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RSSC
Standard Development Activities

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Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination – Standard Authorization Request

Status: Formal comment period for SAR December 21, 2021.

Standard(s) Affected: BAL, EOP, IRO, TOP, or Other Standards as Identified in the SAR

Scope : Address 9 recommendations from the FERC, NERC, and Regional Entity Joint Staff Inquiry into the February 2021 Cold Weather Grid Operations.

Staged Timelines:

Regulatory approval before Winter 2022/2023: development completed by September 30, 2022 for NERC's consideration in October 2022;

Regulatory approval before Winter 2023/2024: development completed by September 30, 2023 for NERC's consideration in October 2023.

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Nine Recommendations

Revise the Reliability Standards to require:

1. GOs to identify and protect cold-weather-critical components. *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2023/2024).*
2. GOs to build new generating units, and retrofit existing units, to operate to specific ambient temperatures and weather based on extreme temperature and weather data, and account for effects of precipitation and cooling effect of wind. *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2023/2024).*
3. Annual training on winterization plans *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2022/2023).*
4. GOs that experience freeze-related outages to develop Corrective Action Plans *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2022/2023).*

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Nine Recommendations

Revise the Reliability Standards to require:

5. Each GO/GOP to provide the BA with the percentage of the total generating unit capacity that the BA can rely upon during the "local forecasted cold weather," including reliability risks related to natural gas fuel contracts.

   Each BA to use the data provided by the GO/GOP, combined with its evaluation, based on experience, to calculate the percentage of each individual generating unit's total capacity that it can rely upon during the forecasted cold weather for its operating plans (season-ahead, day(s)-ahead) and real-time monitoring, and share with the RC.

   (Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2022/2023).

6. GOs to account for effects of precipitation and accelerated cooling effect of wind when providing temperature data. *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2022/2023).*

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Nine Recommendations

Revise the Reliability Standards to require:

7. BAs' and TOPs' manual load shed provisions to include processes for identifying and protecting critical natural gas infrastructure loads from firm load shed to avoid adversely affecting bulk-power system reliability. *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2023/2024).*

8. BAs' operating plans for contingency reserves and to mitigate capacity and energy emergencies to prohibit use of critical natural gas infrastructure loads for demand response. *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2022/2023).*

9. The load shed procedures of TOPs, TOs and DPs to separate circuits that will be used for manual load shed from circuits used for UFLS or serving critical load, use UFLS circuits only as a last resort, and if necessary, start with the final stage (lowest frequency) to minimize the overlap of manual and automatic load shed. *(Implementation Timeframe before Winter 2023/2024).*

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Modifications to Reliability Standards:
FAC-001-4 — Facility Interconnection Requirements
FAC-002-4 – Facility Interconnection Studies

Status

-Formal comment period and initial ballots concluded January 31, 2022. Passed.

Scope

-Revise FAC-001-3 and FAC-002-3 to clarify requirements related to "material modifications" of Facilities:

1. Replace term "materially modification" to "qualified change" to avoid confusion with similar terminology that is used for a different purpose in the FERC Open Access Transmission Tariff.

2. Clarify that the Planning Coordinator is responsible for making the determination of what is considered to be a "qualified change" to a Facility.

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Modifications to VAR-002-4.1:
Generator Operation for Maintaining Network Voltage Schedules Standard Authorization Request

Status

-Informal comment period for SAR concluded April 6, 2022.

Scope

-To clarify VAR-002-4.1, Requirement R3, in regards to whether the GOP of a dispersed power resource must notify its associated TOP upon a status change of a voltage controlling device on an individual generating unit; for example, if a single inverter goes offline in a solar photo-voltaic (PV) Facility.

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Modifications to FAC-008-5:
Facility Ratings
Standard Authorization Request

Status

-Formal comment period for SAR concluded January 27, 2022.

Scope

1. Clarify the term "jointly owned", and what information is required to be shared with neighboring entities.

2. Permit inclusion of non-electrical equipment in the determination of Generator Owner Facility Ratings (R1).

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Modifications to TPL-001-5.1 and MOD-032-1: Transmission Planning Performance Requirements Data for Power System Modeling and Analysis Standard Authorization Requests

Status

-Comment period for SARs concluded March 02, 2022.

Scope

1. Revise requirements within the TPL-001-5 standard to provide clarity and consistency for how BPS-connected inverter-based resources are considered, modeled, and studied in planning assessments.

2. Revise requirements to provide clarity, or in some cases, expand the scope of requirements when considering the performance of DERs to ensure the accuracy of Transmission System Planning Assessments.

3. Revise MOD-032-1 to address gaps in data collection for the purposes of modeling aggregate levels of DERs in planning assessments.

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