

Notes

Backup Facilities SDT — Project 2006-04

October 16, 2009 | 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. EDT

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Webinar Login: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/kkpxqez90id3>

1. Administrative Items

a. Introductions

The Chair brought the call to order at 1000 EDT on Friday, October 16, 2009.

Call participants were:

Sam Brattini, Chair	Charles Jenkins	Sara McCoy
Melinda Montgomery	Keith Porterfield	Mike Schiavone, Vice Chair
James Vermillion	Nick Henery, FERC Observer	Ed Dobrowolski, NERC

b. NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines — Ed Dobrowolski

There were no questions raised on the NERRC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines.

c. Conference Call Agenda and Objectives — Sam Brattini

The objective of the call was to finalize the initial ballot comment response concerning Requirement R6.

2. Discuss Response for Requirement R6 Comment

The basic dilemma was that the SDT changed the wording of this requirement to eliminate data centers and replace it with independence of primary and backup after the last posting. This was done in response to industry comments. However, at least one of the responses to comments for the 3rd posting indicated that the SDT still felt that data centers were included. Now, one of the respondents to the initial ballot was requesting additional clarity on what the SDT meant by independence. In the proposed response, should the SDT indicate that this included data centers?

The SDT discussed this issue at great length before the final posting. The general opinion at that time was that the scope of the SDT was the primary and backup control centers and those items outside those control centers were covered by other

standards such as COM-001. Therefore, EOP-008 did not need to include wording for things outside control centers such as data centers or RTUs. As always, the emphasis of the SDT was placed on functionality and compliance to standards as opposed to physical assets and the wording of the requirement was changed to reflect independence of capabilities.

Only a handful of comments were received on the independence clarification issue and several of those were from the same company but different voting segments. A question was raised as to whether the lack of comments was due to a lack of understanding of the term but there is no way to adequately judge that.

An additional question was raised as to whether the SDT should have moved forward with the word change in Requirement R6 if the SDT really meant to exclude certain facilities by the new wording. The feeling of the majority of members on the call was that other standards covered those items and that they were willing to continue with the balloting process. .

New wording was drafted for the response as follows:

R6: The intent of the requirement is that you can't depend on your primary facility for adequate functionality at your backup facility/functionality (or vice versa) for compliance to the Reliability Standards. The requirement is not intended to encompass equipment typically located outside of the control center such as RTUs.

Those on the call voted 5 – 2 to accept this new wording and continue to the recirculation ballot.

3. Next Steps — Sam Brattini

Due to several last minute scheduling conflicts, the SDT did not have a quorum during this call. Therefore, an e-mail poll of those not in attendance will be used to gather their thoughts on the issue.

Ed will publish a summary of the discussion and ask those members who were not in attendance to cast their votes by close of business Friday, October 23, 2009. If the motion passes, Ed will then submit the comment responses and request that the project be moved to recirculation ballot. If the motion does not pass, then the SDT will be re-convened to determine the course of action.

4. Action Items — Ed Dobrowolski

Ed will publish the results of the call to obtain a quorum on the issue and then act according to the decisions reached during the call.

5. Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the call at 1100 EDT.