



MEETING MINUTES
MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION
Reliability Assessment Committee
Embassy Suites – Bloomington, MN
May 21, 2008 – 8:30 am

1. Call to Order

Chairman Nguyen called the meeting of the Reliability Assessment Committee to order at 8:35am. The following Members, Guests and Staff were present:

Members Present

Hoa Nguyen, MDU, Chairman	Chris Plante, WPS, Vice Chairman
John Siedel, MRO, Secretary	Dale Burmester, ATC
Dennis Florom, LES	Ron Mazur, MH
Ed Weber, WAPA	Kavita Maini, WIEG (via telephone)
Randy Lindstrom, NPPD	

Members Not Present

Dan Dahlgren, OPPD	Gerry Steffens, RPU
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Guests Present

Wenchun Zhu, ATC (TAS Chair)	Ron Hart, DOM
Rob Fluth, GRE	Joe Knight, GRE
Alan Burbach, LES (MBS Chair)	Dave Duebner, MISO
Stuart Hughes, SPC	Deven Bhan, WAPA (PRS Chair)
Earl Cass, WAPA (CC Chair)	Leo Ganser, XEL

Staff Present

Salva Andiappan	Sandy Humenansky
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2. Determination of Quorum

Secretary Seidel determined that a quorum was present.

3. Standards of Conduct and Anti-Trust Guidelines

Pursuant to Policy and Procedure 4, Chairman Nguyen reviewed the Standards of Conduct and Anti-Trust Guidelines.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approve Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2008

Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 4 of the agenda which contained the minutes of the March 5, 2008 Reliability Assessment Committee meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Lindstrom and seconded by Mr. Plante, the Reliability Assessment Committee approved the minutes of the March 5, 2008 Reliability Assessment Committee meeting as amended.

b. *Alternate MRO Representative on the NERC Reliability Assessment Subcommittee*

Chairman Nguyen reported that Mr. Plante is the current alternate on the subcommittee. Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 4 which contained the draft scope of the NERC Reliability Assessment Subcommittee which now states that the representation of the subcommittee shall consist of one representative and one alternate representative from each NERC region – at least one of which must be Regional Entity staff.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mazur and seconded by Mr. Florum, the Reliability Assessment Committee unanimously appointed John Seidel as the alternate representative on the NERC Reliability Assessment Subcommittee.

c. *MRO Representative on the NERC Resource Subcommittee*

Mr. Seidel stated that the representative on the NERC Resource Subcommittee currently reports to the Standards Committee, which is not the appropriate oversight committee. Beginning June 2008, the representative will report to the Reliability Assessment Committee.

Chairman Nguyen then addressed Mr. Weber and his willingness to serve another term on the NERC Planning Committee (PC). Mr. Weber reported that he is willing to continue serving on the PC, and the committee agreed by consensus to extend his term.

d. *GRE Waiver Request*

Chairman Nguyen called on Mr. Knight to review the GRE waiver request.

Under the provisions of the MRO Generator Testing Guidelines, Great River Energy is requesting a waiver for the Reactive Capability Testing on the units at the Arrowhead Standby Station near Grand Marias for the following reasons:

1. The Arrowhead Standby Station generators are installed for the sole purpose of serving GRE load in the event of a transmission line outage that causes an island condition. The line that serves this load is a radial 69 kV line and is located in an area that can be hard to access during an outage. The Arrowhead Standby Station was developed as a more cost effective alternative to a transmission solution to enhance reliability in this portion of the GRE service territory.
2. The Arrowhead Standby Station generators are expected to be utilized on average less than 15 hours annually. The generators, while physically connected to the Bulk Power System through a radial connection, are in no way intended to support voltage on the Bulk Power System. As a result, the units are modeled as being offline.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mazur and seconded by Mr. Florum, the Reliability Assessment Committee unanimously approved GRE's waiver request with the understanding that the Arrowhead Standby Station generators are operated only when the served load is isolated from the grid.

5. Chairman's Report

Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 5 of the agenda which contained the highlights of the March 27, 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

Chairman Nguyen went further to report that staff is in the process of executing a contract with the Embassy Suites for negotiated room rates for future meetings. Committee members are asked to let staff know by the end of the day of their preference for meeting location.

Based on the recommendation of several committee members, Chairman Nguyen proposed that the upcoming RAC committee and subcommittee meetings in August be combined more closely and allow the possibility of conducting the meetings in an alternate location. The reasons for this proposal is to allow the groups to have an extra-curricular activity of some sort to get to know each other better, and to show appreciation for all the hard work and commitment the groups have provided to the MRO over the last three years. In particular for this year, the alternate location would allow the groups to relocate out of the Twin Cities during the Republican National Convention.

Chairman Nguyen went further to report on the Nebraska utilities signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to join the SPP region. Mr. Florum reported that Lincoln Electric System has signed the MOU to participate in the SPP region. At this time, there are several unknowns as to what this means in regards to participation in the reliability organization.

6. Non-Disclosure Agreement for Releasing MRO Models

Mr. Seidel referred the Committee to Tab 6 of the agenda which contained an e-mail exchange regarding the non-disclosure agreement for releasing MRO models. After committee discussion, the Committee approved the use of the Non-Disclosure Agreement for those third-party entities requesting a MRO model. All non-disclosure agreements that member organizations have with their individual consultants are valid and will remain in place; this non-disclosure agreement does not supersede those agreements that member organizations have with their consultants.

7. Special Protection Systems in the Draft TPL-001-1 Standard

Mr. Burmester referred the Committee to his email dated April 14, 2008 in which the NERC TIS agreed with the MRO and WECC from the standpoint of acceptable use of SPS to cover the (draft) TPL-001 standard. The TPL-001 standard drafting team has asked for a definition of a SPS and also the applicability of using a SPS for single contingencies.

9. September 18, 2007 Event Analysis

Mr. Chapman gave a presentation (Exhibit #1) on the activities of the Event Analysis Team and its subgroups.

10. Compliance Committee Activity

Mr. Cass reported that the Compliance Committee has a full roster. He went further to report that he had asked that all standing committees review their charter to ensure they are current with the activities being performed. The Compliance Committee has modified their charter and will share their changes with the other standing committees to ensure that all charters have a consistent look and feel. The Compliance Committee has been busy developing process documents for issues that need to be resolved if there are disputes, disagreements and/or hearings. Staff has hosted a Compliance and Enforcement workshop May 15 with another workshop scheduled for May 22; workshop is full but if there are any interested parties, there is room to squeeze five or six additional attendees. Preliminary reports from the May 15 workshop have been positive. Mr. Cass went further to say that the 2009 compliance audit schedule has been finalized and is posted on the Compliance page of the MRO web site.

8. NERC Assessments

Chairman Nguyen reported on the collection and/or duplication of data collection and the role of Midwest ISO in preparing the MRO regional assessments. After Committee discussion, the Committee decided to maintain status quo, but encourage MISO to provide information and be more involved with the assessment preparation in its participation in the MRO Resource Assessment Subcommittee, MRO Transmission Assessment Subcommittee, and MAPP Transmission Reliability Assessment Working Group. Chairman Nguyen also reviewed the draft schedule for the 2008 LTRA (Exhibit #2) and the scenario studies outline (Exhibit #3).

a. 2008-2009 MRO Scenario Analysis

Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 8 of the agenda which contained the study scope for the 2008-2009 MRO scenario assessment.

b. Populating the Scenario Assessment Task Force

Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 8 of the agenda which contained the scope for the Scenario Assessment Task Force that was approved at the last Committee meeting. After Committee discussion, the task force will be formed and a request for nominations will be sent. The Committee will meet via teleconference June 24 at 2pm Central Time to ratify the membership.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Lindstrom and seconded by Mr. Weber, the Reliability Assessment Committee unanimously approved the formation of the Scenario Assessment Task Force. The Committee further directed staff to prepare an e-mail soliciting nominations.

The Committee recessed at 12:00pm.

The Committee reconvened at 1:06pm.

d. Upcoming Issues on NERC Assessments

Mr. Weber referred the Committee to Tab 8 of the agenda which contained background information regarding upcoming issues on NERC assessments. Mr. Weber also referred to the NERC PC work plan (Exhibit #4) and the emerging issues (Exhibit #5).

- c. *"Confidence" Factor to Be Used for Future Long Term Reliability Assessments*
Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 8 of the agenda which contained an e-mail dated April 7, 2008.

11. Subcommittee and Task Force Reports

- a. *Resource Assessment Subcommittee*
Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 11 of the agenda which contained the Resource Assessment Subcommittee.
- b. *Model Building Subcommittee*
Mr. Burbach referred the Committee to Tab 11 of the agenda which contained the Model Building Subcommittee report.
- i. *Wind Generator Modeling Task Force*
Mr. Burbach referred the Committee to Tab 11 which contained the Wind Generator Modeling Task Force report.
- c. *Transmission Assessment Subcommittee*
Ms. Zhu reported on the following:
- The TAS met via web conference to discuss the 2008 LTRA response to NERC.
 - The TAS is working with MRO staff to provide input on the ERAG Western Group summer assessment.
 - Ms. Zhu attended the April 29 ERAG Steering Committee meeting where the main topic was to review the 2008 summer assessment report.
- d. *Generator Testing Review Task Force*
Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 11 of the agenda which contained the draft minutes from the April 18, 2008 Generator Testing Review Task Force meeting.
- e. *Protective Relay Subcommittee*
Mr. Bhan gave a presentation (Exhibit #6) of the activities of the Protective Relay Subcommittee.

12. Eastern Interconnection Reliability Assessment Group Report

- b. *Multiregional Modeling Working Group*
Mr. Andiappan reported on the following:
- The 2007 series cases were completed on time and under budget.
 - PSS/E Version 30.3 will be used for the 2008 series.
 - NERC will host a summit to discuss construction of historical dynamic ready power flow models for event analysis.
 - Power flow database development is on schedule and will be utilized for the MMWG 2008 series.
 - The ERAG MMWG will host a 2009 MMWG modeling seminar for contacts who submit data to the regional coordinators and other interested parties.
 - The MMWG rejected the request to add 34 kV details in the models since this could lead to solution problems.

11. Subcommittee and Task Force Reports

f. Protective Relay Subcommittee

i. Special Protection Systems Review Team

No report.

12. Eastern Interconnection Reliability Assessment Group Report

Secretary Seidel referred the Committee to the handout packet which contained the ERAG report (Exhibit #7).

13. NERC Reports

a. Data Coordination Working Group

Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 13 of the agenda which contained the NERC Data Coordination Working Group report.

b. Disturbance Analysis Working Group

No report.

c. Load Forecasting Working Group

No report.

d. Operating Committee

Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 13 of the agenda which contained the minutes of the March 12-13, 2008 NERC Operating Committee meeting.

e. Operations Review Subcommittee

Mr. Sanders e-mailed the Operations Review Subcommittee report (Exhibit #8).

f. Planning Committee

Mr. Weber referred the Committee to Tab 13 of the agenda which contained the draft minutes of the March 12-13, 2008 NERC Planning Committee meeting.

g. Reliability Assessment Subcommittee

Chairman Nguyen referred the Committee to Tab 13 of the agenda which contained the NERC Reliability Assessment Subcommittee report.

h. System Protection and Control Task Force

Mr. Bhan gave a presentation (Exhibit #9) on the activities of the NERC System Protection and Control Task Force.

i. Transmission Issues Subcommittee

Mr. Burmester referred the Committee to Tab 13 of the agenda which contained the NERC Transmission Issues Subcommittee report.

j. Adequacy Assessment Task Force

No report.

14. Other Business

a. Location of Future Meetings

After Committee discussion staff will sign a contract with the Embassy Suites for negotiated rates for future MRO meetings.

For the upcoming RAC committee and subcommittee meetings in August, staff will contact Mike Critchley, MEMA, to inquire about meeting space/possibility during its Fall Conference to be held at Maddens' Resort in Brainerd, MN August 25-27, 2008. Other locations (e.g. Manitoba) will also be evaluated by staff.

15. Adjourn

Having no further business Chairman Nguyen adjourned the meeting of the Reliability Assessment Committee at 3:15pm.

Prepared by:

Sandy Humenansky, Administrative Assistant
Midwest Reliability Organization

Reviewed and Submitted by:

John Seidel, Secretary
Midwest Reliability Organization