Use of Frequency Response Metrics to Assess the Planning and Operating Requirements for Reliable Integration of Variable Renewable Generation

Presented to:
NERC Reliability Metrics Working Group
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Charlotte NC
Reliability Issues

- Integration of renewable impacts:
  - Lower system inertia (lower impact compared to the three below)
  - Displacement of primary frequency control reserves.
  - Affect the location of primary frequency control reserves.
  - Place increased requirements on the adequacy of secondary frequency control reserves to ensure primary frequency control is always available.

- International events

- Interconnection events and 2003 Blackout
Overview

- Frequency Performance Metric
  - Background – Fundamentals
- How primary and secondary frequency controls affects Reliability
- Simulation Results/Findings
- Recommendations
What you should take away

• Primary and Secondary Frequency Control is a critical metric
• Both the **magnitude** and **speed** of primary frequency control deployment are needed to arrest the frequency decline
• Provision of primary frequency control must be **sustainable** and **deliverable**
• Need to establish the minimum/maximum primary and secondary frequency control
• Events will happen!
Frequency Performance Metric

Pre-disturbance Frequency: $\text{Frequency}_{\text{point A}}$
Settling Frequency: $\text{Frequency}_{\text{point B}}$
Frequency Nadir: $\text{Frequency}_{\text{point C}}$

Frequency Response (current practice) = \[ \frac{\text{Generation Lost (MW)}}{\text{Frequency}_{\text{point A}} - \text{Frequency}_{\text{point B}}} \]

Nadir-Based Frequency Response = \[ \frac{\text{Generation Lost (MW)}}{\text{Frequency}_{\text{point A}} - \text{Frequency}_{\text{point C}}} \]

Metric Opportunity

Primary frequency response (PFR) delivered at 20 seconds
Primary frequency response (PFR) delivered at 10 seconds
Primary frequency response (PFR) delivered at 5 seconds
Fundamentals of Frequency Control
Appropriate Deployments of Frequency Control for loss of generation (with governor action and secondary resources)

First, the loss of generation and frequency decline at the rate of $\Delta P/(D+2H)$

Turbine Governors react to the frequency decline and increase generation (primary frequency control) to arrest the frequency decline within several seconds and then restore it to a settling frequency.

Secondary frequency control resources are deployed to return frequency back to schedule (60 Hz) and fully replenish the primary frequency control that was deployed earlier.
Frequency impact for loss of generation
(with governor action, secondary resources, and demand response)

First the loss of generation and frequency decline

Governors react to the frequency and increase generation

Governors, secondary and demand side resources are deployed to return frequency back to schedule
Generators and Governors

- Generators convert mechanical energy into Electrical Energy
  - Magnetic Field in the air gap of the machine
  - Converts mechanical power from the turbine and the inertia of the rotor (generator and turbine)

- Governors
  - Turbines follow governor control systems to control the shaft’s speed of rotation. The governor system senses generator shaft speed deviations and initiates adjustments to the mechanical input power of the turbine to increase or decrease the generator’s speed as required. By controlling the mechanical power, the electrical power output is controlled.
Why are Governors important?

• Governors are the key to maintaining frequency to within acceptable range by providing primary frequency control
  – It is autonomous and automatic and not dependent on system operator actions or automatic generation control.
• In response to a frequency deviation, they withdraw or inject power into the system to help maintain generation and load balance to maintain scheduled frequency within the desired range
• Primary Frequency Response is the capabilities (i.e. MW magnitude, speed of delivery and sustainability) that can be deployed from the unit to provide acceptable frequency responses – formation of a frequency nadir and the settling frequency – to ensure BES reliability following a sudden loss of generation.
Droop

All generator governors have a droop setting. NERC recommends all generator governors be set at a 5% droop.

Source: NERC

Speed of Primary Frequency Control deployment is critical.
Generator Characteristic Curve with 5% droop
Metric Opportunity: account for dynamic headroom

Contingency Reserves (Spinning)

\[ P_{\text{max}} - P_{\text{gen}} \]

Secondary Dispatch
Capacity that is deployed in the first few seconds
Frequency Response Basics
(Using a 1400 MW generation loss event as an example)

NERC Frequency Response = \frac{\text{Generation Loss (MW)}}{\text{FrequencyPoint A - FrequencyPoint B}}

Slope of the dark green line illustrates the System Inertia (Generation and Load). The slope is $\Delta P/(D+2H)$

Frequency Nadir: Generation and Load Response equals the generation loss

Settling Frequency: Primary Response is almost all deployed

Pre Event Frequency
Single Area System Model
All generation units responding
Single Area System Model
30% of generation units responding
Single Area System Model
30% generation units responding, responding units limited to .005 PU

Governor Response (MW)

Time (Sec)

Frequency (Hz)

Governor Response
Load Damping
Frequency

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30

0 250 500 750 1000 1250 1500 1750 2000 2250 2500

59.60 59.65 59.70 59.75 59.80 59.85 59.90 59.95 60.00 60.05 60.10

59.60 59.65 59.70 59.75 59.80 59.85 59.90 59.95 60.00 60.05 60.10

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Single Area System Model
0% generation units responding

Time (Seconds)

Frequency (Hz)

Governor Response
Load Damping
Frequency

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Fundamentals of Frequency Control

• Both Governor controlled turbine/generation and specific Demand Response resources (that autonomously activate on frequency) can provide primary frequency control.

• **Magnitude, speed of deployment, sustainability and deliverability** are critical aspects of primary frequency control.
Secondary Frequency Control

- Must be deployed to preserve/restore primary frequency control
Background

Metric Opportunity: secondary and tertiary frequency control

- **Primary Frequency Control**: Governor response (and frequency-responsive demand response)
- **Secondary Frequency Control**: Generators on Automatic Generation Control
- **Tertiary Frequency Control**: Generators through operator dispatch

Diagram showing the metrics of secondary and tertiary frequency control over time.
Ramps of load and prescheduled generation for illustrative examples
Response to ramps of load in both balancing areas – No Load Frequency Control (LFC) action
Response to ramps of load in both balancing areas - no LFC action - increased primary control participation
Response to ramps of load in both balancing areas - LFC active
Response to ramps of load in both balancing areas - LFC active - increased primary control participation
Response to load ramps - Limited primary response headroom - LFC active
Response to load ramps - Limited primary response headroom - LFC active - increased primary control participation
Secondary Frequency Control

• Adequate Primary Frequency Control must be Preserved at all Times by deploying secondary frequency control
  – Inadequate secondary frequency control in response to net load changes will deplete primary frequency control resources
  – Secondary frequency control resources must be deployed timely and with adequate amount in response to net system load changes.
  – Otherwise primary frequency control will be automatically deployed and could be depleted.
  – A power system without primary frequency response is inherently unstable to deal with load changes and/or loss of generation events.
Dynamic Simulations

- Minimum load is the worst case to study Primary Frequency Control
- Under-frequency Load shedding programs sets the floor
Frequency Propagation in the Western Interconnection
Initiating event is in Phoenix AZ

Illustration of the frequency propagation from the Southwest to the Northwest

The slope of the green line illustrates the system inertia (generation and load. The slope of the green line is defined as $\Delta P/[D+(2H)]$.

The settling frequency is determined by the Primary Frequency Control reserves deployed and Secondary Plant Controls.

The nadir is determined by the deployment of Primary Frequency Control Reserves and load response.

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How Frequency Control affects Reliability

- **Primary frequency control** involves the autonomous, automatic, and rapid action (i.e., within seconds) of a generator (and specific types of demand response) to change its output to oppose a change in frequency.

- **Secondary frequency control** involves slower, centrally (i.e., externally) directed actions that affect frequency more slowly than primary control as part of automatic generation control (i.e., in tens of seconds to minutes).

- **Tertiary frequency control** refers to centrally coordinated actions (i.e., it is a form of what we have called secondary frequency control) that operate on an even longer time scale (i.e., minutes to tens of minutes) than primary frequency control and secondary frequency control provided through AGC.

- Therefore, it is essential to have comprehensive operating strategies to ensure adequate primary, secondary and tertiary frequency control reserves with the appropriate response characteristics are in place at all times.
Under-frequency Load Shedding is a safety net!

- Drastic form of emergency frequency control that is designed for use in extreme conditions to stabilize the balance of generation and load after an electrical island has been formed, dropping enough load to allow frequency to stabilize within the island.
- Prevent damage to generators during the extreme imbalances
- A safety net to prevent complete blackout of the island and allows faster system restoration afterwards.
- Primary frequency control is to restore the frequency of the Interconnection to an acceptable range while the Interconnected is intact, as opposed to the preservation of islanding operation intended by UFLS.
## Study Conditions Assumed for 2012 Frequency Response Simulation Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012 Minimum or Light System Load (GW)</th>
<th>Highest Level of Wind Generation Examined (GW)</th>
<th>Size of Loss of Generation Event Studied (GW)</th>
<th>Highest Under-Frequency Load Shedding Set Point (Hz)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Interconnection</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>59.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas Interconnection</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>2,450</td>
<td>59.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Interconnection</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>59.7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Simulated Western Interconnection System Frequency Over the First 19 Seconds Following the Sudden Loss of the 2,800 MW Generation
The Power Delivered by Primary Frequency Control Actions via Generator Governors in the Low and High Reserves Cases for the Western Interconnection

![Graph showing net governor response over time for different scenarios]

- Low Reserves, 1 GW wind
- Low Reserves, 4 GW wind
- Low Reserves, 9 GW wind
- High Reserves, 1 GW wind
- High Reserves, 4 GW wind
- High Reserves, 9 GW wind

22 GW of spinning capacity
6 GW of spinning capacity

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## Summary of Dynamic Simulation Results for the Western Interconnection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reserves</th>
<th>Wind Generation (GW)</th>
<th>Frequency Nadir (Hz)</th>
<th>Nadir-Based Frequency Response (MW/0.1 Hz)</th>
<th>Primary Frequency Response at 4 seconds (MW)</th>
<th>Primary Frequency Response at 9 seconds (MW)</th>
<th>Primary Frequency Response at 19 seconds (MW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>59.73</td>
<td>1037</td>
<td>1,629</td>
<td>2,541</td>
<td>2,590</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>59.72</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1,633</td>
<td>2,562</td>
<td>2,604</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>59.71</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>1,665</td>
<td>2,537</td>
<td>2,589</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>59.55</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>1,202</td>
<td>2,072</td>
<td>2,368</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>59.53</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>1,208</td>
<td>2,086</td>
<td>2,380</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>59.51</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>1,227</td>
<td>2,078</td>
<td>2,357</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Governor and Demand response

![Graph showing Governor and Demand response over time. The x-axis represents time in seconds (0 to 20) and the y-axis represents LaRa Load or Governor Generation Deployed (MW). The graph includes lines for the sum of governors and demand response, governor responsive reserves deployed, demand response deployed, and frequency. The frequency values range from 59.55 to 60.1.](image-url)
Frequency of the Eastern Interconnection following the Loss of 4,500 MW of Generation—Comparison of Recorded Data with Results from a Simulation of the Event
Governor/Demand Response to a contingency in WECC
Governor/Demand Response to a contingency in ERCOT
Dynamic Simulations

- UFLS sets the floor for the nadir
- Both Governor controlled turbine/generation and specific Demand Response resources (that autonomously activate on frequency) can provide primary frequency control.
- **Magnitude**, **speed** of deployment and **sustainability** are critical aspects of primary frequency control.
Analysis of Wind data

- Tail events are bigger than you think they may be
- May determine the minimum Secondary Frequency Control needed
Frequency distribution of wind deltas at short time scales (ERCOT winter).
Frequency distribution for PJM wind power deltas at short time scales
Plot of the function $r(k)$
Analysis of Wind data

- This preliminary research work indicates that based on the few years of wind output data:
  - The Gaussian (normal distribution) approach may overstate the probability of small to moderate deviations while understating the tail-end events in terms of magnitudes and frequencies.
The Recorded Frequency Response of the Three U.S. Interconnections, 2002-2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eastern</th>
<th>Western</th>
<th>ERCOT</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="graph.png" alt="Boxplot Graph" /></td>
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</table>

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Recommendations:

- Understand interconnection and Balancing Authority requirement for Frequency Control (especially in the Eastern Interconnection)
- Interconnections must **schedule** and **deploy** adequate primary and secondary frequency control reserves
Recommendations: The frequency control capabilities of the interconnections should be expanded, including:

- Expanded use of the existing fleet of generation (improved generator governor performance, increased operating flexibility of base load units, faster start-up of units, etc.);
- Expanded use of demand response (potentially including smart grid applications), starting with broader industry appreciation of the role of demand response in augmenting primary and secondary frequency control reserves;
- Expanded use of frequency control capabilities that could be provided by variable renewable generation technologies (primary frequency control, etc.); and
- Expanded use of advanced technologies, such as energy storage and electric vehicles.
Recommendations:

- Comprehensive planning and enhanced operating procedures, including training, operating tools, and monitoring systems, should be developed that explicitly consider interactions between primary and secondary frequency control reserves, and address the new source of variability that is introduced by wind generation.

- Requirements for adequate frequency control should be evaluated in assessments of the operating requirements of the U.S. electric power system when considering new potential sources of generation, such as solar and additional nuclear generation and the retirement of existing generation.
Recommendations: Comprehensive planning and enhanced operating procedures

Source: ERCOT (2010)
In Summary
Primary Reserves are deployed in response to load-generation imbalances.

Secondary Reserves including regulation are deployed to restore primary and return system back to schedule.

Tertiary Reserves are deployed to restore secondary.

Primary Reserves are deployed in response to contingencies.

Secondary Reserves are deployed in response to load-generation imbalances.

Tertiary Reserves include regulation.

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The Metric

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Metric Opportunity

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What you should take away

- Primary and Secondary Frequency Control is a critical metric
- Both the **magnitude** and **speed** of primary frequency control deployment are needed to arrest the frequency decline
- Provision of primary frequency control must be **sustainable and deliverable**
- Need to establish the minimum/maximum primary and secondary frequency control
- Deploy secondary to preserve primary
SAMPLE METRIC FOR EVENTS

Frequence Response (MW/0.1 Hz)

East
West
Texas

Number of Events

15
4
41

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Questions