

Eastern Interconnection Reliability Assessment Group

Management Committee August 9, 2007 August 10, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Attendees

ERAG MC

Jeff Mitchell (Chair)	RFC
Jay Caspary (Vice Chair also proxy for Charles Yeung)	SPP
Ed Weber	WAPA-MRO
Bill Harm	PJM
Russ Schussler	GTC
Paul Roman	NPCC
David Till	TVA
Mike Falvo	IESO
John Seidel	MRO
Vince Ordax (also proxy for John Odom)	FRCC

Also participating

Harvey Scribner SPP (MMWG Chair)	SPP
Mark Kuras (8/9)	PJM
KR Chakravarthi	SoCo
Carter Edge	SERC
John Andree (RFC-NPCC Chair)	ITC
Ian Grant	TVA
Nelson Burks (RFC-SERC East Chair) (8/10)	DVP
Larry Hodge (8/10)	PJM
Bob Cummings (8/10)	NERC
Mark Lauby (8/10)	NERC
Dennis Chastain (RFC-SERC West-SPP-MRO Chair) (8/10)	TVA

1. Introductions and Administrative issues

- a. A quorum was established with all 12 votes available through attendance, telephone participation, or proxy.
- b. FRCC volunteered to make Web Ex available for future ERAG MC Meetings and to host conference calls. If necessary other regions can also sponsor conference calls.
- c. RFC is developing a web site and displayed a prototype. ERAG MC reviewed the prototype and discussed the desired attributes of the proposed web site. The committee agreed the website should:
 - i. Include private and public areas.
 - ii. Be a separate web site from any particular NERC regional web site.The committee concluded, in addition to the web site, a mechanism to exchange large amounts of data, is also required. It would be beneficial if the data exchange mechanism is also html-based.

- d. The Committee agreed that ERAG needs an official repository for documents. Volunteers were requested but no one agreed. **Subsequent to the meeting, SERC volunteered to keep the ERAG files.**

2. Approve June 18, 2007 conference call minutes

- a. The committee modified and approved the subject minutes.

3. Review Powertech Labs proposal for MMWG database and determine whether to proceed with this project or not. (The decision will be made through a vote of the MC, as stated in Section 4.6 of the ERAG Agreement, Quorum and Manner of Voting.)

The committee discussed the need to proceed with development of a database. The two major discussion points were:

- a. The availability of a database would not, in itself, have resolved all of the recent criticisms of the quality of the MMWG product.
- b. The issue of securing an on-going base case development coordinator has not been addressed in the database requirements.

The committee agreed that these issues need to be addressed but do not need to be linked to the database development. **The committee agreed to proceed with the development of a MMWG data base. Having agreed to proceed with phase I of Powertech Labs' proposal, the committee voted (9 in favor, 3 opposed) to work with Powertech Labs to develop the database.**

Jeff Mitchell will work with MMWG to draft an acceptance letter to Powertech Labs and also thank the other vendors for their participation in the RFP process. Mark Kuras will serve as the project manager on behalf of the MMWG.

The consensus of the committee is that the RFP and individual responses lack the detail required to create a Statement of Work. **Jeff Mitchell will work with Mark Kuras to gather additional information and convert Powertech Labs response to the RFP and the additional information into a statement of work.**

4. MMWG issues:

- a. Review needs document and select regions to perform needed tasks

Several items that MMWG felt needed to be considered were addressed by the ERAG MC.

- MMWG meeting locations-In the past the MMWG sometimes met in locations where PTI or IEEE meetings were being held. This enabled MMWG meeting attendees to also attend those events. MMWG requested the ERAG MC to affirm that it was permissible to have a meeting outside the

Eastern Interconnection territory as long that it was held in conjunction with another activity.

- **The ERAG MC agreed that if costs are not higher than a similar meeting within the EI then it would be acceptable to meet outside the EI.**
- The MMWG asked that the ERAG affirm NERC staff participation in the MMWG process. NERC staff participates in MMWG activities, has facilitated the meetings, and acted as secretary.
 - **ERAG MC affirmed that NERC staff participation is desirable. The MC stated that the MMWG representatives will now have to facilitate and write the meeting minutes. NERC staff will no longer facilitate the MMWG activities.**
- MMWG and the interregional study forums will need to comply with NERC standards but the existing standards that apply are fill-in-the-blank standards and are not being monitored for compliance.
 - **The ERAG MC affirmed that the MMWG and Study groups need to comply with existing standards and, as the process matures, the assessments and studies will become more robust.**

b. Review draft base case and data release policy

There is a need for a common policy for releasing base cases. In the past vendors would contact regions to try to get base cases. Answers from each region were often different. The vendors would go from region to region trying to get a case to use for their studies for clients. Many regions have responded to these requests by telling the vendors to contact FERC to get base cases through the FERC Critical Energy Infrastructure protocol CEIL. Independently providing MMWG models to vendors is not acceptable because they have everyone's information included.

Harvey Scribner indicated that for studies done by vendors that affect the SPP territory, models are released using a consent form that has a non-disclosure agreement, so that vendors would only be able to use the models for that particular work. Typically, a handling fee of \$150 is charged for the first model and \$100 for others afterward.

The ERAG MC requested MMWG to develop a proposal for release of the MMWG base cases (series and seasonal) based on a non-disclosure agreement. It would be desirable if the proposal is such that a single point of contact is established for series, seasonal, and dynamic cases.

c. Report on 2007 Series activities

Harvey Scribner provided a summary of the status for 2007 series and 2008 series base case development with discussion of the milestone dates. In the 2007 series the latest future case went to 2018 summer. For the next year series, the regional offices will need to know the specific plans by March or April in order to do year 2009 regional budgeting.

d. Collection of generator data

Discussion of generator data collection will be an October agenda item.

e. Discuss any other issues

Harvey Scribner pointed out some issues MMWG wanted the ERAG MC to consider.

- MMWG requested that operational data contacts be provided to MMWG so they could contact them directly in case data problems are encountered.
 - **The ERAG MC did not agree with this request as the Regional Coordinators are responsible for obtaining this information.**
- Should FRCC be required to attend case coordination meetings, as their presence is necessary because their input is often limited?
 - **The ERAG MC concurs that it is not necessary for FRCC to attend the meeting, but they need to be available by telephone to answer any questions or deal with any concerns that may arise.**
- Dynamics Model Issue—MMWG requested the ERAG MC to allocate \$10,000 to allow Powertech Labs to repair some observed model problems in the dynamics cases. The dynamics cases are based on the MMWG steady state models. The last series of dynamics cases is based on the 2006 steady state cases and changes and additions are missing that detracts from the accuracy of the representation in the dynamics models.
 - **The ERAG MC requested MMWG to use the expertise in hand and not involve Powertech Labs at this time.**
- To improve the accuracy of base cases the regions will now be required to conduct first contingency testing before submitting steady state model changes to MMWG. The proposal is to prepare a list of contingencies to use to test or use MUST to run through many contingencies. Each Regional Coordinator will need to send the MMWG Chair the confirmation that first tests have been completed and a summary of what was found. This practice to start for the 2008 Series cases.
 - **MMWG will update their procedure manual to include first contingency testing as an integral part of case development.**

5. Reports / issues to be resolved from each forum (steering committee chairs):

a. Western (MRO-RFC-SERC west-SPP)

Dennis Chastain provided a status report on Western study activities. Work has started on the winter assessment. The steering committee is developing plans for future year (2013) study work during 2008.

b. Northeastern (NPCC-RFC)

John Andree updated the ERAG on Northeastern study activities. The NPCC-RFC 2007/08 Winter assessment work has started. All computer testing work should be completed by the end of September. As in recent seasonal studies, the 2007/08 Winter assessment will use market to market transfers. The Committee discussed TPL-005 requirements to conduct a near term and long term assessment each year. Discussion of TPL requirements will be an agenda item at the next joint Steering Committee meeting.

c. Southeastern (SERC east-RFC)

Nelson Burks discussed the latest status of the RFC-SERC East 2007/08 winter seasonal assessment. The Steering Committee had discussed the need for future (near and long term) assessments. A separate working group exists for this work.

d. Joint Steering Committee activities-2013 assessment

Messrs. Chastain, Andree, and Burks highlighted items of interest from the fall joint meeting and informed the committee that the next joint meeting will be in October. A year 2013 assessment will be done in all the study forums during 2008.

The ERAG MC does not approve the interregional forum seasonal reports but it was suggested that the ERAG MC should approve the scopes and processes used by each forum for conducting their assessments and preparing their reports. **ERAG MC agreed that the scopes for studies should include how the studies and reports provide documentation that the TPL standards are met and how manpower is obtained for the forum assessments.** The Steering Committee chairs will discuss this issue at the October 25 joint steering committee meeting.

The ERAG thanked the Chairs for the excellent work and encouraged the groups to continue to seek coordination and commonality when conducting the studies.

6. Review 3rd Draft of MC Handbook

The 3rd draft was reviewed and some minor revisions were made. **The ERAG MC accepted the document as the current handbook.** It will be updated periodically.

7. Discuss whether to track and supply comments to all NERC SARs and Standards, including requirements of NERC TPL Standards

John Odom is the Chair and Bill Harm is on the TPL 001-004 standard drafting team. They will send comments from that work to keep ERAG updated. It appears

likely that verification of interregional near term and long term assessments will be required to meet whatever standard is developed. **It was agreed that the ERAG MC should comment on the content of TPL standards while they are under development.**

To support some TPL standards requirements tracking of contingency statistics is necessary. Nelson Burks indicated that a TIS survey compiled statistics contingency occurrences. In addition, TADS data should be able to meet this need.

The ERAG MC requested MMWG review changes to existing MOD standards or new MOD standards that are developed and comment when the proposed standards or modifications to existing standards impact MMWG activities.

8. Continue discussion for the need and/or coordination of a short circuit database(s) for the Eastern Interconnection. Review results from the survey of the regions.

The ERAG MC noted that it is a localized phenomena and not an inter-regional issue. ERAG MC agreed that, if required, a SAR to develop a standard requiring sharing of short circuit data between neighbors could be developed. NERC SPCTF or TIS may be able to sponsor a SAR on this. **The Committee agreed not to pursue development of a short circuit database.**

9. Other issues

Bob Cummings reported on a system disturbance that occurred on the PJM/MISO (RFC/SERC) systems on August 4th. Below is a summary of events:

- Initiating events - multiple single line ground faults on the Jefferson-Greentown 765 kV line
 - a. Faults occurred/cleared for over 2.5 minutes before lockout
- Approximately 4,200 MW for generation was tripped
 - a. Rockport 1&2
 - b. Newton 1&2
 - c. Petersburg 4
- No load was lost
- frequency fully recovered within 6 minutes

NERC will be working with the regions involved to determine the root cause of the disturbance and lessons learned.

Bob Cummings pointed out some problems and concerns with the MMWG dynamics model representation. Modifications/corrections will need to be made to the model before it can be used by NERC. **The ERAG MC agreed that updates to the existing dynamics cases should be made by MMWG to allow NERC to better utilize the data.** The MMWG update will be in the form of data sanity

checks and correcting known areas of modeling deficiency. Going forward, MMWG will review the dynamics case development process to see if it needs to be adjusted.

10. Future Conference Call and Meeting Schedule

a. The ERAG MC confirmed the next meeting:

October 29-30, 2007 (noon to noon) – Fairlawn, OH (RFC office)

b. Other meetings/calls needed?

It is expected that 3 to 4 ERAG MC meetings will be held each year. The MC will probably need to do budgeting in Feb/March, address study issues during the summer and approve the MMWG case list for the following year in late fall.

c. Potential October agenda items:

- o MMWG
 - a. Schedule for 2009 activities
 - b. Budget
 - c. Status on MMWG database
 - d. Generator data collection
 - e. Data release policy
- o Status reports from 3 Study Committee chairs
 - a. Study procedures/TPL standards
 - b. Manpower
- o Status of new TPL standards
 - a. Prepare ERAG MC comments
- o Status of NERC disturbance review

Prepared by W. Harm
First draft 9-20-07
Approved 10-29-07