

Conference Call Notes Real-Time Operations SDT — Project 2007-03

February 27, 2009

1. Administrative Items

a. Introductions and Quorum

The Chair brought the call to order at 1:00 p.m. EST on Friday, February 27, 2009. Call participants were:

Jim Case, Chair	Al DiCaprio	Phil Lavallee
Jason Marshall	Steve Myers	Greg Van pelt
Ed Dobrowolski, NERC		

b. NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines – Ed Dobrowolski

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

c. Conference Call Agenda and Objectives — Jim Case

The objective of the call was to finalize documents to the extent possible in support of the submittal for the second posting.

2. Discussion on Conference Call with FERC Staff – Jim Case

Jim reported on a conference call with FERC staff that took place on Thursday, February 26, 2009. During the call, staff pointed to 5 specific directives from Order 693 that they did not see addressed in the proposed revisions to the TOP standards:

- Paragraph 1626, item #1: Revisions to TOP-003 should “include a new requirement to communicate longer term outages well in advance to ensure reliability and accuracy of ATC calculation”
 - The SDT feels that ATC is not a reliability issue.
 - The SDT pointed out that ‘longer term’ and ‘well in advance’ are indefinable, unmeasurable terms.
 - There is too much variability between regions to have a hard and fast rule on this topic.
 - Flexibility is required.

- The SDT felt that the new TOP-003-1, R1 data specification covered this topic as an equal and effective approach.
- After considerable debate, the SDT agreed to include this requirement as a bullet list item under R1.1.
- The new language will be reviewed by the SDT via e-mail within the next week.
- Paragraph 1626, item #2: “makes any facility below the voltage thresholds that, in the opinion of the transmission operator, balancing authority, or reliability coordinator, will have a direct impact on the operation of Bulk-Power System, subject to Requirement R1 for planned outage coordination”
 - The SDT felt that the new TOP-003-1, R1 adequately covered this as the requirement is open-ended and does not limit the voltage level for which data is required.
 - After considerable debate, the SDT agreed to include this requirement as a bullet list item under R1.1.
 - The new language will be reviewed by the SDT via e-mail within the next week.
- Paragraph 1626, item #3: “incorporates an appropriate lead time for planned outages as discussed above”
 - The current standard calls for day-ahead notification. Staff feels that this is insufficient and that there are inconsistencies throughout the country. Consistency is important due to outages in adjacent areas where you have no control and need to plan for.
 - The SDT pointed out that ‘appropriate’ is a forbidden term in standards.
 - Several areas of the country are already doing something similar to this requirement but they are all doing it slightly differently.
 - Greg (with assistance from Phil and Jason) will draft a question for the second posting that states that the SDT is contemplating writing a requirement for this area and needs data on what the lead time ought to be.
 - The data gleaned from the question will be used for a possible requirement in the third posting.
- Paragraph 1640, item #1: “modifies Requirement R4 to state that the system should be restored to respect proven limits as soon as possible, taking no more than 30 minutes”
 - The SDT felt that TOP-004-3, R1 was designed to cover this.
 - Staff feels that this leaves SOL out and this is watering down the existing, approved standard for which there were no requests for rehearing.
 - It was also pointed out that the TOP standards should be consistent with the NERC paper on Adequate Level of Reliability.

- The SDT consulted the document and feels that they are within the spirit of the document as it states that it is merely a guide and since IROL is a subset of SOL.
- It was pointed out that TOP-002-3 still requires identifying SOL but that the new approach is only to worry about operating to IROL and the associated T_v .
- The SDT still requires identifying and monitoring SOL.
 - TOP-002-3, R1 requires the identification.
 - TOP-001-2, R5 can't be accomplished without monitoring.
- After considerable deliberation, the SDT decided that the topic is covered and no action is required.
- Paragraph 1640, item #2: “defines high risk conditions under which the system must be operated to respect multiple outages” as per existing TOP-004, R3
 - The situations faced are far too diverse to be able to come up with a standardized list of high risk conditions.
 - FAC-011 covers multiple contingencies.
 - In TOP-004-3, R1, if operations respect IROL and IROL T_v then it doesn't matter what type of contingency is involved.
 - The SDT feels that this item is covered and no action is required.

AI - Ed Dobrowolski will incorporate the agreed upon changes to TOP-003-1 and distribute them to the SDT for review.

AI - Greg (with assistance from Phil and Jason) will draft a question for the second posting that states that the SDT is contemplating writing a requirement for this lead times and needs data on what the number ought to be.

3. Finalize Response to Comments

There was one open item on Question 7 concerning data retention elements in TOP-003-1, D4 & D5. After some discussion, the SDT decided to change the data retention from 90 days to three years as per the original recommendation. The appropriate change was made to the comment form and to the standard.

4. Finalize Question Set for Second Posting

The existing set of proposed questions was approved as written. However, a question might be added on outage information lead times as per the item in #2 above.

5. Next Steps – Jim Case

Comments on the new language in TOP-003-1, R1.1 are to be handled via e-mail. The resolution of the proposed question on lead times will also be handled via e-mail.

The deadline for resolution of these items is Friday, March 6, 2009. At that time, Ed Dobrowolski will clean up the documents and submit them to NERC staff for their review in preparation for the second posting.

6. Next Meetings

No meetings are scheduled at this time.

7. Action Items and Schedule – Ed Dobrowolski

The following action items were developed during this call:

- Ed Dobrowolski will incorporate the agreed upon changes to TOP-003-1 and distribute them to the SDT for review.
- Greg (with assistance from Phil and Jason) will draft a question for the second posting that states that the SDT is contemplating writing a requirement for this lead times and needs data on what the number ought to be.

The project is approximately one month behind schedule at this time.

8. Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the call at 3 p.m. EST.