMWG and other concerned groups be prepared to make their case for the pros and cons (market benefit vs. implementation cost) of each item. |

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| **085NOGRR** |
| **Replace TML References with MIS** |
| Impact Analysis Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG recommends ROS approval |
| Discussion:  This revision request was recommended for approval following a review of the Impact Analysis. |

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| **086NOGRR** |
| **Clarification of Seasonal Unit Capability Testing Requirements** |
| Language Review |
| **OWG Action**: Tabled for one month |
| Discussion:  The QMWG and PLWG review indicates that changing the season start and ending dates may result in unrealized negative consequences especially when applied to other processes such as 4-CP Coincidental Peak Load Calculations. The OWG agreed to table this revision request for one month to allow the concerned working groups and task forces more time to consider the full impact. |
| Related Item (s) |
| **NPRR436** |
| **Clarify the Use of the Defined Term Season and Its Derivatives** |
| **OWG Action**: OWG will request PRS Table for one month |

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| **088NOGRR** |
| **Synchronization with NPRR424, Reactive Capability Testing Requirements for IRRs** |
| Language Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG recommends ERCOT perform an Impact Analysis |
| Discussion:  Mr. Walter Reid, Wind Coalition expressed concern that these changes did not relate to certain types of WGR’s with switchable reactive devices and asked ERCOT to provide WGRs with specific reactive testing procedures for these units. |

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| **089NOGRR** |
| **Clarification of Responsibilities for Black Start Resources and QSEs** |
| Language Review |
| **OWG Action**: Tabled for one month |
| Discussion:  The BSWG requested OWG table this revision request for one month while they continue to review and revise. |

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| **090NOGRR** |
| **Change in Entity Responsible for Reporting Participation in Severe Weather Drills** |
| Language Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG recommends ERCOT perform an Impact Analysis |
| Discussion:  The OWG revised the language of this revision request to reflect that the ERCOT will report to the Texas Reliability Entity and the OWG. The OWG will relay the report to ROS. |

**Operations Task Force Report –**

Mr. Kelly Blackmer, ERCOT reported that ERCOT Emergency Operations, the Operations Task Force and the OWG are developing scripts for the upcoming ERCOT Severe Weather Drill in May this year. The actual date(s) of the drill has yet to be determined.

**Compliance Report –**

Mr. David Penny asked if OWG’s opinion as to whether formal communications included electronic instructions. The group responded that current electronic communications did not have the repeat-back feature with acknowledgement required by the industry recognized practice of formal 3-way communications.

Mr. Penny further reminded the group that TADS report data was due by the end of February.

**System Operations Report –**

Ms. Colleen Frosch, ERCOT wanted to know if it was agreeable for ERCOT System Operators to give out SSRG member contact information. The group responded that they considered it inappropriate for ERCOT Operators to divulge personal contact information.

**Other –**

Because the BSWG no longer reports to the OWG, the charter of the OWG needs to be revised to remove the statement about developing the ERCOT Black Start Plan.

*“The Operations Working Group (OWG), reporting to the Reliability and Operations Subcommittee (ROS), is responsible for reviewing the effectiveness of coordination between transmission and distribution service providers, qualified scheduling entities and power generating entities within the ERCOT control area.*

*The OWG ~~also develops and reviews the ERCOT Black Start Plan, and~~ assists as needed with the review and analysis of any unusual or emergency-type events. The group provides revisions to the ERCOT Operating Guides as needed and ensures that they comply with North American Electric Reliability Council policy revisions. In addition, the OWG provides input to ERCOT on operator training needs including but not limited to the ERCOT Annual Operator Training Seminar, the Black Start Training Seminar and the Annual ERCOT Storm/Emergency Drill.”*

The OWG will review and draft a revision to the charter statement at their February 15th meeting. The OWG will then submit the draft revision for ROS approval.

**Future Meeting Dates –**

February 15th, 2012