

Essential Reliability Services Working Group

January 2016

Purpose

The Essential Reliability Services Working Group (ERSWG) is being formed in order to advance the previous work completed by NERC's Essential Reliability Services Task Force (ERSTF), which ended in December 2015. The ERSTF developed measures to monitor, trend, and track for Essential Reliability Services (ERS). The task force developed a solid framework for each measure and industry practice proposed in the report. The NERC Board of Trustees (Board) accepted the ERS Framework and Abstract reports and endorsed the recommendations to move forward. The next steps for the ERSWG will be to identify, evaluate and develop 'Sufficiency Guidelines' for each quantifiable measure. This effort will take place as a joint effort between the Operating and Planning Committees and the various subcommittees that fall under those committees. The ERSWG will initially produce a whitepaper focused on the methodology to develop these sufficiency guidelines in December 2016. The final report will provide the results of the analysis on these sufficiency guidelines and that report will be submitted for acceptance by the Board in December 2017. The ERSWG will also oversee the development and conclusion of the Distributed Energy Resources Task Force (DERTF¹).

Activities

- Monitor activities of the subcommittees and working groups related to ERS measures.
- Develop the initial strategy on quantifying the sufficiency guidelines for the ERS measures.
- In regards to 'sufficiency guidelines', develop specific recommendations for practices and requirements, including reliability standards, that cover the planning, operations planning, and real-time operating procedures associated with ERS.
- Administer the work of the DERTF.

Deliverables

- Develop a whitepaper on the methodology to develop ERS sufficiency guidelines - December 2016.
- Develop the final report on results of the analysis for the ERS sufficiency guidelines - December 2017, NERC Board Acceptance.
 - Utilize the data collected as part of the ERSTF analysis of measures.
 - Propose new data collection as needed to support development of sufficiency guidelines.
- Complete DERTF activities and provide a final report – December 2017, NERC Board Acceptance.

¹ DERTF Scope Document

Membership

The ERSWG will retain all or most of the ERSTF members. In addition, the ERSWG will solicit additional members to support the DERTF.

Governing

The ERSWG will report to both the Operating and Planning Committees.

Meetings

The ERSWG will have four scheduled meetings per year which will include the DERTF. These meetings will follow the NERC Technical Standing Committee meetings. In addition, the ERSWG may hold additional face-to-face meetings as well as conference calls on an as needed basis.