

Memorandum

To: ISO Board of Governors
From: Armando Perez, Vice President of Grid Planning and Infrastructure Development
Date: December 4, 2007
Re: *Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee Activity Update*

This memorandum is for Board information only.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This memo is intended to keep the Board informed of recent activities of the Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee (TMCC). The TMCC met on October 18, 2007. The following significant topics were addressed:

- Briefing on Congestion Revenue Rights (CRR)
- Best Practices: Maintenance Program for SF₆ (Sulfur Hexafluoride Gas) Circuit Breakers
- North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) Reliability Standards
- Briefing on the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE) Maintenance/Inspection Guide
- Martin Substation and nearby Line Outages on 7/24/07

The next meeting of the TMCC is scheduled for January 17, 2008 and official minutes of the October 18, 2007 TMCC meeting will be approved at that time.

BACKGROUND

Briefing on Congestion Revenue Rights (CRRs)

Jim McHan (CAISO) provided the TMCC with an overview of the status of the CAISO proposed CRR 30 day outage rule. Jim also provided the latest draft language covering outage scheduling to support the monthly release of CRRs as found in section 4.2.1.1 of the September 5, 2007 version of the Business Practice Manual for Outage Management (<http://www.caiso.com/1c5d/1c5d85dcc520.doc>). Further discussion led to the following TMCC suggestions:

1. The final document should provide more clarity on where the lists of significant facilities are maintained.
2. Determine, by periodic review, the impact on Transmission Facility Maintenance as a result of the new CRR outage scheduling process.

3. The CAISO send the PTOs proposed guideline indicating what information and analysis is needed to support exceptions to facilities 200kV and above. (This was posted on the CAISO website and forwarded to the TMCC on November 12, 2007)

Best Practices: Maintenance Program for SF6 Circuit Breakers

Jim Jackson of Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) gave a presentation on their program to monitor alarms on SF6 circuit breakers and associated isolation procedures.

NERC/WECC Reliability Standards Discussion:

Jim McHan (CAISO) led a discussion on the NERC/WECC Reliability Standards. Jim indicated the compliance filing process involving these standards is still very active. Jim covered the following examples:

- NERC has approved WECC standards for one year until severity is addressed. During the 1-year time frame they are to revise their standards using the new violation severity guideline. The NERC Violation Severity Guidelines was posted for comment on 10/10/07.
- The WECC transmission maintenance standard PRC-005-WECC-1 was open for comments by 10/19/07.
- The WECC Protection, Relay, and Control standards PRC-STD-001-1 and PRC-STD-003-1 were combined by WECC into one standard (PRC-004-WECC-1 for protection relays) with comments due by 11/05/07.
- The NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) CIP-006 reliability standard addresses use of barriers on Remote Terminal Units (RTUs) in substations to help prevent cyber attacks.

Charles Cooper of Western Area Power Administration and Frank Johnson of San Diego Gas & Electric suggested keeping this portion of the agenda on future agendas with discussion limited to categories as it pertains to the recent experiences of the TMCC members.

Briefing on IEEE Maintenance/Inspection Guide

Jim McHan provided a short overview of the draft IEEE Maintenance/Inspection guide. The TMCC, after listening to Jim's briefing, determined involvement with this development would be better served by individual utilities rather than the TMCC. The TMCC did request a listing of the IEEE members involved on the working committee that is responsible for its development. Mr. McHan provided that list to the members on October 22, 2007.

Martin Substation and Nearby Line Outages on 7/24/07

Gregg Lemler (PG&E) provided a brief summary of the July 24, 2007 momentary and sustained outages that occurred at Martin substation resulting in a loss of approximately 50,000 customers. The breaker failure relays for 11 transmission breakers operated simultaneously at Martin substation due to a combination of design issues. Mr. Lemler indicated approximately 140 relays with similar design issues exist in their system and ultimately would need to be replaced or fixed. PG&E has implemented a temporary resolution to this problem, and is in the process of replacing them.

Details of the above five topics are available after the TMCC approves the Official minutes for the October 18, 2007 TMCC meeting. Official minutes for TMCC meetings appear at this link:
<http://www.caiso.com/pubinfo/BOG/minutes/calendar.cgi>