NERC
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Probabilistic Assessment Working Group Scope

Purpose

The primary function of the NERC Probabilistic Assessment Working Group (PAWG) is to advance and continually improve the probabilistic components of the resource adequacy work of the ERO Enterprise in assessing the reliability of the North American Bulk Power System. The group's origins and ongoing activities stem from work initiated by the Probabilistic Assessment Improvement Task Force (PAITF)[1] with the Probabilistic Assessment Improvement Plan.[2] Specifically, the group researches, identifies and details probabilistic analytical enhancements that apply to resource adequacy. The group's long-term focus addresses relevant aspects of the ERO Enterprise Long-Term Strategy[3] and the Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC) report[4] in conjunction with the NERC Reliability Assessment Subcommittee (RAS).

Scope of Activities

The PAWG serves as a stakeholder group focusing on probabilistic components of reliability assessments and the development of documents that identify and evaluate different probabilistic approaches and analyses. Specific activities of the PAWG include, but are not limited to:

- Leading the biennial NERC Core Probabilistic Assessment (ProbA), any annual probabilistic assessments, and supporting the development of NERC-coordinated special probabilistic assessments;
- Coordinating and promoting alignment of probabilistic resource adequacy assessments, to include transmission constraints, conducted by NERC, the Regions, and the industry at large;
- Identify improvement opportunities for NERC based probabilistic assessments;
- Implement and report on feasibility of identified improvements, as directed by the NERC Reliability Assessment Subcommittee (RAS);
- Develop detailed guidelines and recommended best practices regarding reliability and measures for probabilistic resource adequacy assessment.
- Develop and review reliability and security guidelines as directed by the RSTC

[1] https://www.nerc.com/comm/PC/PAITF/ProbA%20Technical%20Guideline%20Document%20-%20Final.pdf

[2] https://www.nerc.com/comm/PC/Reliability%20Assessment%20Subcommittee%20RAS%202013/ProbA%20%20Summary%20and%20Recommendations%20final%20Dec%2017.pdf#search=GTRPMTF

[3] See Focus Areas 1 and 4: https://www.nerc.com/AboutNERC/StrategicDocuments/ERO%20Enterprise%20Long-Term%20Strategy%20(Approved%20December%2012,%202019).pdf

[4] See Risk 1: https://www.nerc.com/comm/RISC/Related%20Files%20DL/RISC%20ERO%20Priorities%20Report_Board_Accpeted_November_5_2019.pdf

Membership

The PAWG will include members who have technical or policy level expertise in at least one or more of the following areas:

- Probabilistic Resource Adequacy Analysis and Metrics
- Development of a probabilistic reliability study
- Stochastic representation of BPS elements

The PAWG Leadership will consist of a Chair and Vice Chair appointed by the RAS. Additionally, membership will include at least one representative from each Regional Entity (RE) or Planning Coordinator (PC). At least one representative from Canada is also expected. NERC staff are assigned as Coordinator(s). Decisions will be consensus-based of the membership, led by PAWG Leadership and Coordinators. Any minority views can be included in an addendum or in the reporting of the work products.

Any RE or stakeholder representatives may name alternate representative(s) who may attend PAWG meetings on their behalf.

Reporting

The PAWG reports to and conducts all activities through the RAS. The PAWG Scope and final work products are reviewed by the RAS and recommended for approval by the RSTC. The PAWG Chair will periodically update the RAS and the RSTC (or other committees) on PAWG activities, as requested and appropriate.

Meetings

The PAWG will meet according to a meeting schedule to be developed by the PAWG, subject to RAS review and approval; estimated to be four to six meetings per year.