Prolonged Widespread Power Outage

DRAFT Addendum Questions

20210708

* **Dependent upon the unique nature of each situation, a Market Notice will be distributed by the TDSPs to inform MPs of any deviations from normal data practices.**
  1. **What is defined as a widespread prolonged outage?**

Effective September 1, 2021: House Bill 2483, Sec 39.218 UTILITY FACILITIES FOR POWER RESTORATION AFTER WIDESPREAD POWER OUTAGE, includes a definition and criteria of “***Widespread Power Outage”***:



“Widespread Power Outage" means an event that results in:

(1)A loss of electric power that:

(A)Affects a significant number of distribution customers of a transmission and distribution utility; and

(B)has lasted or is expected to last for at least eight hours; and

(2) a risk to public safety.

1. **If a widespread prolonged outage was to occur and communication is lost to a meter, how are the missing intervals handled?**
   * 1. CNP: During any widespread power outage event, as defined in House Bill 2483, any missing Interval(s) usage data will be estimated for the duration of the outage and that usage will be estimated as (0) zero.  When the AMS meter returns to normal communications actual 15-minute interval data is recovered replacing prior estimated usage data. LSE files containing the actual 15-minute interval usage data will be provided to ERCOT and Smart Meter Texas (SMT).
     2. AEP: During any widespread power outage event where AEP has initiated the Catastrophic Estimation Process (CEP), AEP will use any Actual reads obtained from the meter. Any missing interval usage due to non-communicating meters will be shown as a Zero-Actual. Once the widespread power outage has concluded, and CEP is turned off and normal AMS meter communications have returned, any 15-minute interval data recovered from the meter will replace any Zero-Actuals sent during the outage window. All recovered interval data will be sent via LSE file to ERCOT and Smart Meter Texas (SMT).
     3. Oncor: In our normal process, missing intervals will be estimated using our standard VEE process until Gap Retrieval is able to obtain the missing usage.
     4. TNMP:

* **2) Explain the TDSPs designation of any and all estimates shown in the SMT Portal? Under what conditions would an estimate appear as an actual read in the SMT Portal?**

**3) Do the TDSPs utilize other data practices during widespread prolonged outages which may deviate from normal VEE processes?**

* 1. CNP’s Response: No fundamental changes to our VEE logic, however, we do expect estimation processes to run longer and CNP will adjust our data processing schedules to accommodate any additional processing timeframes, therefore the Market should expect later delivery times of any corresponding LSE data to be sent to ERCOT and Smart Meter Texas (SMT).
  2. AEP: AEP’s normal VEE processes are utilized where CEP is not initiated. If CEP is initiated during a widespread prolonged outage, AEP will use any Actual reads obtained from the meter. If Actual reads are unavailable due to non-communicating meters, AEP will use Zero-Actuals for any missing intervals.
  3. Oncor: Typically not, however we will determine on a case-by-case basis.
  4. TNMP:

1. **~~Would the TDSPs estimation procedures specifically exclude using general usage information such as aggregated station/sub-station data or systemwide loads to prorate or allocate or otherwise compute missing intervals for individual customers? If not excluded, please explain the estimation rationale.~~**
2. **At what point will REPs know when the TDSPs utilize data practices for widespread, prolonged outages that will deviate from normal VEE processes?**

* TDSP shall send market notices for any instances where they deviate from normal VEE practices.
* Interval Data on SMT portal may reflect current TDSP VEE process until LSE file is re-versioned to reflect TDSPs use of widespread, prolonged outage data practices that may deviate from normal VEE practices.
* Joint TDSP Response (TNMP to confirm): Any initial and re-versioned LSE file updates would be visible to Customers and their REP of Record. Each 15-minute interval that is provided in the daily LSE file will include an A for Actual or E for Estimated interval usage indicator.

1. **Will 867s and 810s be generated with estimated end register reads, unless otherwise directed by PUCT?**
   * + Joint TDSP Response: Yes, as described in the TXSET Implementation Guide for 867\_03 and 810\_02, anytime an estimated reading is used to produce the Monthly 867\_03 Usage and corresponding 810\_02 Invoice transactions. The Monthly 867\_03 Usage transaction for the Meter Reads could reflect an AE or EE indicator as described below:
       - 1. **AE** - Meter Reading – Beginning Actual/Ending Estimated
         2. **EE** --- Meter Reading – Beginning Estimated/Ending Estimated
2. **Does the AMS meter store data? If so, how much data is stored?**
   * + CNP’s Response: Yes, CNP’s AMS meters store daily 15-minute interval usage data for the most recent 6 months.
     + AEP: Yes, AMS meters store interval usage data for up to the most recent 45 days.
     + Oncor: Yes, Oncor’s AMS meters store interval usage data up to 34 days.
     + TNMP:
3. **After a widespread, prolonged outage concludes, does the TDSP deploy any gap retrieval processes to recover interval data once power is restored to a premise? If so, describe the gap retrieval process, i.e. number of attempts made to retrieve actual data, re-versioned LSE files etc.**

* *Initial and any re-versioned updates of LSE file(s) are always sent to ERCOT for settlements and Smart Meter Texas (SMT) for REP of Records and Customer’s access.*
* CNP’s Response: Yes, the Missing Interval Monitor (MIM) performs a daily look back for any missing intervals starting nightly at 10:00 PM until 2:00 AM to recover any gaps in the interval usage data. *Initial and any re-versioned updates of LSE file(s) are always sent to ERCOT for settlements and Smart Meter Texas (SMT) for REP of Records and Customer’s access.*
* AEP: **After a widespread prolonged outage has concluded, AEP’s gap retrieval process will interrogate the AMS meter for any Actual interval usage stored locally at the Meter. For any intra-day intervals that are still missing after running the gap retrieval process, AEP will use any Actual data retrieved along with the standard gap-fill estimation process to estimate any remaining missing intervals.**
* Oncor: **Yes. The gap retrieval process will typically make two attempts to obtain the missing intervals after power has been restored. The system will look back for up to four days. Each time missing intervals are obtained, Oncor sends a new version of the LSE data to SMT and ERCOT.**
* TNMP:

1. **Will the TDSPs send cancel/rebills if the gap retrieval process yields actual interval data to replace estimated intervals, unless otherwise directed by PUCT?**
   * + Joint TDSP Response:
       1. Any gap retrieval that yields actual interval usage data will not trigger the TDSP’s cancel 867 and 810 rebill processes. However, with the retrieval of actual 15-minute interval data will trigger re-versioned updates to LSE file(s) that are always sent to ERCOT for settlements and Smart Meter Texas (SMT) for REP of Records and Customer’s access.
       2. Register Read and 867\_03 Usage true-up would be achieved through ESI ID’s next month’s 867\_03 Monthly Usage and 810\_02 Invoicing processes.

1. **If TDSPs utilize other data practices during widespread prolonged outages, what impacts may be experienced with 867s/810s and sum of interval data, unless otherwise directed by PUCT?**
   * + AEP + CNP’s Response: No differences unless otherwise directed by PUCT. There may be variances between 867 Monthly Usage and 15-minute Interval Usage Data for the same period. 867 Read and Usage could be estimated consumption for the purposes of providing on-time 867 usage and 810 invoice transactions to the Market. While through gap retrieval processes completed post usage/invoicing periods, the estimated 15-minute interval usage data may be replaced with actual interval usage data that creates re-versioned updates of LSE file(s) sent to ERCOT for settlements and Smart Meter Texas (SMT) for REP of Records and Customer’s access.
     + Oncor: Impacts will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
     + TNMP:
2. **Unless directed by PUCT, Will TDSPs make allowances for any demand considerations due to possible cold load pick up impacts?**

* CNP’s Response: The PUCT issued an Order Regarding Demand Readings and Billings on March 5, 2021. CNP sent a market notice regarding compliance with the PUCT’s Demand Readings and Billings Order on April 7, 2021 and a final notice on April 15, 2021. CNP will comply with any future orders issued by the PUCT regarding cold load pick up impacts.
* AEP: AEP does not make allowances to modify demand readings and billings, unless otherwise directed by PUCT.
* Oncor: Allowances will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
* TNMP: