

Minutes – Conference Call Distribution Factor Working Group (DFWG)

April 7, 2011 | 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. (EDT)

The Distribution Factor Working Group (DFWG) met by conference call on April 7, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. EDT. Chair Yasser Bahbaz presided and Larry Kezele announced that a quorum was present.

Attendees

Yasser Bahbaz, Chair	SPP
Ben Taylor, Vice Chair	TVA
Mike Colby	PJM
Neil Shah	MISO
Jim Latimer	OATI
LaChelle Brooks	PJM
David Mahlmann	NYISO
Mike Lowman	VACAR-S
Brian Strickland	ICTE
Hardeep Kandola	IESO
Hugh Francis	Southern
Larry Kezele	NERC

Antitrust Compliance Statement

Larry Kezele summarized the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines.

Conference Call Summary

The Distribution Factor Working Group discussed the following:

Merger of the DFWG and the Interchange Distribution Calculator Working Group –

Chair Bahbaz informed the working group that at its January 19, 2011 meeting the working group discussed the possibility of merging the DFWG and the IDCWG. By consensus, the DFWG decided to pursue merging the two working groups and requested Larry Kezele to draft a scope for its consideration.

Chair Bahbaz also informed the DFWG that at the IDCWG's March 23–24, 2011 meeting, the IDCWG considered a draft scope which merged the two working groups. Following

the IDCWG's review and discussion of the draft scope, the working group approved a motion to endorse the revised scope of the merged DFWG and the IDCWG for presentation to the Operating Reliability Subcommittee. Chair Bahbaz reviewed the proposed revisions to the IDCWG scope (**Attachment 1**).

Following a brief discussion, Mike Colby moved to endorse the revised scope of the merged DFWG and the IDCWG for presentation to the Operating Reliability Subcommittee. The working group approved the motion.

Larry Kezele stated that he would review the DFWG and IDCWG rosters and list servers and make changes as needed.

Adjournment

The conference call meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m. EDT on April 7, 2011.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Larry Kezele

Larry J. Kezele
Secretary

Scope

Interchange Distribution Calculator Working Group

Background

To support the NERC Transmission Loading Relief procedure it is necessary to represent Interchange Schedules on a distributed basis over predefined flowgates. The IDC was implemented for the Eastern Interconnection to provide this support.

The principal program components of the IDC are: transaction input, transaction database, matrices of TDFs, GSF, and LSFs, flowgate information, base case model, and transmission loading relief calculations.

The IDC will be available, as required, at each of the Eastern Interconnection reliability coordinator's centers. Balancing authorities (BAs) and transmission operators (TOPs) within each reliability area will continue to be the first line of defense for monitoring loading on their respective transmission systems. The NERC TLR procedure may be initiated by a reliability coordinator (RC) at the RC's own request, upon the request of a Transmission Provider (TP) to its RC, or upon the request of a BA to its RC. When transmission relief is required, a RC will notify BAs within its reliability area of the required curtailments and will notify RCs outside its reliability area of the required curtailments through their respective BAs.

Purpose

The NERC Interchange Distribution Calculator Working Group (IDCWG) of the NERC Operating Reliability Subcommittee (ORS) is the group responsible for implementing NERC's Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC) and other tools in support of the NERC reliability coordinators. In addition, the IDCWG provides ongoing base case modeling and maintains a distribution factor calculation methodology suitable for use with the NERC congestion management tools. The IDCWG acts as the owner and reviewer for all files related to the NERC congestion management tools and assists in technical issues relating to congestion management tools and their enhancements.

Activities

1. Support the ORS in the development, updating, and maintenance of those security tools that are assigned to the IDCWG. These tools include the IDC, the Reliability Coordinators Information System (RCIS), NERC Factor Viewer, Book of Flowgates Database Management System, and the System Data Exchange (webSDX). Work closely with service and product vendors and other NERC and North American Energy Standards Board groups to develop and maintain the IDC.
2. Interpret and resolve technical requirements with respect to:
 - a. Network topology processing

- b. Other related data exchange and communications requirements associated with the purpose of this working group
 - c. Transmission Loading Relief (TLR) algorithms
 - d. Reliability requirements
3. Develop seasonal and monthly power flow cases of the Eastern Interconnection suitable for use by congestion management tools for the calculation of transfer distribution factors.
4. Perform the on-going function of administering the Book of Flowgates Database Management System, in accordance with the Flowgate Administration Training Document.
5. Provide support analysis for requests for changes in congestion management tools system granularity.
6. Support modeling and distribution factor calculation methodology required for congestion management tools.
7. Provide clarity and assistance in the technical implementation of any emerging and as yet undefined applications to support the industry as directed by the ORS.
8. Provide clarity and assistance in the technical interpretation and application of NERC reliability standards with respect to IDCWG-managed tools.
9. Provide a transition plan between use of the existing and replacement tools.
10. Assist in the development and implementation of training materials and requirements with respect to IDCWG-managed tools.
11. Recommend new functionality and new applications to support the reliability coordinators.
12. Develop functional specifications and requests for proposals for the IDC and other tools.

Reporting

The IDCWG reports to the NERC Operating Reliability Subcommittee. The IDCWG shall also work in close concert with the Reliability Coordinator Working Group (RCWG). Either the IDCWG Chair or a designated IDCWG member shall attend ORS meetings, as appropriate.

Representation

1. A Reliability Coordinator representative for each operating desk in the Eastern Interconnection as identified in the NERC-approved reliability plan (voice and vote). Representatives are expected to be experienced in power flow base case modeling, transfer distribution factor calculations, inter-Area or inter-Regional transfer capability studies, and the NERC and NAESB TLR procedures and business practices.
2. NERC staff coordinator.
3. IDCWG tasks require that working group representatives have signed the NERC Operating Reliability Data Confidentiality Agreement (DCA). Attendance by non-members is accepted and those who have not signed the NERC DCA will be excluded from receiving information or from participating in discussions of commercially sensitive matters.

Governance

1. Chair and vice chair — Appointed by the ORS chair. The chair and vice chair may vote.
2. Robert's Rules of Order will be employed. A quorum is one-half of the voting roster.
3. Voting will be as indicated above under "Representation."
4. Proper motions carry upon receipt of two-thirds of the sum of the affirmative and negative votes cast.