The Electric Reliability Council of Texas

Operations Training Working Group



**February 8th, 2024**



Operations Training Working Group (OTWG)

# Minutes

February 8th, 2024

WebEx

0900-1100

Meeting Roster:

Must RSVP to attend the on site OTWG meeting.

RSVP at: [https://forms.microsoft.com/g/XGaJUpwRXE](https://isolate.menlosecurity.com/1/3735928009/https%3A/forms.microsoft.com/g/XGaJUpwRXE)

RSVP deadline, 1730 February 5th.

### Anti-trust Admonition:

To avoid raising concerns about antitrust liability, participants in ERCOT activities should refrain from proposing any action or measure that would exceed ERCOT’s authority under federal or state law. For additional information, stakeholders should consult the Statement of Position on Antitrust Issues for Members of ERCOT Committees, Subcommittees, and Working Groups, which is posted on the ERCOT website.

### Disclaimer:

All presentations and materials submitted by Market Participants or any other Entity to ERCOT staff for this meeting are received and posted with the acknowledgement that the information will be considered public in accordance with the ERCOT Websites Content Management Operating Procedure.

# Open Session

Chair/Vice-Chair will only recognize those that use the ‘raise hand” feature in WebEx

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Previous meeting minutes | Made motion | Tamme Chilton |
|  |  2nd motion | Kevin Griffin |

## CURRENT/UPCOMING EVENTS - 2024 Training Schedule

### ERCOT Grid Fundamentals Training Opportunity

* + - John Jarmon has a physical system demonstrating the principles of voltage, reactive devices, voltage effects on load and voltage reduction.
		- A demo will be available for a limited time to those interested in attending.
		- Cycle 1 starts 1/16/2024 – 2/22/2024. Coordinate with John for coordinating a visit checking out this System Voltage demo.
		- Planning to present the demo on Thursdays every week (start at 0700). Potentially leaving the demo up for additional two weeks after cycle training is over.
		- Send an email to john.jarmon@ercot.com
		- No plans to have this option open to virtual or recorded session.
		- No CEHs are planned to be awarded for this session.

## OPERATIONS NOTICES, NOGRRs and NPRRs

None at this time.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chair: Manuel.Sanchez@oncor.com

Vice-Chair: Benjamin.Ray@austinenergy.com

## TASK FORCES & TRAINING EVENTS

* Interest in serving on Task Forces should be emailed to Leadership (above)
* An NDA on file with ERCOT is required to join OTWG Task Forces and participate in CLOSED sessions (one document covers all TFs Forces - NO renewal required)

Email to NDA@ercot.com

### ERCOT Operator Certification Task Force (EOCTF) - Updates

**Chair Steve Rainwater, Vice-Chair Dante' Jackson**

**Members – T. Chilton, James Wallace**

**Requesting additional members – seeking member(s) from a QSE**

* If there are problems with registration to the exam, contact and coordinate with PSI.
* Use the Contact # PSI Candidate support at 855-746-8173 for any problems.
* PSI has issues to login process for NERC exams as well as ERCOT’s exam. Also some issues with payment processing.
* ERCOT has enough data collected from exam completions and able to begin item analysis procedures.
* Invite QSE member to be part of this task force is highly encouraged.
* There is a list of items to evaluate based in the result of data analysis.
	+ Passing rate was about 39% initially, then re-evaluated program to be increased up to 50%.
	+ Objectives to be evaluated based on the passing rate
	+ Evaluate the pass rate and identify best practices to optimize question bank for the exam.

### Human Performance Improvement Topics

* Visit North American Transmission Forum website (<https://www.natf.net/>) for additional resources related to Human Performance Improvement strategies.
* Ideas for HPI topics:
	+ Identify ways to establish performance metrics for training
	+ Access to NERC data for Human Error events and David Penny can share some of this data to the group for reference and analysis. No information related to Human or Performance Metrics at the moment.



* + Potentially have a workshop or session to discuss ideas, resources and data collection to performance metrics or Human Error events data.
	+ Third Annual Human Performance in Action (HPAC) Registration is in full swing! April 15-17, 2024 in New Orleans
		- Use the [HPAC Registration 2024 link](https://isolate.menlosecurity.com/1/3735928009/https%3A/linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.humanperformanceinaction.com%2f&c=E,1,78VT7NTNN2IO_ecMYUbgDkl0rkb7O3_LdhDgtwdT1I4Hk4UDxT48nwUke10vu5LYQ3PeFhpw_VzZ_Qhy_FE1Nnmdi6NXL_VTamZ8U6vJTg,,&typo=1)
		- If link above doesn’t work, then use [https://www.humanperformanceinaction.com/](https://isolate.menlosecurity.com/1/3735928009/https%3A/linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.humanperformanceinaction.com%2f&c=E,1,o89UGCJF3BXgRBqnKY8LJHPd8ypzRDS6f989METw0xzJZ044iS29kqJ1A1Kk8M7_CyesHqVTe2xnrWZg3FkiMsXqnnZhyBDmnnD6YYvRYCdH8uLCehU3&typo=1)

### ERCOT Black Start and Restoration Training Task Force (BSTTF) - Updates

**Chair John Jarmon, Vice-Chair N. Perio**

**Members –, S. Aragon, T. Chilton, A. Ballew, D. Penny, Jonathan Love**

2024 Black Start Training

* New features are being developed in GridGeo
	+ On Track to use Grid Geo for Black Start Training Simulation Exercises.
	+ Losing islands due to generation issues – user awareness for hitting minimum excitation limiter
	+ TO alarm identification – will only see their own alarms/equipment
	+ If for any reason Grid-Geo is not ready for Black Start Seminar, ERCOT will revert back to using Macomber Map.
	+ If using Macomber Map for this training, then a Pilot Session will not be available.
* 2024 and beyond will be held on-site (Taylor ERCOT T4) and typically 2.5 days of simulation and CBTs for additional CE hours.
* Dates for the weeks of October 14th - November 21st, 2024 are confirmed.
* Pilot session will happen in late September 2024. More details will be available at a later time.
* Training will be provided to become familiar with the new Grid Geo tool. Some internal discussion will evaluate the approach.
	+ Proposed a couple of WebEx sessions
	+ No CEHS
	+ Potentially use LMS to have the material before formal training.
* Items to consider including to the Black Start training:
	+ Use of batteries during restoration, also considering the use of renewable generators (solar, wind, etc.) within the simulator.
	+ Some of these items may be included in the current black start plans but these assets may not be modeled correctly.
	+ Review of the study from Texas A&M by bringing external connections to ERCOT to help and expedite system restoration (such as Load Block Transfers, DC ties, etc.).
	+ Check available publications and share the information with the group (David Penney will follow up with additional information)
	+ Each TO should be considering not using UFLS during initial state of Restoration and should be included in their internal Black Start Plans.
	+ ERCOT may evaluate to develop a CBT to include additional next start units requirements and capabilities that could be used during restoration (such as ISOC capabilities, Frequency Control, Voltage Control, etc. during restoration)
* No make-up sessions available at the moment to market participants if they can’t attend in person. There will be the CBT portion of Black Start that can be used as reference.
	+ If someone cannot attend during the registered week, it is highly encouraged to re-register to another week based available openings. Coordinate with ERCOT training team to evaluate changes as needed.
	+ Typically, the later sessions of ERCOT Black Start Seminar have more open seats for additional attendees (both QSEs and TOs).

### ERCOT Region Operator Training Seminar Task Force (OTSTF) – Updates

**Chair Manuel Sanchez, Vice-Chair Aaron Ballew**

**Member – M. Cruz-Montes, T. Chilton, Jonathan Love**

**Requesting additional members**

40th Annual 2024 Operations Training Seminar (on-site)

* 2024 ERCOT OTS & Summer Prep and Load shed will be onsite and scheduled after spring break:
* OTS Portion: Half-day Monday and Full-day Tuesday
* Load Shed Drill Portion: Full-Day Wednesday and Half-day Thursday
	+ Week 1: 3/18 – 3/21
	+ Week 2: 3/25 – 3/28
	+ Week 3: 4/1 – 4/4
	+ Week 4: 4/8 – 4/11
	+ Week 5: 4/15 – 4/18
	+ Week 6: 4/22 – 4/25
* The plan for 2024 OTS will be for first 1.5 days for locked-in topics, followed by 1.5 days of EEA Emergency conditions for the same training week.
	+ Topics Locked-in and Confirmed for each week of training (first 1.5 days):
		- 1 Hour – CEO Update
		- 1 Hour – Summer Weather Outlook
		- 3 Hours - Power System Stability
		- 2 Hours - New EEA Triggers and Capacity Monitoring
		- 1 Hour requirement - System Restoration
		- 1 Hour - Large Flexible Loads and Blockchain
		- 1 Hour - FACTS – Fast acting A/C Transmission Systems (Statcoms, VSC Voltage Source Converters, Synchronous Condensers
	+ Topics open for discussion/recommendations
		- 1 Hour – Batteries (pending confirmation)
		- 1 Hour – TRE Updates (pending confirmation)
* CEHs will be granted for the 2024 OTS per week of training.
	+ There will be about 10 CE hours awarded (first 1.5 days), we will re-adjust/validate the hours to be in alignment of the list of topics. (Seats for 112 total per week)
	+ There will be about 12 additional hours (second 1.5 days) for TOs to participate in the Load Shed drill and communication exercise. (Seats for 112 total per week)
	+ Market participants registered for the EEA drill, make sure to bring own procedures and company laptops for the drill.
* If payment is made by PO, make sure it is made before the registration date.
* ERCOT notification was sent Thursday 1/25
	+ 

### ERCOT Severe Weather Drill (SWDTF) – Updates

**Chair Nate Perio, Vice-Chair John Jarmon**

**Member – T. Chilton, Jonathan Love**

**Requesting additional members**

* During cycle 4 2024, no final date available yet.
	+ Facilitation Window (8/12/2024 – 9/16/2024)
	+ This is a one-day drill that will fall in one of the weeks listed above.
* Details on how this training will look like will be available later. The approach may be similar to the 2023 drill.
* This potentially will be mainly for communication and Emergency notifications for market participants and ERCOT.
* CEHs may not be available for market participants.

## Trainers sharing with Trainers

Training with Mixed Media – Michael Goulding

* Lesson Plan for PER-005 preparation

April’s Presentation by: \_\_\_\_Center Point Energy\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## OLD Business

* None

## NEW Business

* ROS approved the updated OTWG Scope document on February 1st, 2024.



# Closed Session

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  *No need* for closed session | Motion Made | James Ballard |
|  |  2nd motion | Manuel Sanchez |

# Adjourn

Time: Adjourn February 8th, 2024 at 0943.