

Real Time Operating Subcommittee Scope

Purpose

The Real Time Operating Subcommittee (RTOS) assists the NERC Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) in enhancing Bulk Electric System (BES) reliability by providing operational guidance to the industry; by providing oversight to the management of NERC-sponsored information technology tools and services which support operational coordination and by providing technical support and advice as requested.

Functions

The RTOS will:

1. Develop and review reliability and security guidelines, and programs as directed by the RSTC to facilitate operating reliability coordination. Included among the processes supported by RTOS are those related to:
 - a. Real-time communications among registered entities, especially Reliability Coordinators (RCs).
 - b. Exchange of operational data and modeling data among registered entities.
2. Disseminate operational information among the RCs and other reliability entities.
3. Respond to requests for technical input and guidance from the RSTC.
 - a. Maintain documents and guides created by the RTOS for the RSTC.
4. Review reliability plans and provide recommendations to the RSTC.
5. Provide a forum for coordinating system operating procedures in all four Interconnections, including:
 - a. Coordinate operating Reliability Standard implementation to promote consistency across the Interconnections.
 - b. Prepare for the upcoming operating peak demand season.
 - c. Review significant system disturbances and abnormal transaction curtailments, or others as requested by RTOS, for "lessons learned".
 - d. Review Interconnection frequency events at each meeting.
6. Provide coordination between EIDSN, Inc. and the RSTC regarding the applications managed by EIDSN, Inc.
7. Provide a forum for coordination of TLR business practices and Reliability Standards.
8. Provide oversight and guidance on aspects of interchange scheduling, including dynamic transfers, as it applies to impacts on reliable operations.

Working Groups

Working groups may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Synchronous Measurement Working Group

Deliverables

- Provide subcommittee report for the regularly scheduled RSTC meetings.
- Endorse revisions to Reliability Plans.
- Develop comments on the annual State of Reliability report.
- Develop comments on Adequate Level of Reliability metrics.
- Develop recommendations to the RSTC on reliability guidelines.
- Develop responses to other directives and requests of the RSTC.

Reporting

The RTOS reports to the RSTC and shall maintain communications with the RSTC and other groups as necessary on relevant issues.

Officers

The NERC RSTC Chair appoints the RTOS officers (Chair and Vice Chair) for a specific term (generally two years). The subcommittee officers may be reappointed, provided that no officer may serve longer than two consecutive terms. The RTOS officers are considered members of the subcommittee and may vote. The RTOS may recommend officer candidates for the RSTC Chair's consideration following a supporting motion. Both officers must be RC representatives.

Membership

- One member from each RC.
- Up to one additional non-RC member from each Regional Reliability Organization.
- Current non-RC RTOS individual member(s) will be grandfathered as a member of the subcommittee and the subcommittee roster will indicate this grandfathered status.
- Once the current grandfathered individuals resign their position on the subcommittee, the RTOS will then only be comprised of members as defined by bullets one and two above.

As outlined in the RSTC's subcommittee organization and procedures, the RTOS shall have sufficient expertise and diversity to be able to speak knowledgeably for the industry and provide meaningful and useful guidance to assist the industry in the carrying out of its reliability responsibilities.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the RTOS is empowered by the RTOS to act on its behalf between subcommittee meetings on matters where urgent actions are crucial and full subcommittee discussion is not practical. A minimum of four Executive Committee members must be present to vote on RTOS actions, with a minimum of three yes votes to pass any RTOS action. Ultimate RTOS responsibility resides with its full membership whose decisions cannot be overturned by the Executive Committee, but retains the authority to ratify, modify or annul Executive Committee actions. The Executive Committee will be comprised of the RTOS Chair, Vice chair, along with three at large members. The Executive Committee members are elected by the RTOS for a two year term. The Executive Committee members may be re-elected.

Meeting Procedures

- Quorum: 50 percent of subcommittee members eligible to vote
- All other procedures follow those of the organization and procedures guidance for the NERC standing committees.

Confidential Sessions

The chairman of the subcommittee may limit attendance at a meeting or portion of a meeting, based on confidentiality of the information to be disclosed at the meeting. Such limitations should be applied sparingly and on a non-discriminatory basis as needed to protect information that is sensitive to one or more parties.

Example: The Reliability Coordinators may hold meetings in closed session when discussing reliability issues that they deem security, compliance, or commercially sensitive.

Subgroups

The RTOS may form working groups, task groups, and task forces as needed to assist the subcommittee in carrying out standing or ad hoc assignments. Task group chairs (or delegates) are expected to attend the regular subcommittee meetings to report on assignments or provide a summary report of the group's activities at a minimum.