WIRAB Monthly Update

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WIRAB Staff

November 7, 2019
Outline

• Introductions and Roll Call
• FERC:
  — Grid Enhancing Technologies Technical Workshop
• WECC:
  — RC Certification Update
  — RAC Improvement Proposal
• NERC:
  — Reliability and Security Technical Committee
  — ERO Risk Priorities Report
FERC Technical Workshop: Grid Enhancing Technologies

Brett Wangen from GridSME did a great job representing WIRAB and the West

• **Themes:**
  — FERC definition of Grid Enhancing Technology:
    • Not an investment like a new line or substation construction; AND
    • Should increase reliability and/or economic efficiency of the current grid
  — How do utilities account for Grid Enhancing Technologies in planning and operations?
  — What potential regulatory approaches are there to facilitate greater deployment of these technologies?
    • How and is it appropriate for FERC to incentivize these technologies?
  — The focus was in RTO/ISO regions, but how could the West be impacted?
WECC: Reliability Coordinator Certification Update

- **CAISO RC West**: Live as of 11/1
- **SPP** in shadow operations since 10/7
  — Finalizing certification; Go-Live 12/3
- **BCHydro**: Live as of 9/2

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<th>Form Team</th>
<th>Schedule Visit</th>
<th>Send Cert. Packet</th>
<th>Conduct On-site Visit</th>
<th>Identify Key Concerns</th>
<th>Give Entity Feedback</th>
<th>Finalize Certification</th>
<th>Release Report</th>
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WIRAB Advice Submitted in June: Implementation of the WECC RAC

• Supports WECC’s decision to create the RAC to improve the quality of WECC’s reliability assessments

• Industry-imposed conditions on the modification or adjustment of data submitted to WECC threatens the RAC’s ability to independently and rigorously assess reliability issues in the Western Interconnection

• The WECC Board of Directors should provide leadership in resolving the internal RAC dispute regarding the authority of the RAC to modify or adjust data submitted to WECC to conduct reliability assessments
WECC:
RAC Improvement Proposal: Survey Themes

• **Efficiency**
  — Creating the RAC did not significantly reduce stakeholders’ participation time. Unclear whether the new structure is more effective than previously

• **Collaboration**
  — Combining Power Flow and Production Cost Model expertise at the subcommittee level created challenges in keeping stakeholders engaged

• **Governance**
  — Voting and quorum requirements created challenges in running successful and efficient meetings and in making decisions

• **Assessments**
  — Premature to know whether the RAC structure has made a measurable difference in WECC’s ability to develop reliability assessments
WECC:
RAC Improvement Proposal: Goals for Changes

• Allow decision-making authority at the lowest level.
• Eliminate unnecessary review levels.
• Recognize and promote appropriate collaboration among work groups.
• Conform with the Joint Guidance Committee’s guidance for subcommittee, work group and task force definitions.
WECC:
RAC Improvement Proposal

• **Other Changes:**
  — Eliminate Subcommittee Governing Bodies
  — Eliminate RAC Governing Body
  — Eliminate Governance Hurdles

• **Timeline:**
  — Nov. 22 – Collecting Comments
  — Dec. 4 – Status Update to WECC Board
  — Mid-Dec. – Implement changes
NERC: Reliability and Security Technical Committee

- Potential Effectiveness and Efficiency Benefits:
  - Better functional alignment the RISC
  - Increasing effectiveness and efficiency by providing end-to-end solutions
  - Enhanced contact between the RSTC, the MRC, and the NERC Board
NERC: Risk Priorities Report

**Grid Transformation**
A. Bulk Power System Planning
B. Resource Adequacy and Performance
C. Increased Complexity in Protection and Control Systems
D. Situational Awareness Challenges
E. Human Performance and Skilled Workforce
F. Changing Resource Mix

**Security Risks**
A. Physical
B. Cyber
C. Electromagnetic Pulse

**Extreme Natural Events**
A. Extreme Natural Events, Widespread Impact
   - GMD
B. Other Extreme Natural Events

**Critical Infrastructure Interdependencies**
A. Communications
B. Water/Wastewater
C. Oil
D. Natural Gas
Upcoming WIRAB Meetings

WIRAB Monthly Teleconference Meeting:
First Thursday of every month at 11:00 AM MT
Next Meeting: December 5, 2019 at 11:00 AM MT

Spring 2020 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting
April 29 – May 1, 2020 in Albuquerque, NM

Fall 2020 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting
October 26 – 28, 2020 in San Diego, CA*

*Revised dates to resolve a conflict with the CAISO Symposium
Thank You

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