Operations Working Group Report

March, 2012

The Operations Working Group (OWG) met on February 15, 2012 and considered the following:

**January OWG Meeting Minutes Review –**

The working group reviewed and approved the January meeting minutes.

**Revision Request Review –**

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| **84NOGRR** |
| **Daily Grid Operations Summary Report.** |
| Impact Analysis Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG recommends ROS approval Smiley.png |
| Discussion:  The QMWG and the MISUG submitted a business case and submitted comments on this request. Both groups were represented at the February OWG meeting. OWG made revisions to the request with the assistance of QMWG and MISUG representation. The OWG didn’t feel this revision belonged in Section 9, Monitoring Programs and therefore made a decision to create a new Operating Guides Section 10, Market Data Transparency where the Daily Grid Operations Report language would be placed. The OWG recommends ROS approve 084NOGRR as revised by OWG and also recommends that ROS review an updated Impact Analysis. OWG reviewed and approved the original Impact Analysis; however the OWG revisions require that ERCOT update the IA. The group did not feel that the updated IA needed to return to the OWG. |

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| **086NOGRR** |
| **Clarification of Seasonal Unit Capability Testing Requirements** |
| Language Review |
| **OWG Action**: Tabled indefinitely |
| Discussion:  Further review of this revision request revealed that current use of the non-capitalized term “season” and its derivatives in both the Protocols and Operating Guides leaves the definition up to the reader’s interpretation. Currently, there are four different definitions of the term “season” in the Protocols, Operating and Planning Guides. It is unclear which definition applies to the non-capitalized term. OWG is currently working closely with the QMWG, the PLWG and ERCOT to resolve possible unintended consequences of removing the definition of the seasons in the Operating Guides and capitalizing the term throughout the Guides and Protocols. |
| Related Item (s) |
| **NPRR436** |
| **Clarify the Use of the Defined Term Season and Its Derivatives** |
| **OWG Action**: OWG, with the approval of ROS, requested PRS table for one month |

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| **088NOGRR** |
| **Synchronization with NPRR424, Reactive Capability Testing Requirements for IRRs** |
| Impact Analysis Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG recommends ROS approval Smiley.png |
| Discussion:  OWG reviewed the Impact Analysis and recommended this revision request and impact analysis be approved to bring the Operating Guides language into alignment with the language of the Board approved NPRR424 Reactive Capability Testing Requirements for IRRs. |

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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. The February 23rd BSWG meeting was cancelled therefore OWG was in favor of tabling this revision request for an additional month. |

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| **090NOGRR** |
| **Change in Entity Responsible for Reporting Participation in Severe Weather Drills** |
| Impact Analysis Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG recommends ROS approval Smiley.png |
| 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 –**

Brad Calhoun reported that CenterPoint Energy delivered a drill storm track and timeline for the May Severe Weather Drill to ERCOT and the Operations Task Force (OTF). ERCOT and the OTF will develop a script to send to participants who will add their company specific details and return to ERCOT. Tentatively, it appears that the drill will be held on May 22-23, 2012.

**TRE Update Report –**

Mr. Mark Henry provided the following information from the Texas RE:

TRE will update webpage on transmission vegetation reports to reflect current OG to reflect removal of Operating Guides requirements.

Standards update – FERC has not approved directive changes but NERC’s Board has, associated with COM-002 and TOP and IRO requirements. Until FERC approves changes, current versions remain in effect.

FERC order 754 (not 748) – comments were received from industry at NERC for data request, which is likely to be issued in April, with about a year to complete – involves protection system single contingencies for long term assessments. Details at: http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/order\_754.html

Brief mention of the NERC mandatory data collection - TADS, DADS, GADS – for transmission outages (over 200 kv), demand side resource operation (LaaR primarily), and generator outages (over 50 MW) high level mention of mandatory data collection. TRE will update OWG on initial TADS data next month.

For Protocol assessment, TRE has a staff level of 3 + manager focused on Protocols. They are reviewing items for future audits. Frank asked if TRE could share areas where there is discrepancy between NERC and Protocol as we look at common areas between these requirements. To date, discrepancies that I am aware of are mostly administrative and don’t warrant urgent action.

Ross Owen asked about TRE’s source of information system concerns such as reactive supply issues. I indicated ERCOT and internal TRE data sources are used; complaints have been filed in some instances, but TRE has initiated its own reviews in audits or other assessments as well. We also are starting efforts to monitor some aspects of performance in this area, outside of compliance concerns.

Upcoming events:

Human Performance Factors workshop at NERC – Atlanta, March 27-28

NERC Standards & Compliance Workshops in April 16-18, 2012 (San Diego, CA) and October 23-25, 2012 (Atlanta, GA)

TRE spring Standards & Compliance workshops - May 15 (Austin)

**System Operations Report –**

**Other –**

**Future Meeting Dates –**

March 14th, 2012