

Essential Reliability Services Working Group

February 2017

Purpose

The Essential Reliability Services Working Group (ERSWG) was formed to advance the previous work completed by NERC's Essential Reliability Services Task Force (ERSTF), which ended in December 2015. The prior ERS efforts developed measures to monitor, trend, and track for Essential Reliability Services (ERS). They developed a framework and/or industry practice for each measure as proposed in the report. The NERC Board of Trustees (Board) accepted the ERS Framework and Abstract reports and endorsed provided recommendations. As a result, the ERSWG developed a Sufficiency Guideline White Paper describing potential methods for assessing ERS sufficiency. The ERSWG will test and evaluate the proposed methods as well as develop new methods as necessary. This is a joint effort between the Operating and Planning Committees and the various subcommittees that fall under those committees.

For 2017, the ERSWG will:

- Continue the development and refinement of ERS Sufficiency Assessment methods
- Continue the development and refinement of processes for ongoing analysis of trends in regards to ERS. Observations and results are intended to be captured in the annual State of Reliability Report.
- Develop tools and processes for forward looking (predictive) analyses of select ERS measures. These results and observations are intended to be captured in the NERC Long Term Reliability Assessment (LTRA).
- Lead the implementation of recommendations from the February 2017 DERTF report (accepted February 2017) as approved and directed by the NERC Board of Trustees.
- Identify and recommend subgroups (existing or new) of the Operating and Planning Committees to ensure ongoing historical trending/analysis and forward looking trending/analysis of ERS measures.

Activities

- Monitor activities of the subcommittees and working groups related to ERS measures.
- Develop and refine tools and/or processes for assessing the sufficiency of ERS measures including current state as well as future states.
- Develop recommendations for practices and requirements, including reliability standards, as necessary, that cover the planning, operations planning, and real-time operating procedures associated with ERS.
- Administer the approved work on Distributed Energy Resources (DERs).

Deliverables

- Develop technical reference documents or assessment briefs, as necessary, on recommended ERS sufficiency assessment methods and measures.
- Develop documentation for use with Policy Makers, as necessary, on various ERS issues.
- Support historical and forward looking ERS assessments for the State of Reliability and the Long Term Reliability Assessment Reports. Propose, develop and implement new data collection and analytical processes, as needed.
- Develop various DER related technical reference documents and/or data collection guidelines.

Membership

The ERSWG shall have sufficient expertise and diversity to provide meaningful and useful guidance to assist the industry and NERC in the management of Essential Reliability Services. Members of the ERSWG should include representatives from the NERC Operating and Planning Committees as well as other interested and knowledgeable industry participants.

Governing

The ERSWG will report to both the Operating and Planning Committees.

Meetings

The ERSWG will scheduled meetings as needed throughout the year. These meetings will follow the NERC Technical Standing Committee meetings. On an as needed basis the ERSWG may hold additional face to face meetings and conference calls.