Industry Advisory
Reliability Risk – Interconnection Frequency Response – (Revision 1)

Initial Distribution: February 11, 2010
Revision 1 Distribution: February 25, 2010

The handling level for this advisory has been updated to PUBLIC per (revision 1). This is the only change made to the advisory. Please use the appropriately marked copy and discard the version marked PRIVATE.

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Primary Interest Groups: Executive Leadership, Operations, SCADA, EMS, Compliance, Planning

Advisory: This reliability advisory is intended to inform the electricity sector of significant concerns for bulk power system (BPS) reliability regarding interconnection frequency response. The advisory also describes the activities NERC and Regional Entities will undertake in 2010 to address these concerns. Please reference the background documentation for this advisory for details on the interconnection frequency response trending.

NERC, working through the Resources Subcommittee, has identified a declining trend of
natural interconnection frequency response during the course of the last several years. Review of multiple loss of resource (generation) events continues to indicate a decline in interconnection-wide frequency response that may translate to a decrease in bulk power system reliability. NERC will continue to work with affected stakeholders as well as support the on-going efforts by the Frequency Response Standard Drafting Team (FRSDT) to promote increased awareness and understanding of frequency response and develop any necessary changes to the NERC Reliability Standards.

ACTIONS FOR BALANCING AUTHORITIES
While this advisory is primarily intended to inform the electricity sector of a continuing decline in interconnection frequency response, NERC and the Regional Entities seek to broaden understanding and increase transparency by highlighting mitigation efforts for the interconnection frequency response trends, including the spot checks of Balancing Authorities under BAL-003 (see attached). Balancing Authorities are advised to review their compliance with these requirements, their own frequency response during system events, and their related procedures for selecting and dispatching generation to ensure adequate frequency response.

ES-ISAC RISK ASSESSMENT
The ES-ISAC estimates the risk to grid reliability from this reliability issue is MEDIUM, due to the observance of long-term degradation of interconnection frequency response of generation resources, the lack of effective, coordinated industry efforts to resolve the problem, and substantially lower interconnection frequency response for relatively small generation losses during load ramping.

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