



MIDWEST RELIABILITY MATTERS

Summer 2010

Special points of interest:

- President Skaar provides insight on compliance
- The Enforcement Update on page 3 gives useful information on the mitigation process
- Check out the 'TIPS and Lessons Learned' Section on page 6!
- Calendar of Events on page 8

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Share your feedback!

Please let us know what information is important to you.

To submit story ideas or other suggestions for **Reliability Matters**, please contact [Jessie Mitchell](#) at 651-855-1733

From the President

Daniel P. Skaar

Thoughts on Compliance...

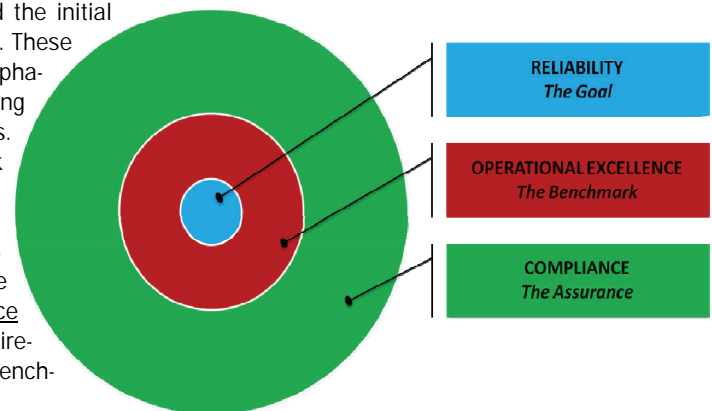
At a recent NERC meeting, I was surprised to learn that many folks define compliance as "paperwork", rather than something essential for their business. Upon reflection, I understand the remark. In the initial stages of mandatory standards, the emphasis seems to be on documentation of compliance (in other words, how you demonstrate your compliance with the applicable requirements). Documentation is important. For example, if you were no longer around (perhaps you got hit by a fish truck while crossing the street), how would someone know what you did? So, documentation is important - but is it more important than actually doing the job? Of course not, however; it's essential to demonstrate that you did your job so someone else can learn from you, and in turn, you can show us and we can do our job (adequate evidence).

Compliance with Reliability Standards is a journey with different stages—and the initial stages are nearing completion. These initial stages may have emphasized documentation, including essential program documents. As we move forward, let's link compliance with operational excellence and reliability. It's not reliability versus compliance, but rather, compliance provides a level of assurance that you are meeting requirements, including operational bench-

marks which yield reliability to those you serve. In the inverse, compliance is a way of understanding risk. Without a compliance program, you cannot effectively manage risks. With a solid compliance program, you can understand your risk and manage it.

Ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do you view compliance as "assurance" to operate effectively, achieve operational excellence, and reduce risks?
2. Have you integrated compliance throughout the organization, at every level with transparency?
3. Do you actively seek out potential risks and take corrective actions?
4. Are your self reports the result of a systematic, compliance design, a natural outcome?
5. Where does compliance reside in your organization?



COMPLIANCE UPDATE

Wayne VanOsdol, VP Compliance

2010 CMEP Annual Implementation Plan

The 2010 annual implementation plan and associated compliance monitoring schedules (audit, CIP spot-check, self-certification) are posted and can be found on the MRO website: [MRO 2010 Implementation Plan.pdf](#). The implementation of the MRO compliance monitoring plan for 2010 is on schedule. 19 compliance audits were scheduled for 2010. As of

June 30, 2010, 11 audits have been completed; 8 compliance audits remain for 2010. 17 CIP spot-checks were scheduled for 2010. As of June 30, 2010, 9 spot checks have been completed; 8 CIP spot checks remain for 2010.

OATI Compliance Data Management System (webCDMS) Update

Over 70 percent of our Registered Entities have obtained digital certificates and were issued

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COMPLIANCE UPDATE

user ID's through the test development site. MRO and OATI continue to work diligently with our Registered Entities to ensure they have digital certificates and have received the necessary credentials to access the new system. OATI continues to host webcasts as appropriate for those entities who were not able to attend the workshop. MRO, SPP and OATI have made a conscious decision to delay the deployment of the webCDMS. It is the goal of OATI and MRO to deliver a top quality product to our Registered Entities. The date that Registered Entities will be able to access the new webCDMS system is **July 20th, 2010**.

Education and Training

MRO and SPP held a joint Compliance and Enforcement Workshop on Wednesday, May 26, 2010, where the new SAS70 and CIP compliant webCDMS was demonstrated to Registered Entities. FERC staff provided a CMEP report, and a Registered Entity panel gave presentations and provided information pertaining to developing and implementing a corporate compliance program. In addition, the Mid-Continent Compliance Forum (MCCF) met on Thursday, May 27, 2010. The MCCF provides a forum and opportunity for Registered Entities to share compliance program process material as well as share compliance audit experiences. MRO staff presented information at the MCCF meeting as well. Registered Entities are encouraged to attend workshops, seminars, and other related meetings where BES reliability and associated compliance matters are discussed.

CIP-002 through CIP-009 Self-Certification

July 1 through August 2, 2010, MRO will be conducting a CIP Self Certification for all applicable entities registered in our region. This self certification will be specific to CIP-002 through CIP-009 following the implementation tables outlined in the 2008 NERC CIP Implementation Plan. The date when each requirement must reach a defined status is identified in the Implementation Plan tables: [NERC Guidance on CIP Standards](#). The CIP self-certification to be conducted in July 2010 will be reduced in scope. The July 2010 CIP self-certification will encompass (or include) the entities performing functions identified in Tables 3 and 4 as described in the Implementation Plan tables: [NERC Guidance on CIP Standards](#). The reduced scope of the upcoming CIP self-certification is due to the fact that all forty-three CIP-002 – CIP-009 Version 2 requirements move to the "Auditably Compliant" state for all entities performing functions identified in Tables 1 and 2,

starting July 1, 2010. Depending upon registration, MRO recognizes that there are some entities identified as performing functions in all Tables 1 – 4. Those entities will only be asked to complete the July CIP self-certification for the functions performed in Tables 3 and 4. Moving forward, MRO will begin to increase the scope of the ongoing annual self-certification to include the CIP-002 through CIP-009 standards (i.e. the CIP standards will transition or move into the ongoing compliance program like all other standards). This transition is detailed in both the NERC and MRO CMEP 2010 Implementation Plans.

CIP - Technical Feasibility Exception (TFE)

To date, Registered Entities in the MRO footprint have reported a total of 7,260 assets. 17 entities submitted a total of 289 TFE's to MRO. At this time, NERC and the Regional Entities are working to finalize the process used to conduct the TFE Part B review and assessment. A defined process is needed to ensure determinations are consistent for TFEs with similar assets, applicable requirements, and similar basis for justification. The TFE Part B assessment must be completed within 365 days from the date in which the Part A submittals were received. For MRO, 90% of the TFE Part B review must be completed by Feb 1, 2011. MRO is planning and adjusting resource time to manage TFE processing.

Multiple Region Registered Entity (MRRE)

The Multiple Region Registered Entity (MRRE) project involves the consolidation of compliance monitoring activities for certain Registered Entities that are registered in multiple regions. NERC will be meeting with Registered Entities and Trade Associations where the proposed manual will be reviewed and proposed modifications identified. MRO will continue to keep the Registered Entities apprised of the status of the MRRE project.

Upcoming Compliance and Enforcement Events

The next MCCF meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on Tuesday November 30, and an MRO workshop is tentatively scheduled for December 1, 2010. Please check our website for details. In addition, please contact Jo Anne McNabb at ja.mcnabb@midwestreliability.org for questions pertaining to the workshop.

The MRO Compliance Department can be reached at mco@midwestreliability.org

OPERATIONS UPDATE

John Seidel, Sr. Mgr. Situational Awareness, Event Analysis and Reliability Improvement

Reliability Assessments

The 2010 Summer Assessment was completed by NERC on May 26, 2010, and is posted at: <http://www.nerc.com/files/2010%20Summer%20Reliability%20Assessment.pdf>. Key observations from this assessment include:

- The recession continues to reduce demand; about 10 GW per year for the past two years.
- Installation of wind resources continues; about 7000 MW increase since summer 2009. Wind generation within the MRO region totals approximately 7700 MW, a 1700 MW increase since summer 2009.
- Participation in demand response decreased for the first time in 4 years.

NERC is still finalizing the Long Term Reliability Assessment (LTRA). This report should be out in October 2010.

Beginning in 2011, the MRO and Reliability First Corporation (RFC) regions will work closely together on assessments in order to submit sub-regions on a Planning Authority/ISO/RT0 basis. This is the most efficient and accurate way to report data and compare reserve margins against target margins. The combined MRO- RFC regions will have a total of five sub-regions: PJM, Midwest ISO, MAPP, SaskPower and MH. RFC will collect and submit data to NERC for PJM; MRO will collect and submit data for the other four sub-regions. Both MRO and RFC will assess the sub-regions based on their responses and data submitted. It is anticipated that the Nebraska companies will be included in the Southwest Power Pool Regional Entity (SPP-RE) submittal to NERC for

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OPERATIONS UPDATE (cont...)

2011 since they participate in the SPP-RTO.

MRO Operating Committee Report

The new MRO Operating Committee (OC) is in the process of being populated with members, as requested by the MRO Board of Directors at their March 25, 2010 meeting. The purpose of this group is to:

- Review the seasonal assessments (summer and winter) of the MRO region and interregional bulk electric system.
- Review the post seasonal assessments (summer and winter) of the bulk electric system to determine if the system performed according to the preseason plans.
- Review system disturbance reports and event analyses to assure the appropriate analysis is performed and that lessons learned are identified and shared with the industry.
- Perform all Regional Entity responsibilities associated with the Protection and Control Standards, including mis-operations,

review of special protection schemes, UFLS criteria, disturbance monitoring criteria, etc.

- Participate in and represent the MRO region in all NERC groups, as required, that report to the NERC Operating Committee.
- Provide regular reports to the MRO Board of Directors on matters related to the operating activities of the OC and its working groups.
- Provide technical advice and subject matter expertise and support to the related NERC program areas, and serve as a forum to integrate the outputs of each NERC program area to MRO stakeholders.

The full charter and committee roster can be found on the MRO website at http://www.midwestreliability.org/REL_oc.html.



ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Sara Patrick, Regulatory Affairs, Counsel and Enforcement Director

MITIGATION PLAN PROCESS: VERIFICATION OF MITIGATION PLAN COMPLETION

The Mitigation Plan Process begins with the Registered Entity's Mitigation Plan submission through the Compliance Data Management System (CDMS) and concludes with verification of Mitigation Plan completion by MRO. MRO staff is available to assist in development of each Mitigation Plan and will review any Mitigation Plans prior to formal submission through CDMS.

Upon acceptance of a Mitigation Plan, MRO will take actions to ensure the Mitigation Plan is being executed, is being completed, and finally that the Registered Entity has fully mitigated the alleged violation of the NERC Reliability Standard and Requirement at issue.

According to the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP), MRO will complete its review of the Mitigation Plan within thirty (30) calendar days of submission through CDMS. Upon acceptance or rejection, CDMS will automatically notify the Registered Entity. In addition to the CDMS auto-generated message, MRO enforcement staff will provide the Registered Entity with a form entitled Certification of Mitigation Plan Completion. NERC will notify the Registered Entity and MRO when the Mitigation Plan is approved or disapproved by NERC. NERC will submit to the Commission, as non-public information, all approved Mitigation Plans.

Once the Registered Entity completes its Mitigation Plan, on or before the plan completion date contained in the Mitigation Plan, the Registered Entity should provide a Certification of Mitigation Plan Completion indicating the actual Mitigation Plan completion date. After receipt of the Certification of Mitigation Plan Completion, MRO will verify Mitigation Plan completion through an in-depth review of evidence supplied by the Registered Entity. MRO may contact Registered Entities with requests for evidence of Mitigation Plan completion as well as clarification of evidence submitted in order to verify the Mitigation Plan completion.

Verification of Mitigation Plan completion outlines in detail the review process regarding the evidence of Mitigation Plan completion submitted by the Registered Entity. MRO will provide a written statement of verification of Mitigation Plan completion for each NERC Reliability Standard and Requirement at issue. The written statement will include identification of the Standard and Requirement, and all evidence provided and reviewed to verify that the Mitigation Plan has been completed in accordance with its terms. In most instances, the written statement of verification of Mitigation Plan completion will be incorporated within the Disposition Document prepared for each enforcement action.

To facilitate the Mitigation Plan verification process, Registered Entities should provide regular status updates (every ninety (90) days minimum) of progress towards achieving Mitigation Plan completion. Additionally, once a Mitigation Plan is completed, the Registered Entity should provide evidence of Mitigation Plan completion promptly to MRO through CDMS to allow the verification process to begin at the earliest possible moment.



EVENT ANALYSIS UPDATE

Dan Schoenecker, VP Operations

NERC Event Analysis Working Group (EAWG)

The NERC Events Analysis Working Group met on June 14/15 to continue working

on their goal to provide a common process and criteria for event analysis across the regions. This is on a fast track and the group hopes to have a process document and event categories finalized by September 2010.

MRO Event Analysis Update

At its June 24, 2010 meeting, the MRO Board of Directors accepted a final report on the August 29, 2009, system event in the South Dakota/Nebraska area. A public version of the August 29th event is being drafted and should be available soon. Going forward, MRO will send out recommendation letters to all applicable entities per the final report. Once these are submitted, MRO staff will prepare lessons learned from this event and send these to the NERC Events Analysis Working Group for their consideration and review.

Sharing Lessons Learned and Recommendations from Event Analyses

Often times, a review of a disturbance or event yields recommendations and/or lessons learned. MRO uses the following definitions:

Recommendation (from an Event Analysis) – An activity or action, specific to one or more entities within MRO, that must

be evaluated by the entity or group of entities. Results may be implemented at the discretion of the entity. An Event Analysis may include recommendations to one or more entities to deal with issues which contributed to an event or hindered the restoration following the event. The recommendations might also help to improve operation of the BES or minimize the risk of future events.

Lesson Learned (from an Event Analysis or Standards violation) – An activity or action that was observed in an event or Standards violation, that other entities may benefit from knowing about, and by their awareness and follow up, may reduce the risk of future events or Standards violations.

Process for handling Recommendations – MRO will identify all recommendations from an Event Analysis, and follow up with the impacted entities until they have responded to the recommendation and completed any implementation of the recommendation. Monthly reports will be made to the MRO Board of Directors.

Process for handling Lessons Learned – Lessons learned will be written up by MRO staff in a generic format developed by the NERC Event Analysis Working Group. Specific entities and facilities will not be identified, but the affected entities will have an opportunity for technical review of the lesson learned. Lessons will be sent to NERC for review by NERC staff and by the Event Analysis Working Group for consistency in format and to check for duplication. MRO lessons learned will be posted on the MRO website, which will also have a link to the NERC website for lessons learned from other regions. When new lessons are posted, an email will be sent to all MRO mailing lists.

STANDARDS UPDATE

Carol Gerou, Standards Manager

On May 20, 2010, the Standards Committee approved their new charter, which was subsequently approved by the MRO Board on June 24, 2010. The group will now focus on education and training of MRO members to reduce reliability gaps or possible violations. Currently, the Standards Committee is working on an implementation plan for their revised charter. Two items that they have decided upon are - 1] The NSRS and the Standards Committee will take on more activities, plus, 2] the Standards Committee will also form Ad-hoc Subject Matter Working Groups to develop application guides and other references.

The new responsibilities listed in the revised charter are below:

- Recommend to the MRO Board, regional representatives for NERC standards development and drafting related working groups and committees.
- Provide regular reports to the MRO Board on matters related to regional Reliability Standards and activities of the Standards Committee.
- Maintain standards development process documentation for regional Reliability Standards.

- Present new or modifications to existing MRO regional Reliability Standards to the Board for adoption upon recommendation of the MRO Balloting Pool.
- Assign proposed regional Reliability Standards to a Standards Drafting Team.
- Periodically review NERC Reliability Standards and determine their impact and how they are applied to the Registered Entities.
- Provide non-binding assistance to stakeholders in understanding the application of the NERC Reliability Standards.
- Assist Stakeholders in gaining the understanding of the types of evidence needed to demonstrate compliance through examples.
- Oversee the development of application guides for approved mandatory standards.
- Review frequently occurring compliance violations to determine if there are any additional application guidelines that are needed or additional changes to standards or request interpretations.
- Provide education and training on effectively demonstrating compliance to Stakeholders through webinars, emails, conference calls, presentations, workshops, etc.

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STANDARDS UPDATE *continued...*

- Identify pools of subject matter experts in the industry to assist in the development of application guides, to provide evidence identification for NERC standards, to provide comments on standards and interpretations, and to provide voting positions.

Also in development, the Standards Committee was researching the various options for the MRO Regional Reliability Standards. They asked the Standard Drafting Team Leads about the status of each standard and what would be needed to push the standard through the rest of the process. The Standards Committee also asked the MRO Industry Sectors what their opinion was pertaining to those standards. On June 14, 2010, the Standards Committee exercised their authority (pursuant to the Standards Development Process listed in the Standards Process Manual Version 4.5) and suspended all regional reliability standard development due to a lack of consensus observed in the MRO Industry Sectors. This suspension includes the following regional reliability standards: RES-501-MRO-02 ("Planned Resource Adequacy Assessment"), PRC-502-MRO-02 ("Power System stabilizer"), TPL-503-MRO-02 ("System Performance"), TPL-504-MRO-02 ("Subsynchronous Resonance") and PRC-006-MRO-01 ("Under Frequency Load Shedding").

Enforcement to begin on "Transmission Relay Loadability"

As of July 1, 2010, requirements R1 and R2, of the NERC Mandatory Reliability Standard PRC-023 ("Transmission Relay

Loadability,") became effective for Transmission Owners (both for transmission lines rated 200kV and for transformers with low voltage terminals rated above 200kV), Generator Owners (load-responsive phase protection systems applied to the above mentioned transmission owner facilities) and Distribution Providers (load-responsive phase protection systems that have bi-directional flow capabilities applied to the above mentioned Transmission Owner facilities). Applicable Generator Owner and Distribution Provider's load-responsive phase protection systems are defined in attachment A of the standard.

Attachment A covers two types of load-responsive phase protection systems; 1] Any protective functions which could trip with or without time delay once a particular load current level is reached, and 2] Out of step blocking protective systems which block tripping signals during specific loading conditions.

It is important to note that the Relay Loadability Standard Drafting Team has endorsed a reference document describing the load-responsive phase protection systems titled, [Determination and Application of Practical Relaying Loadability Ratings Version 1](#). This document was created by the System Protection and Control Task Force of the NERC Planning Committee.



FINANCE UPDATE

Sue Clarke, VP of Administration and Finance

Year to Date Financials

Year to date, MRO is currently operating on budget.

MRO Regional 2011 Business Plan and Budget

The Midwest Reliability Organization Board of Directors approved the MRO Business Plan and Budget at the June 24, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting. The increase from 2010 to 2011 is 10.8%. Over 70% of the budget is "people costs" (salaries, benefits, training, travel, etc.); therefore, managing productivity is essential. Key drivers for the increase are simply the quantity of demands: more work, greater expectations from those we serve (industry, regulators, and public interests).

The MRO 2011 approved Business Plan and Budget has been posted on the MRO website along with MRO Finance and Audit (FAC) presentation intended to give an overview. A link has been provided on the website to directly contact MRO staff with any questions or concerns.

Next steps in the NERC and Regional 2011 Business Plan and Budget;

7/8/10 Final MRO budget submittal due and final list of LSEs and NEL data

7/12/10 FAC agenda to be sent and posted, includes the regional final BP&B

7/19/10 FAC conference call to review NERC and Regional final business plan, budgeted financials, and assessments to be sent to the BOARD for approval.

7/21/10 Final draft of business plan, budgeted financials, Regional budget and assessments to Board of Trustees and Member Representatives Committee.

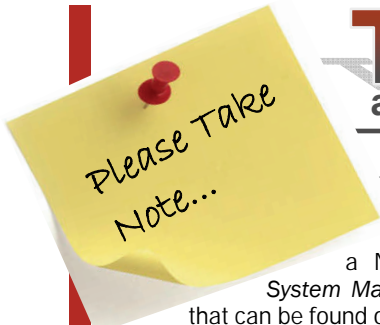
8/4/10 FAC Meeting to approve NERC final 2011 BP&B

8/5/10 Business plan, budgeted financials, and assessments presented to the Board of Trustees for approval.

8/24/10 Submit package to FERC and Canadian provincial authorities for approval.

Any question on the above can be directed to [Sue Clarke](#), VP of Finance and Administration.

Questions regarding accounts payable or receivable should be directed to [Regina Davis](#), Accountant and HR Specialist.



TIPS and Lessons Learned

SHARING INFORMATION...INCREASING COMPLIANCE...STRENGTHENING RELIABILITY

The following is an excerpt from a NERC document titled “Protection System Maintenance—A Technical Reference” that can be found on NERC’s website at http://www.nerc.com/docs/pc/spctf/Relay_Maintenance_Tech_Ref_approved_by_PC.pdf

PROTECTION SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: Time Based Maintenance vs. Condition Based Maintenance

Condition based maintenance is the process of gathering and monitoring the information available from modern microprocessor-based relays and other intelligent electronic devices (IEDs) that monitor protection system elements. These relays and IEDs generate monitoring information during normal operation, and the information can be assessed at a convenient location remote from the substation. The information from these relays and IEDs is divided into two major categories:

- Results from background self-monitoring processes, programmed by the manufacturer, or by the user in relay logic settings. The results are presented by alarm contacts or points, front panel indications, and by data communications messages.
- Event logs, captured files, and/or oscillograph records for faults and disturbances, metered values, and binary input status reports. Some of these are available on the relay front panel display, but may be available via data communications ports. Large files of fault information can only be retrieved via data communications. These results comprise a mass of data that must be further analyzed for evidence of the operational condition of the protection system.

Using these two categories of information, the user can develop an effective maintenance program carried out mostly from a central location remote from the substation. This approach offers the following advantages:

Non-invasive Maintenance: The system is kept in its normal operating state, without human intervention for checking. This reduces risk of damage, or risk of leaving the system in an inoperable state after a manual test. Experience has shown that keeping human hands away from equipment known to be working correctly enhances reliability.

Virtually Continuous Monitoring: CBM will report many hardware failure problems for repair within seconds or minutes of when they happen. This reduces the percentage of problems that are discovered through incorrect relaying performance. By contrast, a hardware failure discovered by Time Based Maintenance (TBM) may have been there for much of the time interval between tests, and there is a good chance that some relays will show health problems by incorrect relaying before being caught in the next test round. The frequent or continuous nature of CBM makes the effective verification interval far shorter than any required TBM maximum interval.

Time Based vs. Conditioned Based
Time based and condition based maintenance programs are

both acceptable, if implemented according to technically sound requirements. Practical programs can employ a *combination of time based and condition based maintenance*. The standard requirements introduce the concept of optionally using condition monitoring as a documented element of a maintenance program (see section 8 and 13 of NERC’s Protection System Maintenance document). The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), in its Order Number 693 Final Rule dated March 16, 2007 (18 CFR Part 40, Docket No. RM06-16-000) on Mandatory Reliability Standards for the Bulk-Power System, directed NERC to submit a modification to PRC-005-1 that includes a requirement that maintenance and testing of a protection system must be carried out within a maximum allowable interval that is appropriate to the type of the protection system and its impact on the reliability of the Bulk Power System. Accordingly, NERC’s technical paper proposes specific maximum allowable intervals (section 8). These maximum intervals define requirements for a time-based maintenance program, and different intervals when specific types of condition monitoring are used.

A key feature of condition-based monitoring is that it effectively reduces the time delay between the moment of a protection failure and time the protection system owner knows about it, for the monitored segments of the protection system. In some cases, the verification is practically continuous – the time interval between verifications is minutes or seconds. Thus, technically sound condition-based verification meets the time-based verification requirements of the FERC order even more effectively than time-based tests of the same system elements. The result is that:

- Future NERC standards should permit utilities to use a technically sound approach to testing relays and components by on-site technicians with test sets. This periodic testing should be conducted within maximum time intervals specified.
- TOs or GOs that wish to take advantage of remote monitoring, data analysis, and control capabilities of modern protection systems can reduce periodic site visits and invasive testing as a maintenance approach. The focus in this case is on defining and documenting a technically complete program according to recommendations made in this document.

NERC LESSONS LEARNED

New NERC Resource Center

NERC continues to work with the industry to rebalance its role as the self-regulatory organization and deliver valuable contributions to bulk power system reliability while maintaining strong enforcement authority. One of the ways NERC is striving to reach this goal is by becoming a learning industry focused on working with stakeholders to improve reliability performance through event causal analysis, communication of lessons learned and best practices, and the tracking of recommendations. NERC is working with stake-

holder participants to identify, vet, and disseminate valuable information to the entire industry. All of these tasks will help improve the reliability of the bulk power system.

In keeping with NERC's goal, a new lesson learned have been posted on the following Web site under the "Events Analysis – Lesson Learned" tab: <http://www.nerc.com/page.php?cid=1|83>

Compliance Application Notices (CANs)

NERC Compliance Operations is working with Regional Entities to improve consistency, transparency, and efficiency of compliance processes and expectations, and to promote a culture of compliance excellence through education, transparency and information. One way that NERC is working to achieve this goal is by providing Compliance Application Notices (NERC CANs).

NERC CANs have two purposes. The first purpose is to assist Compliance Operations and Regional Entities with the performance of compliance activities. The second purpose is to assist registered entities with compliance regarding NERC Reliability Standards. NERC Compliance Operations will use CANs to help:

- Provide transparency
- Improve consistency
- Identify trends

- Educate and engender a culture of compliance, and
- Encourage effective self-policing and correction

CANs are now available at: <http://www.nerc.com/page.php?cid=3|22|354>

Webinars now available at the NERC Resource Center

As of July 7, 2010, the NERC Resource Center offers recent Webinars for streaming under the "2010 Webinars" tab. The Protection System Coordination series (6 of 7 are now complete) is available, as well as the High-Impact, Low Frequency, and 2010 Summer Assessment presentations.

Visit the Resource Center at: <http://www.nerc.com/page.php?cid=1|83>

INDUSTRY UPDATES AND EVENTS

DOE Announces More Than \$76 Million for Advanced Energy-Efficient Building Technologies and Commercial Building Training Programs

WASHINGTON-U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced awards totaling more than \$76 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support advanced energy-efficient building technology projects and the development of training programs for commercial building equipment technicians, building operators, and energy auditors. <http://energy.gov/news/9152.htm>

FERC proposes, seeks comment on transmission planning, cost allocation principles

June 17, 2010. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) proposed to build on its Order No. 890 open access transmission reforms by establishing a closer link between regional electric transmission planning and cost allocation to help ensure that needed transmission facilities actually are built: <http://www.ferc.gov/media/news-releases/2010/2010-2/06-17-10-E-9.asp>

FERC—National action plan seeks coalition for demand response

June 17, 2010. Public institutions and private sector organizations from across the country should form a coalition to help states, localities and regions develop and deploy successful and cost-effective electric demand response programs, a new Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) staff report says. <http://www.ferc.gov/media/news-releases/2010/2010-2/06-17-10-A-3.asp>

NERC Announces Headquarters Relocation

PRINCETON, N.J., June 11, 2010. NERC President and CEO Gerry Cauley announced plans to move NERC's headquarters to Atlanta to attract high-quality employees and to be more acces-

sible to its stakeholders. To encourage extensive interaction between NERC and key governmental and regulatory authorities, NERC will also be expanding its DC office.

Webcast: The Wide Area View: Synchrophasors

Jul 08, 2010 - 12:00 Eastern. Are you prepared to deal with cascading grid faults this summer? Join the free live webcast discussion to learn how synchrophasors enable you to manage power overloads in a multi-utility project. <http://www.energycentral.com/events/audio>

Wind Power Development & Integration Conference

Jul 13, 2010 - Jul 14, 2010 - Denver, CO - USA. This event will showcase more than 15 industry experts in a highly interactive and intimate environment specifically designed for optimal speaker-delegate engagement. <http://www.energycentral.com/events/conferences>

IEEE Power & Energy Society General Meeting

Jul 25, 2010 - Jul 29, 2010 - Minneapolis, MN - USA. The 2010 General Meeting features a comprehensive technical program that is focused on significant issues facing the global community of power and energy professionals. The intent of the meeting is to provide an international forum for attendees to promote, share and discuss a myriad of ongoing developments that relate to today's power and energy industry. PES is pleased to announce that the General Meeting is being co-hosted by Xcel Energy and Great River Energy <http://www.energycentral.com/events/conferences>

For more information on upcoming energy-related and industry events. Please visit Energy Central's website at: <http://www.energycentral.com/events/conferences>



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After Hours Emergency Line
651-734-8355

EMPLOYEE NEWS

Please welcome the following new employees to MRO:

Jacob Phillips joined MRO on July 1st as an Enforcement Attorney

Miggie Cramblit joined MRO on July 7th and will serve as MRO's Director of External Affairs .

For open positions within MRO, please visit the career page on our [website](#)

ABOUT MRO

MRO is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the reliability and security of the bulk power system and operates under delegated authority from regulators in both the U.S. and Canada. MRO works to develop and ensure compliance with regional and international standards and also performs assessments of the grid's ability to meet the demands for electricity. Additional information can be found on our website at www.midwestreliability.org

NOT A MEMBER YET?

MRO membership provides the following advantages:

- Participation on the various MRO committees and working groups; including the board
- Vote on key matters, such as; development of regional reliability policies and implementation
- Participate in North American and Inter-connection-wide technical assessments
- Network of industry peers

MRO membership is free of charge. To apply, visit our [website](#) or call 651-855-1760

MRO Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Group	Location
Sept 7	8:00 - 3:00	Compliance Committee Meeting	TBA
Sept 8	9:00 - 4:00	Protective Relay Subcommittee Meetings	TBA
Sept 8	8:30 - 3:30	Planning Committee Meeting	TBA
Sept 9	9:00 - 4:00	Model Building Subcommittee	TBA
Sept 13	9:00 - 3:00	Standards Committee Meeting	WebEx Conference Call
Sept 23	8:00 - 4:00	Board of Directors Meeting	TBA
Oct 28	9:00 - 4:00	Model Building Subcommittee	TBA
Nov 15 Nov 16	12:00 - 5:00 8:00 - 12:00	Protective Relay Subcommittee Meetings	TBA
Nov 16	8:00 - 3:00	Compliance Committee Meeting	TBA
Nov 17	8:30 - 3:30	Planning Committee Meeting	TBA
Nov 18	10:00 - 3:00	Standards Committee Meeting	MRO Office
Dec 2	8:00 - 4:00	Board of Directors and Annual Member Meeting	TBA

QUOTE OF THE QUARTER:

The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.

Winston Churchill

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