

Meeting Notes

Project 2016-01 Modifications to TOP and IRO Standards Drafting Team

April 19-21, 2016

NERC Headquarters
Atlanta, GA

Administrative

1. Introductions

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Eastern, April 19, 2016. Those in attendance were:

Members			
Name	Company	Name	Company
Jason Smith	Southwest Power Pool, Inc.	Mark Riley	Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.
David Bueche	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC.	Linwood Ross	Duke Energy Carolinas
Daniel Hawk	Louisville Gas and Electric Co.	Josh Shultz (Apr 20-21 only)	Tennessee Valley Authority
Saad Malik	Peak Reliability	Mark Olson	NERC
Observers			
Name	Company	Name	Company
Darrell Piatt	FERC	Eugene Blick	FERC
Lauren Perotti	NERC	Alfonso Juarez III	IID
Ed Dobrowolski (Remote)	Navigant	Jim Kleitsch (Remote)	ATC
Chris De Graffenried (Remote)	ConEd		

2. Determination of Quorum

The rule for NERC Standard Drafting Team (SDT or team) states that a quorum requires two-thirds of the voting members of the SDT. Quorum was achieved with 7 of 7 members participating in the meeting.

3. NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines and Public Announcement

The NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines, public announcement, and participant conduct policy were reviewed by Mark Olson. There were no questions raised.

Agenda

1. Chair Remarks

Jason Smith opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

2. Review Standards Authorization Request (SAR) comments and proposed responses

Participants reviewed the directives from Order No. 817, the SAR, and all submitted comments. The SDT determined that the SAR provided the necessary scope for addressing all directives. The SDT did not support expanding the project scope to address comments pertaining to issues that were not related to the Order No. 817 directives. Participants discussed commenter suggestions for developing modifications to requirements to address the directives. The SDT agreed upon summary responses to comments for posting in the Consideration of Comments document.

3. Discuss modifications to TOP-001-3 to address Order No. 817 directives

a. Requirement R10 changes to address Para 35 (Monitoring Non-BES facilities)

Participants considered changes to make the requirement similar to IRO-002-4 R3 and discussed background from Project 2014-03. The SDT developed explanatory language for the Rationale Box to explain how non-BES facilities that need to be monitored are identified, and how data is obtained. The SDT decided to develop changes to R10 rather than rewrite the requirement to replicate IRO-002-4 R3. The SDT reorganized TOP-001 Requirement R10 in the proposed standard to clarify required monitoring activities and added specific non-BES parts to satisfy the directive.

b. Requirements to address Para 47 (Redundancy and Diverse Routing of data exchange capabilities)

Participants discussed ways of clarifying the meaning of redundancy and diverse routing and developed a general statement for the Rationale Box. Use of a definition, compliance guidance, white paper, or guidelines section material were also considered but were not supported by the SDT. The Rationale Box statement provides a functional description of redundancy and diverse routing as configuration and hardware within the Control Center that prevents data exchange capabilities from being disrupted by a single point of hardware failure. Participants agreed that there are various configurations that could satisfy this reliability objective. FERC observers indicated that some configurations relying on back-up control center architecture may not satisfy the intent of the directive. The SDT agreed on proposed requirements addressing the directive, and determined that specific redundancy and diverse routing infrastructures need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The SDT modified TOP-001 to require redundant and diversely routed data exchange capabilities for Real-time Monitoring and Real-time Assessments, and to maintain approved requirements for data exchange capabilities for Operational Planning Analysis.

c. Requirements to address Para 51 (Testing of data exchange capability redundancy)

Participants discussed including a testing requirement similar to COM-001-2 R9 to satisfy the directive. The SDT agreed with this approach and developed a requirement for monthly testing of redundant functionality, and for initiating action within 2 hours to restore functionality following any failed test. The SDT developed Rationale Box explanations for clarity.

4. Discuss modifications to IRO-002-4 to address Order No. 817 directives

The SDT agreed that applicable requirements developed for TOP-001 could be used in a revised IRO-002 standard to address applicable directives for RCs.

5. Discuss implementation of revised requirements

Participants discussed the amount of time needed for implementation. The SDT agreed that requirements for TOPs and BAs should become effective 12 months following regulatory approval to allow for time to meet new obligations for monitoring non-BES facilities, and for having and testing redundant and diversely routed data exchange capabilities. The SDT agreed that requirements for RCs should become effective 3 months following regulatory approval to allow for time to meet new obligations for having and testing redundant and diversely routed data exchange capabilities.

6. Review Violation Risk Factor (VRF) and Violation Severity Level (VSL) Guidelines and consider VRFs and VSLs for revised requirements

The SDT proposed VSLs and VRFs for new requirements in accordance with NERC and FERC guidelines.

7. Discuss next steps and project schedule

The SDT agreed that the proposed standards and implementation plan should be provided for Quality Review (QR) according to the Standards Processes Manual. Following QR, the SDT will request Standards Committee authorization to post for 45-day formal comment and 10-day initial ballot.

8. Communications plan was discussed

SDT members agreed on assignments to engage select entities to communicate the revisions and address any outstanding concerns.

9. The chair adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m., April 21, 2016.