



FINAL MEETING MINUTES
MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION
Standards Committee

Midwest Reliability Organization Corporate Office – Roseville, MN
November 18, 2010 – 10:00 am

1. Call to Order

Chair Acton called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

a. Determination of Quorum

Chair Acton determined that a quorum was present at 10:03 am.

The following members, guests and staff were present:

Members:	
Dave Acton, Chair, Alliant Energy	Jason Shaver, ATC
Mike Garton, DRS (phone)	Tim Noeldner, WPPI
Wayne Guttormson, Sask Power	David Rudolph, BEPC
Gerry Steffens, RPU	Lloyd Linke, WAPA
Joe Knight, Vice Chair, GRE	

Guests:	
Kenneth Hubona, FERC (phone)	
Terry Bilke, MISO (phone)	
Joe Livingston, GRE (phone)	

MRO Staff:	
Jim Burley	Carol Gerou
Jennifer Matz	

Members Absent:	
Kavita Maini, WIEG	

b. Additions to the Agenda

Chair Acton requested the election of a Standards Committee Vice Chair be added to the agenda. The committee agreed to cover the topic under agenda item 3.b.

Ms. Gerou requested time to discuss the Standards Committee’s voting status on modifying the Standards Process Manual. The committee agreed to cover the topic under agenda item 3.c.

Mr. Steffens requested time to discuss the Standards Committee’s additional activities added due to the revision of the Standards Committee Charter and the communication gap he is noticing with the industry. The committee agreed to cover this topic under agenda item 5.a.

c. Standards of Conduct and Anti-Trust Guidelines

Chair Acton reviewed the Standards of Conduct and Anti-Trust Guidelines with the meeting attendees.

2. Consent Agenda

a. Approve Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2010 Meeting

Chair Acton asked for a motion to discuss the change and approval of the September 13th meeting minutes.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Steffens and seconded by Mr. Linke, the Standards Committee unanimously approved the September 13, 2010 meeting minutes.

3. Additions to Agenda

a. Election for Committee Sector Seats Expiring in December 2010.

Ms. Matz informed the committee of the 2010 election results. The existing committee members Mr. Linke, Mr. Shaver, and Mr. Rudolph were all re-elected to serve another 3-year term on the Standards Committee. Ms. Matz also stated that the Investor Owned Utility and Large End Use Electricity Sector seats would remain open due to no nominations received.

b. Elect a Vice Chair

Chair Acton asked for nominations for Vice Chair, since Mr. Knight will take over as chair at the start of 2011. Mr. Knight nominated Mr. Shaver of ATC, which Mr. Shaver agreed to as long as ATC approves. Chair Acton asked for a motion to elect Mr. Shaver as the new Vice Chair.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Steffens and seconded by Mr. Guttormson, the Standards Committee unanimously approved to elect Mr. Shaver as the new Standards Committee Vice Chair on terms that ATC approves.

c. Standard Process Manual

Ms. Gerou informed the committee she needed two more votes from certain committee members to proceed with the formation of the standard drafting team to modify the Standard Process Manual. Mr. Linke, Mr. Shaver, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Steffens provided their vote to approve of the Drafting Team. In addition, Mr. Guttormson from SaskPower volunteered to be the fourth member on the Drafting Team.

Prior to the meeting and via email, Mr. Garton, Mr. Acton, Mr. Rudolph, & Mr. Noeldner expressed approval for this drafting team. During this standard committee meeting, Mr. Linke, Mr. Steffens, Mr. Shaver, and Mr. Knight expressed approval of this drafting team. Since this a clear majority of the committee, the Standards Committee approved this new Drafting Team to modify the standards Process Manual; the members of this team are Mr. Guttormson, Mr. Puszta (ATC), Mr. Knight, & Mr. Garton.

4. Subject Matter Expert Group for PRC-005-1 and PRC-008-0

A discussion ensued about concerns that have surfaced at the Planning Committee and other venues, relating to guides for specific standards, such as PRC-005-1 and PRC-008-0. Some parties believe that any guides will, in effect, create new or different standards. Mr. Burley reiterated the committee position that the guides were just guides and not new standards and that the guides would be used by all parties, including auditors. He also cautioned that the guides were not necessarily all encompassing and following only the guides would not and should not necessarily result in an assumption of full compliance.

a. MCCF Presentation

Prior to the meeting, both the SME PRC group and the MRO staff Leads from Compliance and Enforcement reviewed the PRC SME presentation for any application inconsistencies between the presentation and the NERC standards, PRC-005-1 and PRC-008-0, and the various NERC definitions. These resulting comments were incorporated into the presentation.

The committee reviewed the PRC SME presentation and provided feedback on certain slides.

5. Subject Matter Expert Groups for MOD, TPL, and CIP Standards

a. Discussion on SME and Industry view – Gerry Steffens

Mr. Steffens discussed his concern of the communication gap he is witnessing amongst the industry about the Standards Committee's new direction and purpose of SME pools and the training they will offer stakeholders. The Standards Committee must be smart about how to inform the industry of their direction and purpose, and ensure to coordinate with the Compliance department and other entities to minimize duplication of work among committees within and outside of the MRO. The committee agreed it was necessary to work on the marketing of the Standards Committee efforts to ensure the word reaches as many stakeholders as possible.

The committee recessed for lunch at 12:07 pm.

The committee reconvened at 12:30 pm.

b. Review topics and nomination forms

i. Topics

Ms. Gerou reviewed the list of the Most Violated Standards with the committee to determine what CIP topics to discuss. The committee agreed to have the CIP SME group develop a section on each standard from CIP-002 through 9 for the presentation.

ii. MOD/TPL SME Nominations

The committee reviewed the one nomination submitted, agreed to seek three more nominations to create this SME group (A merged MOD & TPL group), and decided to discuss MOD/TPL topics at a later date.

- iii. CIP SME Nominations
Chair Acton asked for a motion to review and vote on the four nominations submitted thus far.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Steffens, the Standards Committee unanimously approved the four nominations submitted.

- c. Review the method used for soliciting for SMEs and topics

This topic was discussed under agenda item 5.a.

- d. Choose topics for presentation

The topics for the CIP SME group were discussed under agenda item 5.b.i, and MOD/TPL topics will be discussed at a later date.

- e. Select SMEs from nomination forms

The CIP SMEs were reviewed and approved under agenda item 5.b.iii.

6. Marketing Standards Committee's New Vision

- a. Develop web page on MRO website

Ms. Matz asked the committee members to email their ideas and suggestions for a new website to her. A draft site will be presented at the next Standards Committee Meeting.

- b. MRO Reliability Workshop Presentation

Due to a time restriction, this topic was not covered.

7. 5 Regional Standards SARS

The committee reviewed and addressed the comments submitted by the region on all five SARS.

Ms. Gerou reminded the committee about FERC Order 693 (The FERC Order approving several mandatory standards.) and FERC Order 672. (The FERC Order certifying NERC as the Electric Reliability Organization.) In FERC Order 693, the commission addressed fill-in-the-blank standards; specifically, paragraph 297 summarizes the commission's position on fill-in-the-blank standards.

"The Commission requires supplemental information for any Reliability Standard that currently requires a regional reliability organization to fill in missing criteria or procedures. Where important information has not yet been provided to us to enable us to complete our review, we are not in a position to approve or remand those Reliability Standards. Accordingly, we will not approve or remand such Reliability Standards until the ERO submits further information. Until such information is provided, compliance with fill-in-the-blank standards should continue on a voluntary basis, and the Commission considers compliance with such Reliability Standards to be a matter of good utility practice."



As a result FERC Order 693, MRO converted its legacy criteria and procedures to the criteria and procedures now found in the MRO [Manual Table 6.2](#).

Chair Acton asked for a motion that addresses how the committee should proceed with the five SARs. Below, is the motion the committee developed and voted on:

MOTION:

To approve the following 5 SARs:

MBAL-002-MRO-0
TPL-504-MRO-01
RES-501-MRO-01
PRC-502-MRO-01
TPL-503-MRO-01

And move forward with balloting withdrawal of the standards below as quickly as the MRO Standard Process will allow.

TPL-504-MRO-01
MBAL-002-MRO-0
RES-501-MRO-01
PRC-502-MRO-01

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Linke and seconded by Mr. Steffens, the Standards Committee unanimously approved the motion.

8. 2011 Proposed Meeting Dates for Standards Committee

Ms. Matz provided a hand out that listed proposed meeting dates for 2011 and requested the committee finalize their meeting dates. The committee agreed to change the February 24th meeting date to February 17th to coincide with the Planning Committee's meeting on the 16th. The finalized 2011 MRO Standing Committee schedule will be emailed out to all MRO committee members, and posted to MRO's website.

9. Sector 10 Voting Update

Mr. Burley identified his findings from reviewing the history and process of Sector 10 voting. The current NSRS voting process is correct; however, MRO has not actively used their right as the Regional Entity to vote if their view is different from the NSRS. Going forward, MRO Staff, as the Regional Entity, would like to exercise their right to vote if different from the NSRS. Committee members requested MRO Staff keep them informed.

Action Item: Ms. Gerou was told to modify the quarterly NSRS report to report deviations and the reasoning behind those deviations.

10. MRO Reports

a. NSRS Report

- i. Vote to approve Richard Burt's membership to the NSRS

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Shaver, and seconded by Mr. Rudolph, the Standards Committee unanimously approved Richard Burt's membership to the NSRS.

Action Item: Ms. Matz will add Mr. Burt to the NSRS member lyrics list and NSRS roster on the MRO website.

b. Standards Manager Report – Carol Gerou

Ms. Gerou briefly reviewed her report provided in the Agenda Packet under agenda item 10.b.

c. Compliance Committee Update – SC Member

Mr. Knight highlighted on the activities of the Compliance Committee meeting held on November 16th. The CMEP was released this week.

d. Planning Committee Update – SC Member

Mr. Steffens briefly highlighted on the Planning Committee's progress for defining a regional definition for Special Protection Systems. Many PC members raised liability concerns if the committee were to develop the definition. Therefore, the PC decided to drop the plan for developing a definition and continue using the current NERC SPS definition. The PC plans to inform the board of their decision at the December 2nd Board meeting. PC members who have co-workers on the Board plan to discuss the PC's decision on SPSs prior to the board meeting.

Since the last SC liaison to the PC resigned, Chair Acton requested Mr. Steffens temporarily fill in.

Action Item: Mr. Steffens agreed to temporarily fill this position.

e. Operating Committee Update – SC Member

Mr. Linke informed that the OC met with the Protective Relay Subcommittee (PRS) on November 16th to learn more about the subcommittee's role and current activities. In addition, the two committees discussed the concern about the development of the SPS guideline by the PC.

11. NERC Reports

a. Standards Committee – Carol Gerou

Ms. Gerou referred the committee to her report in the Agenda Packet under agenda item 11.a.

Mr. Shaver informed the committee of the NERC Standards Committee election currently in process, and that he is up for re-election. The committee agreed it was necessary to inform the region of the election, the importance of representation from the region, and to consider voting for him.

Action Item: Mr. Shaver sent an announcement asking for support from the region for reelection. The announcement will also go to the mro-nsrs, mro-standards, & mronsrs-commentrequest exploder lists.



b. Compliance and Certification Committee – Terry Bilke

Mr. Bilke provided highlights from his report in the Agenda Packet under agenda item 11.b.

The committee recessed for break at 2:30 pm.

The committee reconvened at 2:40 pm.

c. Regional Reliability Standards Working Group – Carol Gerou

Ms. Gerou provided highlights from her report in the agenda packet under agenda item 11.c.

d. NERC Drafting Teams

i. Protection System Maintenance and Testing – Carol Gerou

Ms. Gerou referred the committee to her report provided in the Agenda Packet under agenda item 11.d.i.

12. Next Meeting/ Future Locations

<u>Date</u>	<u>Group</u>
November 30	Face-to-Face NSRS meeting at MRO
December 1	MRO Reliability Workshop
December 2	MRO Board of Directors Meeting

13. Adjourn

Having no further business, Vice Chair Knight adjourned the meeting at 3:19 pm.