

NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Outside Management Control

Data Reporting Instructions – Appendix K

Module 10 - GADS Data Reporting Workshops

June, 2019

RELIABILITY | ACCOUNTABILITY



- It is common industry practice to measure actual equipment performance using all events, regardless of whether they fall within or outside the control of plant management
- It is also common industry practice to measure business goals related to equipment performance excluding events outside plant management control so that a plant is not penalized for problems that occur outside their control
- In 2006 NERC began to give credit for Outside Management Control (OMC) events so that generating unit reliability could be more deeply analyzed

- Grid connection or substation failure
- Acts of nature such as ice storms, tornados, winds, lightning
- Acts of terror or transmission operating/repair errors
- Environmental limitations such as low cooling pond level, or water intake restrictions
- Lack of fuels
 - Excludes interruptible fuel contracts
- Labor strikes
 - Excludes strikes because of plant management grievances

- Problem: There was an ice storm in February that lasted for three days which affected a lot of equipment and caused a number of unit outages. Your boss wants to know which events should be considered OMC.
- Question: Which of the following is an OMC event?
 - A. A regulator freezes up in an instrument cabinet due to a faulty heater
 - B. The air intake on a GT is iced over and collapses when the unit is started because an access door wasn't opened to prevent a vacuum
 - C. An outdoor bus made of pipe fails due to frozen water inside it cracking it open because there were no drain holes
- Answer: None of the above
- Explanation: All of these failures are within plant management control – A) poor maintenance, B) not following procedures, and C) faulty design

- Problem: Your plant uses natural gas as its only fuel and your supply contract stipulates that it is interruptible. Fuel for your plant is often interrupted during the winter when residential use is higher. A company digging a ditch outside your plant accidentally punches a hole in the gas pipeline to your plant interrupting your fuel supply.
- Question: Is this an OMC event?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- Answer: A. Yes
- Explanation: The interruption is not due to the gas supplier (gas unavailability) or transporter (pipeline capacity) which are under contract, but rather to an accident outside the plant boundary

- DRI:
 - Appendix F
 - OMC statistics defined
 - The equations are the same but they have different names to denote that OMC events were excluded when calculating the input terms
 - Example: statistic with all events – EAF
 - Example: statistic without OMC events - XEAF
 - The goal of OMC is to only adjust unit availability since it is not known if the unit would have run or gone on reserve shutdown had an OMC event not occurred
 - As a result users are cautioned that the concept of OMC cannot be perfectly implemented and the statistics can exceed 100% at times
 - Appendix K
 - Contains the description of Outside Management Control
 - Lists the OMC cause codes



Questions and Answers