

July 13, 2012

TO: Regional Executives

CC: Reliability Assessment Subcommittee

**RE: Supplemental Data and Information Request for the 2012 Long-Term Reliability Assessment**

Dear Regional Executives,

It is NERC's intention to provide accurate projections of supply available to meet the Reference Margin Level, along with a comprehensive assessment of the bulk power system preparations industry is making to support long-term reliability. As you know, NERC conducts this assessment annually and documents key findings, conclusions, and recommendations in the *2012 Long-Term Reliability Assessment* (LTRA). While the initial data and information request was sent earlier in January, this supplemental request is meant to gather additional information and data needed to perform the annual assessment.

Regional Entity staff must coordinate with their stakeholders and submit both supplemental data (included within the corresponding ERO2012LTRA\_Supplemental.xls file) as well as qualitative information based on questions included in Attachment A. These updates are requested as a separate submittal that will be included in the NERC summary section of the LTRA.

Updates to the *2012 Long-Term Reliability Assessment* are due back to NERC no later than **COB on August 17, 2012**. Responses should be submitted directly to the NERC Reliability Assessment staff ([assessments@nerc.net](mailto:assessments@nerc.net)). During the normal review and comment period (August and September), the Reliability Assessment Subcommittee, the Planning Committee, and the Board of Trustees will have opportunities to provide input.

On behalf of NERC Staff, we appreciate the timely efforts performed by the industry to address these issues and develop solutions that will maintain bulk power system reliability. Please contact me with any questions you may have concerning this request.

Sincerely,



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## Attachment A: Supplemental Information Questions

*If questions are applicable to the assessment area, please provide thorough responses. If information is unknown, confidential, or otherwise unavailable, provide as much general information as possible and further explain why specific information is not available or known.*

1. Describe actions or plans for actions to be taken by generator owners/operators in the assessment area to address the recently finalized environmental regulatory requirements?
  - a. Include any details on announced plans of both retirements or retrofits (include total number of units and aggregated on-peak (summer and winter) generation throughout the 10-year assessment).
  - b. Reference any studies (*i.e.*, probabilistic analysis) performed concerning electric generation units that may be at risk of retiring, but have not officially announced plans.
2. If available, provide a summary of the plans to achieve compliance with these standards, including a schedule for implementation.
3. Provide a thorough explanation of any risks that have been identified by generator operators/owners in meeting compliance deadlines associated with any environmental regulation standards.
  - a. Specifically, identify any concerns in obtaining engineering or contractor support to complete retrofits within a sufficient timeline.
  - b. List any challenges with maintenance outage coordination to support construction and maintenance activities.
4. Present any known information regarding transmission (including all transmission-related projects, e.g., substations, SVCs, transformers, etc.) needs to ensure:
  - a. Generation is retired reliably (reference any scheduling issues)
  - b. Integration of new generation is possible (reference any scheduling issues)
5. Can all the above transmission projects be completed prior to June 2016? If not, identify which projects will take the longest to complete.
6. In addition to the plans listed above, provide additional efforts to ensure reliability within the assessment area throughout the long-term period (*i.e.*, by building new generation or increasing the use of demand response).
7. Reference any specific assessments based on known plant retrofits or retirements
8. For assessment areas that have not conducted an assessment of the potential reliability impacts of environmental regulations:
  - a. Explain any future plans to perform such an assessment.
  - b. If there are no plans to perform a specific assessment, provide an explanation as to why this assessment is not required.