

Interpretation of BAL-005-1 Automatic Generation Control, R17

Request for Clarification received from PGE on July 31, 2007

PGE requests clarification regarding the measuring devices for which the requirement applies, specifically clarification if the requirement applies to the following measuring devices:

- *Only equipment within the operations control room*
- *Only equipment that provides values used to calculate AGC ACE*
- *Only equipment that provides values to its SCADA system*
- *Only equipment owned or operated by the BA*
- *Only to new or replacement equipment*
- *To all equipment that a BA owns or operates*

BAL-005-1

R17. Each Balancing Authority shall at least annually check and calibrate its time error and frequency devices against a common reference. The Balancing Authority shall adhere to the minimum values for measuring devices as listed below:

Device	Accuracy
Digital frequency transducer	≤ 0.001 Hz
MW, MVAR, and voltage transducer	$\leq 0.25\%$ of full scale
Remote terminal unit	$\leq 0.25\%$ of full scale
Potential transformer	$\leq 0.30\%$ of full scale
Current transformer	$\leq 0.50\%$ of full scale

Existing Interpretation Approved by Board of Trustees May 2, 2007

BAL-005-0, Requirement 17 requires that the Balancing Authority check and calibrate its control room time error and frequency devices against a common reference at least annually. The requirement to “annually check and calibrate” does not address any devices outside of the operations control room.

The table represents the design accuracy of the listed devices. There is no requirement within the standard to “annually check and calibrate” the devices listed in the table, unless they are included in the control center time error and frequency devices.

Interpretation provided by NERC Frequency Task Force on September 7, 2007

As noted in the existing interpretation, BAL-005-1 Requirement 17 applies only to the time error and frequency devices that provide, or in the case of back-up equipment may provide, input into the ACE equation or provide real-time time error or frequency information to the system operator. The time error and frequency measurement devices may not necessarily be located in the operations control room or owned by the BA; however the BA has the responsibility for the accuracy of the frequency and time error measurement devices. No other devices are included in R 17.

New or replacement equipment that provides the same functions noted above requires the same calibrations. Some devices used for time error and frequency measurement cannot be calibrated as such. In this case, these devices should be cross-checked against other properly calibrated equipment and replaced if the devices do not meet the required level of accuracy.