

ERCOT Power Operations Bulletin #266

Purpose

The purpose of this Power Operations Bulletin is to notify Market Participants that ERCOT has established a process to be used by ERCOT Control Room Operators and Operations Support Staff to approve or not approve requests from Market Participants to energize equipment.

ERCOT has posted a copy of the Transmission and Generation Energize Approval Procedure on the ERCOT website at <http://oldercot.ercot.com/tmaps/login.cfm>. Please Note: This procedure supersedes and updates the previous procedure entitled Temporary Re-Route form and is effective on June 12, 2006.

Background

This change in procedure is necessary to better clarify the process and to address areas of potential miscommunications. The current process has been a more reactive process than a proactive process. The previously posted process asked for "Notification of Energization" via a faxed form. The methodology of notification (i.e. fax) resulted in instances of miscommunication. The philosophy of energizing equipment remains the same. The addition of phone verification/request will ensure improved situational awareness for MP and ERCOT Staff. Future enhancements of the Outage Scheduler will eliminate the need for a faxed form. The procedure effectively creates the cornerstone of a technology bridge needed for effective management of the Network Model updates and Operations activities.

Brief Summary of Process:

Each week or on a schedule determined by the ERCOT Operations Support Engineering (OSE) Supervisor and the Network Model Engineering Supervisor, the ERCOT Network Model Group shall provide the ERCOT OSE Staff with an easily accessible, understandable, and updated list of the model changes, for new or relocated facilities, scheduled for the next database implementation date. The list shall reflect the date dependent changes currently proposed by Market Participants, including information from the Outage Scheduler regarding the date to energize. Proposed status of equipment within the proposed changes shall be reflected in the provided list. If the ERCOT Operations Model has been updated with the changes, the ERCOT OSE shall determine the model change activation status (i.e. can/should the change occur). The ERCOT OSE shall inform the ERCOT Shift Supervisor and the ERCOT Operations Planning Engineer of the proposed model change activation status and any other recommended actions verbally or via e-mail. If the ERCOT Operations Model has not been updated, the information will be sent to the Operations Planning Engineer (OPE) for studies to reflect the addition of this equipment. The OPE will discuss the results of this study with the OSE and the Network Model Engineering Supervisor (NMES) or designee for the next appropriate action. The NMES will also notify the System Operations Department when the ERCOT Operations Model will be updated. In most cases, the equipment should not be allowed to be energized unless the ERCOT Operations Production Model has been updated.