

## *Generating Availability Data Systems Task Force*

### *Events Team Scope*

#### ***Purpose***

The Event Sub-group (ES) of the Generating Availability Data System (GADS) Task Force (TF) is tasked with determining how much, if any, of GADS event records should be considered mandatory based upon looking at the reliability of the whole grid. Otherwise, if the decision is to leave event data as voluntary, determine if it is sufficient to meet the needs of the industry.

#### ***Background***

GADS has been collected by NERC since 1982. Over 11 million outage records have been collected for benchmarking purposes and in support of bulk power system reliability. There are many uses of the data for plant engineers, generating staff members, generation dispatch, system planners, ISO members, transmission, architect engineers (for new generation), government agencies, and others. There are numerous free, public reports issued showing the performance of various types of generating plants (fossil, nuclear, gas turbine, etc.).

A similar database of information is now being collected by Transmission (TADS) and it is mandatory. Another database for Demand Response is DADS which is in Phase I of voluntary, but is planned to end with Phase II being mandatory. Whereas data submittal of GADS has been voluntary since inception and about 77% of North American electric Generator Owners (GO) provide GADS data to NERC.

#### ***Activities***

Review the uses of GADS data for the following:

- Has GADS event data been useful in the past?
- Is it essential now?
- Is it worth the time, cost, and effort to continue collecting the event data?
- If there were no GADS, would it be missed?
- How important is GADS event data to supporting and improving the bulk power system reliability?
- What is the level of the event data that should or should not be considered mandatory to support the bulk power system reliability?

***Membership***

The ES will be comprised of the GADSTF members and Observers that volunteered to help on this sub-group (18 in total plus the assigned NERC staff member).

***Governance***

All conference calls and web meetings will be completed by Friday September 17, 2010. A report of the ES will be sent to the GADSTF by Wednesday, September 22, 2010. The ES will report their recommendations and findings to the GADSTF at the face-to-face GADSTF meeting September 30-October 1, 2010.

***Meetings***

Conference calls and Web meetings will be used to address focused topics.