

# NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

## Reliability Functional Model

Function Definitions and Functional Entities

Version 5

Approved by Standing Committees:

Approved by Board of Trustees:

Prepared by the  
Functional Model Working Group

| ~~September~~ **July** 2009

to ensure  
the reliability of the  
bulk power system

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## Revision Summary

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Version 5 is an update of the Reliability Functional Model (“the Model” or “Functional Model”) that includes the following changes from Version 4:

- Interchange Authority has been changed to Interchange Coordinator. This version also incorporated the terms Arranged and Confirmed Interchange to be consistent with terminology used in the INT standards.
- Terminology

### Terminology Changes

Version 5 contains terminology changes intended to improve consistency between the Model and the NERC Glossary, the Rules of Procedure (ROP) and Reliability Standards.<sup>1</sup> Inconsistency has potential for creating needless complexity, confusion and wasted effort for those who use NERC documents. The changes are of three types:

- Entity terminology
- Entity names
- Entity definitions

#### Entity terminology

- The term “responsible entity” in the Model has been changed to “functional entity”.<sup>2</sup>
  - The usage of “responsible” in Version 4 derives from an earlier version of the Model. Version 4 clarified that the Model is limited to describing the performance of tasks, but not compliance aspects such as responsibility for such performance. Version 5 takes this clarification one step further by replacing the term “responsible” with “functional” in the Model.
  - The Model uses the term functional entity to apply to a *class of entity*, such as a Balancing Authority, and makes no reference to the *specific organizations* that register as functional entities. Consistency within NERC documents would be improved if conforming changes were made to the ROP and Glossary to consistently use the term “functional entity” when the reference is to the *class of entity* (e.g., BA), and use the terms “responsible entity” and “registered entity” when the reference is to a *specific organization* regarding its responsibility or registration, respectively.<sup>3</sup>

#### Entity names

- The functional entity name Interchange Authority has been changed to Interchange Coordinator
  - The term “coordinator” better reflects the nature of the functional entity.

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<sup>1</sup> Full alignment will require conforming changes in Reliability Standards, the Glossary and ROP. These changes are seen as editorial, that is not representing changes to essential content.

<sup>2</sup> Version 4 actually uses “Responsible Entity”. Because the Glossary and ROP generally use “responsible entity”, i.e., all lower case, this usage has been adopted for version 5 of the Model.

<sup>3</sup> These changes in terminology are intended to address confusion between the entity described in the Model and specific organizations, which has been a frequently expressed concern of stakeholders.

- A conforming change is required in the Glossary
- Conforming changes are required in other NERC documents.

#### Entity definitions

- The Model has been revised to define the various *functional entities*, not the *functions*, consistent with the approach used in the Glossary and standards.
- The functional entity definitions have been revised<sup>4</sup>.
  - The form of the definitions is uniform, with each definition beginning: “The functional entity that...”.
  - Each definition is single sentence, limited to a simple statement of the nature of the tasks performed. As a result some of the current descriptive wording in Version 4 or Glossary definitions has been removed in the Version 5 definitions.

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<sup>4</sup> A table giving current definitions in the Model and Glossary and the proposed definitions is given in the Technical Document.

## Foreword

This document replaces version 4 of the NERC Reliability Functional Model that the NERC Standing Committees approved in September 2008.

Historically, Control Areas were established by vertically integrated utilities to operate their individual power systems in a secure and reliable manner and provide for their customers' electricity needs. The traditional Control Area operator balanced its load with its generation, implemented Interchange Schedules with other Control Areas, and ensured transmission reliability.

As utilities began to provide transmission service to other entities, the Control Area also began to perform the function of Transmission Service Provider through tariffs or other arrangements. NERC's Operating Policies reflected this traditional electric utility industry structure, and ascribed virtually every reliability function to the Control Area.

Beginning in the early 1990s with the advent of open transmission access and restructuring of the electric utility industry to facilitate the operation of wholesale power markets, the functions performed by Control Areas began to change to reflect the newly emerging industry structure. These changes occurred because:

1. Some utilities were separating their transmission from their merchant functions (functional unbundling), and even selling off their generation,
2. Some states and provinces were instituting "customer choice" options for selecting energy providers, and
3. The developing power markets were requiring wide-area transmission reliability assessment and dispatch solutions, which were beyond the capability of many Control Areas to perform.

As a result, the NERC Operating Policies in place at that time, which centered on Control Area operations, were beginning to lose their focus, and become more difficult to apply and enforce.

The NERC Operating Committee formed the Control Area Criteria Task Force (CACTF) in 1999 to address this problem. The task force began by listing all the tasks required for maintaining electric system reliability and then organizing these tasks into basic groups that it called "functions." Ultimately, the Task Force decided to build a "Functional Model". This involved breaking down the previous reliability functions more finely, such that all organizations involved in ensuring reliability — whether they are traditional, vertically integrated control areas, regional transmission organizations, independent system operators, independent transmission companies or so on — can identify those functions they perform, and register with NERC as one or more of the functional entities. Initially the Model dealt with operating functions, but it was subsequently expanded in Version 2 to incorporate planning-related functions. This Functional Model framework provides guidance to NERC standards drafting teams to write reliability standards in terms of the functional entities who perform the reliability functions.

*Adapted from Version 2 of the NERC Functional Model, February 10, 2004*

## Introduction

The NERC Reliability Functional Model provides the framework for the development and applicability of NERC’s Reliability Standards as follows:

- The Model describes a set of Functions that are performed to ensure the reliability of the ~~bulk power system~~ Bulk Electric System. Each Function consists of a set of related reliability Tasks. The Model assigns each Function to a functional entity, that is, the entity ~~responsible for ensuring~~ that performs the Function ~~is performed~~. The Model also describes the interrelationships between that functional entity and other functional entities (that perform other Functions).
- NERC’s Standards Development Teams develop Reliability Standards that assign each reliability requirement within a standard to a functional entity (that is defined in the Model and NERC's Glossary). This is possible because a given standard requirement will typically be related to a Task within a Function. A standard requirement will be very specific, whereas a Task in the Model will be more general in nature.
- NERC's compliance processes require specific organizations to register as the entities responsible for complying with standards requirements assigned to the applicable entities.
- The Model’s Functions and functional entities also provide for consistency and compatibility among different Reliability Standards.

The Model is a guideline for the development of standards and their applicability. The Model is not a standard and does not have compliance requirements. Standards developers are not required to include all tasks envisioned in the model, nor are the developers precluded from developing Reliability Standards that address functions that are not described in the Model. Where conflicts or inconsistency exist, the Reliability Standards requirements take precedence over the Model.

The Model is independent of any particular organization or market structure.

An organization may perform more than one Function, ~~and is expected to register as the corresponding functional entity for each function.~~

The Functional Model describes a functional entity envisioned to ensure that all of the Tasks related to its Function are performed. The Model, while using the term “functional entity”, is a guideline and cannot prescribe responsibility. It is NERC's compliance processes, backed by regulatory authority, that specify the manner in which, a functional entity is “legally responsible” for meeting the standards requirements assigned to that functional entity.

The work performed to meet the requirements may be self performed or performed by others.

**Functional Model maintenance.** The Functional Model is maintained by the Functional Model Working Group (FMWG) under the direction of the NERC Standards Committee, with technical content in the Model and accompanying technical document approved by the Standing Committees (OC, PC and CIPC)

**Technical discussions.** The companion document, “Functional Model – Technical Discussions,” provides additional details on the Functions themselves, how organizations can “roll up” those Functions they wish to perform, and how organizations as “functional entities” interrelate.

**The following terms are used in the Functional Model.**

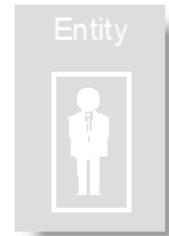
**Functional Entity.** The term used in the Functional Model which applies to a class of entity that carries out the Tasks within a Function.

**Function.** A set of related reliability Tasks.

**Task.** One of the elements that make up a Function in the Functional Model.

**Customer.** The term applies to a customer for transmission, capacity or energy services (a Purchasing-Selling Entity, Generator Owner, Load-Serving Entity, or End-use Customer).

**End-use Customer.** The party served by a Load-Serving Entity.



# Functional Model Diagram



<b><i>Function Name</i></b>	<b><i>Functional Entity</i></b>
Balancing	Balancing Authority
Compliance Enforcement	Compliance Enforcement Authority
Distribution	Distribution Provider
Generator Operations	Generator Operator
Generator Ownership	Generator Owner
Interchange	Interchange Coordinator
Load-Serving	Load-Serving Entity
Market Operations	Market Operator (Resource Integrator)
Operating Reliability	Reliability Coordinator
Planning Reliability	Planning Coordinator
Purchasing-Selling	Purchasing-Selling Entity
Reliability Assurance	Reliability Assurer
Resource Planning	Resource Planner
Standards Development	Standards Developer
Transmission Operations	Transmission Operator
Transmission Ownership	Transmission Owner
Transmission Planning	Transmission Planner
Transmission Service	Transmission Service Provider

## Purpose of the Functional Model

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The purpose of the NERC Reliability Functional Model is to:

1. Provide a framework for Reliability Standards developed through the NERC standards development process that will apply to certain Tasks defined in the Functional Model.
2. Describe in general terms each Function and the relationships between the entities that are responsible for performing the Tasks within the Functions. The framework for developing the Function definitions is:
  - a. The Functions are independent of the organization structure performing the functions, and
  - b. The Functions provide flexibility to accommodate the range of presently conceivable organization structures, as well as accommodate alternative tools, procedures and processes.

## Guiding Principles of the Functional Model

As explained in the Introduction, the Model provides the framework on which the NERC Reliability Standards are developed and applied. To ensure that this framework remains viable, the Model itself is governed by a set of “guiding principles” that define a Function’s Tasks and establish the relationships between the functional entities which are responsible for meeting the requirements in the NERC Reliability Standards that correspond to these Tasks. These principles serve as a guideline to those revising or interpreting the Model.

For further details, refer to the Technical Discussions section in the Functional Model Technical Document.

1. The Model must be *complete*, that is, it must include all reliability Tasks and interrelationships between entities performing them. This helps ensure that any reliability requirement arising in a Reliability Standard will generally be related to a Task in the Model and therefore be assignable to a particular functional entity.
2. The Model must group these Tasks into a set of Functions, such that:
  - There are enough Functions (and corresponding functional entities) to accommodate the full range of organization structures and responsibilities within the industry, and
  - The number of Functions is developed based on logical grouping of the Tasks and kept low as reasonably possible.
  - In particular, where a number of organizations that perform a given Function form a single group, the Model recognizes this as a business arrangement among organizations, not a new Function and corresponding new functional entity. That is, the fundamental reliability Tasks, and hence the Function, remain the same - all that has changed is *how* the Function is performed. Examples of such groups are a reserve sharing group (a collection of entities that are Balancing Authorities), or a planned resource sharing group.
3. The Model is structured to ensure there are no gaps or overlaps in the performance of **operation** Tasks **in the operating timeframe** anywhere in the **bulk power systemBulk Electric System**. This is achieved in part by associating an "area" of purview for each functional entity. Areas are defined in term of the individual transmission, generator and customer equipment assets that collectively constitute the **bulk power systemBulk Electric System**. For example, each **bulk power systemBulk Electric System** asset has one Reliability Coordinator, one Balancing Authority, and one Transmission Operator. Regarding overlaps for planning, as described in the Technical Document, it is not always possible to achieve this in the case of planning Functions, where there may be overlapping levels of responsibility for given assets. Questions regarding relationships between the areas of different functional entities, such as whether one type of area must be totally within another type of area, will be defined in Reliability Standards or the Rules of Procedure, not the Model.
4. Tasks describe *what* is to be done, not *how* it is to be done.
5. The Model is a guideline that describes reliability Tasks and interrelationships between the entities that perform them - it is not prescriptive. In particular, the Model does not address requirements for registering or becoming certified as a functional entity, or the delegation or splitting of responsibility for meeting standards requirements.

## Functional Model — Clarification Service

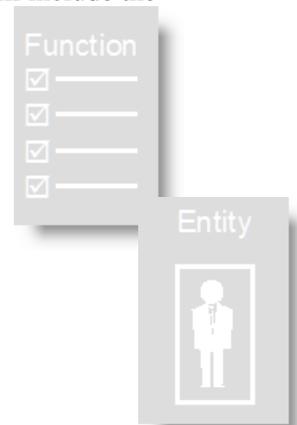
The Functional Model is a reference tool that links functional entities with associated reliability-related functions and respective Tasks. Drafting teams use the Functional Model to help them determine which functional entity should be required to comply with each requirement in a reliability standard.

From time to time questions of clarification and interpretation arise. The FMWG is following the process described below for handling requests for clarification of the Functional Model. This process, which has been approved by the Standards Committee, is accessible to all drafting teams as well as any other interested stakeholders. If a drafting team needs help in understanding Tasks that make up a Function and/or in determining which functional entities should be responsible for particular standards requirements, the drafting team's coordinator will send an e-mail to the NERC Staff assigned as the FMWG facilitator with a request for clarification.

1. The NERC Staff assigned as the FMWG facilitator will convene a conference call/meeting of available members of the FMWG to review the question(s) and provide a clarification.
  - If the question(s) need more detailed discussion with the drafting team, the two coordinators will organize a conference call/meeting with available members of the FMWG and available members of the drafting team to discuss the issues in more detail.
2. Each FMWG request for clarification and the associated response will be posted on the NERC Functional Model Web Page under a Frequently Asked Questions section.
  - If the questions result in changes to the model, the changes will be added to a change summary table used to develop the next updated version of the Functional Model document.

## Functions and Functional Entities

This section defines the functions and associated Tasks that are necessary to plan and operate the ~~bulk power system~~ [Bulk Electric System](#) in a reliable manner. This section also characterizes the functional entities that perform these Tasks, and provides examples of the inter-relationships that take place between entities to ensure reliability. As standards are developed, the Model may be revised to add and remove Tasks under specific Functions to aid in the development of standards. Relationships between functional entities in the Model are reciprocal. Where a one-to-one relationship exists, the Model will include the reciprocal relationship specifically; and where a one-to-many relationship exists, the reciprocal relationships are implied.



## Function — Standards Development

### Tasks

1. Develop and maintain a standards development process.
2. Develop Reliability Standards for the planning and operation of the ~~bulk power system~~ [Bulk Electric System](#).
- ~~3. Incorporate compliance measures for Reliability Standard requirements.~~
- ~~4. Provide for appeals procedures.~~
- ~~5. Submit reliability standards to appropriate regulatory authorities for approval.~~



## Functional Entity — Standards Developer

### Definition

The functional entity that develops and maintains Reliability Standards to ensure the reliability of the ~~bulk power system~~ [Bulk Electric System](#).



### Introduction to the Standards Developer

The Model addresses Reliability Standards created at NERC using the NERC Reliability Standards Development Procedure and Regional Standards that are created through an open Regional process and approved by NERC for enforcement. The Functional Model is intended to serve as the framework for the development and application of these Reliability Standards.<sup>5</sup>

### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Receives request for Reliability Standards through the public process.
2. Sends Reliability Standards to the Compliance Enforcement Authority.

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<sup>5</sup> There are also Regional Criteria that are requirements that Regions create and enforce, that are not included in the Model.

## Function — Compliance Enforcement

### Tasks

1. Develop, maintain and implement a compliance enforcement process.
2. Evaluate and document compliance.



# Functional Entity — Compliance Enforcement Authority

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## Definition

The functional entity that monitors, reviews, and ensures compliance with Reliability Standards and administers sanctions or penalties for non-compliance to the standards.

## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Receives Reliability Standards from the Standards Developer.
2. Administers the compliance enforcement process for all functional entities as required by Reliability Standards.



## Function — Reliability Assurance

### Tasks

1. Coordinate reliability assurance among adjacent Reliability Assurers through the development of necessary protocols and processes.
2. Coordinate the activities related to maintaining critical infrastructure protection.
3. Establish reliability assurance processes and documentation related to planning and operations within the Reliability Assurer's area including such things as a regional reliability plan or a Reliability Coordinator plan.
4. Identify and address gaps in reliability processes and responsibilities.
5. Conduct readiness assessments including certification evaluations.



## Functional Entity — Reliability Assurer

### Definition

The functional entity that monitors and evaluates the activities related to planning and operations, and coordinates activities of functional entities to secure the reliability of the ~~bulk power system~~ [Bulk Electric System](#) within a Reliability Assurer Area and adjacent areas.



### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Coordinates reliability assurance activities of the functional entities within the Reliability Assurer Area.
2. Coordinates reliability assurance activities with adjacent Reliability Assurers.
3. Coordinates critical infrastructure protection programs with functional entities.
4. Collects information from functional entities related to Reliability Assurance processes.

## Function — Planning Reliability

### Tasks

1. Develop and maintain methodologies for the analysis and simulation of the transmission systems in the evaluation and development of transmission expansion plans and the analysis and development of resource adequacy plans.
2. Define information required for planning purposes, and facilitate the process for consolidating and collecting or developing such information, including:
  - a. Transmission facility characteristics and ratings.
  - b. Demand and energy forecasts, capacity resources, and demand response programs.
  - c. Generator unit performance characteristics and capabilities.
  - d. Long-term capacity purchases and sales.
3. Evaluate, develop, document, and report on resource and transmission expansion plans for the Planning Coordinator Area. Integrate the respective plans, evaluate the impact of those plans on and by adjoining Planning Coordinator's integrated plans and ~~assess~~ **verify whether that** the integrated plan meets reliability ~~needs~~ **standards**, and, if not, then to report on potential transmission system and resource adequacy deficiencies and suggest or facilitate the process for developing alternative plans to mitigate identified deficiencies.
  - a. Evaluate the plans that are in response to long-term (generally one year and beyond) customer requests for transmission service.
  - b. Review transmission facility plans required to integrate new (End-use Customer, generation, and transmission) facilities into the ~~bulk power system~~ **Bulk Electric System**.
  - c. Review and determine transfer capability (generally one year and beyond) as appropriate.
  - d. Monitor and evaluate transmission expansion plan and resource plan implementation.
  - e. Coordinate projects requiring transmission outages that can impact reliability and firm transactions.
4. Coordinate with adjoining Planning Coordinators so that system models and resource and transmission expansion plans take into account modifications made to adjacent Planning Coordinator Areas.
5. Develop and maintain transmission and resource (demand and capacity) system models to evaluate transmission system performance and resource adequacy.



# Functional Entity – Planning Coordinator

## Definition

The functional entity that coordinates, facilitates, integrates and evaluates ([generally one year and beyond](#)) transmission facility and service plans, [and](#) resource plans, ~~and protection systems~~ within a Planning Coordinator area and coordinates those plans with adjoining Planning Coordinator areas.



## Introduction to the Planning Coordinator

The Planning Coordinator is responsible for assessing the longer-term reliability of its Planning Coordinator Area. While the area under the purview of a Planning Coordinator may include as few as one Transmission Planner and one Resource Planner, the Planning Coordinator's scope of activities may include extended coordination with integrated Planning Coordinators' plans for adjoining areas beyond individual system plans. By its very nature, ~~bulk power system~~ [Bulk Electric System](#) planning involves multiple entities. Since all electric systems within an integrated network are electrically connected, whatever one system does can affect the other systems. Planning Coordinators work through a variety of mechanisms to conduct facilitated, coordinated, joint, centralized, or regional planning activities to the extent that all network areas with little or no ties to others' areas, such as interconnections, are completely coordinated for planning activities.

## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Coordinates and collects data for system modeling from Transmission Planner, Resource Planner, and other Planning Coordinators.
2. Coordinates transfer capability (generally one year and beyond) with Transmission Planners, Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Owner, Transmission Operator, Transmission Service Provider, and neighboring Planning Coordinators.
3. Coordinates plans with Reliability Coordinator and other Planning Coordinators on reliability issues.
4. Receives plans from Transmission Planners and Resource Planners.
5. Collects information including:
  - a. Transmission facility characteristics and ratings from the Transmission Owners, Transmission Planners, and Transmission Operators.
  - b. Demand and energy forecasts, capacity resources, and demand response programs from Load-Serving Entities, and Resource Planners.
  - c. Generator unit performance characteristics and capabilities from Generator Owners.
  - d. Long-term capacity purchases and sales from Transmission Service Providers.
6. Collects and reviews reports on transmission and resource plan implementation from Resource Planners and Transmission Planners.
7. Submits and coordinates the plans for the interconnection of facilities to the ~~bulk power system~~ [Bulk Electric System](#) within its Planning Coordinator Area with Transmission Planners and Resource Planners and adjacent Planning Coordinator Areas, as appropriate.
8. Provides and informs Resource Planners, Transmission Planners, and adjacent Planning Coordinators of the methodologies and tools for the simulation of the transmission system.

~~9. Provides the coordinated plans to affected Reliability Assurer(s), Transmission Service Providers, Transmission Planners, Transmission Operators, and Transmission Owners.~~

~~10.9.~~ Facilitates the integration of the respective plans of the Resource Planners and Transmission Planners within the Planning Coordinator Area.

- a. Reviews the integrated plan with respect to established reliability ~~needs~~standards considering the impact on and by adjoining systems.
- b. In coordination with the Resource Planners and Transmission Planners, facilitates the development of alternative solutions ~~corrective actions~~ for plans that do not meet those reliability ~~needs~~standards.

## Function — Transmission Planning

### Tasks

1. Maintain and develop, in cooperation with adjacent and overlapping Transmission Planners, methodologies and tools for the analysis and simulation of the transmission systems in the evaluation and development of transmission expansion plans related to resource adequacy plans.
2. Define, consolidate and collect or develop, in cooperation with adjacent and overlapping Transmission Planners, information required for planning purposes including:
  - a. Transmission facility characteristics and ratings.
  - b. Demand and energy forecasts, capacity resources, and demand response programs.
  - c. Generator unit performance characteristics and capabilities.
  - d. Long-term capacity purchases and sales
3. Maintain transmission system models (steady state, dynamics, and short circuit) to evaluate ~~bulk power system~~ Bulk Electric System performance.
4. Coordinate with adjacent and overlapping Transmission Planners so that system models and resource and transmission expansion plans take into account modifications made to adjacent and overlapping Transmission Planner Areas.
5. Evaluate, develop, document, and report on ~~resource and transmission~~ expansion plans for the Transmission Planner Area. ~~Assess whether~~ ~~Verify that~~ the integrated plan meets ~~r~~Reliability ~~needs~~Standards, and, if not, report on potential network conditions or configurations that do not meet performance requirements and provide potential alternative solutions to meet performance requirements.
  - a. Evaluate the plans that are in response to long-term (generally one year and beyond) customer requests for transmission service.
  - b. Evaluate and plan for all requests required to integrate new (End-use Customer, generation, and transmission) facilities into the ~~bulk power system~~ Bulk Electric System.
  - c. Determine transfer capability values (generally one year and beyond) as appropriate.
  - d. Monitor, evaluate and report on transmission expansion plan and resource plan implementation.
  - e. Coordinate projects requiring transmission outages that can impact reliability and firm transactions.
6. Notify Generation Owners, Resource Planners, Transmission Planners and Transmission Owners of any planned transmission changes that may impact their facilities.
7. Define system protection and control needs and requirements, including special protection systems (remedial action schemes), to meet ~~r~~Reliability ~~need~~Standards.



# Functional Entity — Transmission Planner

## Definition

The functional entity that develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the reliability (adequacy) of the interconnected bulk electric transmission systems within a Transmission Planner Area.



## Introduction to the Transmission Planner

The Transmission Planner is responsible for assessing the longer-term (generally one year and beyond) reliability of its Transmission Planner Area. By its very nature, ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#) planning involves multiple entities. Since all electric systems within an integrated network are electrically connected, whatever one system does can affect the other systems. Transmission Planners coordinate their plans with the adjoining Transmission Planners to assess impact on or by those plans. The area under the purview of a Transmission Planner may include one or more Resource Planner areas and overlap one or more adjacent Transmission Planners.

## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Coordinates and collects data for system modeling from Load-Serving Entities, Generator Owners, Distribution Providers, Resource Planners, other Transmission Planners, Transmission Owners, and Transmission Service Providers.
2. Collects information including:
  - a. Transmission facility characteristics and ratings from the Transmission Owners, Transmission Planners, and Transmission Operators.
  - b. Demand and energy forecasts, capacity resources, and demand response programs from Load-Serving Entities, and Resource Planners.
  - c. Generator unit performance characteristics and capabilities from Generator Owners.
  - d. Long-term transmission capacity purchases and sales from Transmission Service Providers
3. Informs Resource Planners and other Transmission Planners of the methodologies and tools for the simulation of the transmission system.
4. Coordinates with Resource Planners and other Transmission Planners on ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#) expansion plans.
5. Coordinates the evaluation of ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#) expansion plans with Transmission Service Providers, Transmission Owners, Reliability Coordinators, Resource Planners, and other Transmission Planners.
  - ~~a. Verifies that the plan meets Reliability Standards.~~
  - ~~b. In coordination with the Resource Planners and Transmission Planners, develops corrective actions for plans that do not meet those Reliability Standards.~~
6. Reports on and coordinates its ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#) expansion plan implementation with affected Transmission Planners, Resource Planners, Transmission Owners, Transmission Operators and Reliability Assurers.
7. Notifies other Transmission Planners, Transmission Owners, Transmission Operators and other entities that may be impacted of any planned ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#) changes.

8. Coordinates with Distribution Providers, Transmission Owners, Generator Owners and Load Serving Entities in the evaluation and plans for all requests required to integrate new (End-use Customer, generation, and transmission) facilities into the ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#).
9. Submits and coordinates the plans for the interconnection of facilities to the ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#) within its Transmission Planner Area with other Transmission Planners and Resource Planners, as appropriate.
10. Coordinates and develops transfer capability values with other Transmission Planners, Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Operators, Transmission Owners and Transmission Service Providers
11. Coordinates with Transmission Owners and Generator Owners to define system protection and control needs and requirements, including special protection systems (remedial action schemes), to meet ~~r~~Reliability ~~need~~[Standards](#).
12. Receives maintenance schedules and construction plans from Transmission Operator or Transmission Owner for input into and evaluation of ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#) expansion plans.

## Function — Resource Planning

### Tasks

1. Consider generation capacity from resources both within and outside of the Resource Planner Area [for assessing resource adequacy](#).
2. Monitor and report, as appropriate, on its resource plan implementation.
3. [Develop and M](#)aintain resource (demand and capacity) models to evaluate resource adequacy.
4. Collect or develop information required for resource adequacy purposes, including:
  - a. demand and energy forecasts, capacity resources, and demand response programs,
  - b. generator unit performance characteristics and capabilities, ~~and~~
  - c. long-term capacity purchases and sales, ~~and~~
  - d. [transmission \(interface\) limits](#)
5. Evaluate, develop, document, and report on a resource adequacy plan for its portion of the Transmission Planner and Planning Coordinator Area.
6. Assist in the evaluation of the deliverability of resources.



## Functional Entity — Resource Planner

### Definition

The functional entity that develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the resource adequacy of specific loads (customer demand and energy requirements) within a Resource Planner Area.



### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Coordinates the resource models with its Planning Coordinator.
2. Coordinates with Transmission Owners and Transmission Planners on the deliverability of resources to customers.
3. Coordinates with and collects data for resource planning from the Load-Serving Entities, Generator Owners, Generator Operators, Transmission Planners, Transmission Operators, Interchange Coordinators, and Reliability Assurers.
4. Coordinates with Transmission Planners, Transmission Service Providers, Reliability Coordinators, and Planning Coordinators on resource adequacy plans.
5. Coordinates with adjoining Resource Planners within the Planning Coordinator Area to avoid the double-counting of resources.
6. Reports its resource plan to the Transmission Planner and Planning Coordinator for evaluation and compliance with Reliability Standards.
7. Reports on resource plan implementation to the Transmission Planner, Planning Coordinator and Reliability Assurer.
8. Works with the Planning Coordinator and Transmission Planners to identify potential alternative transmission solutions to meet Resource Planner plans.
9. Applies methodologies and tools for the analysis and development of resource adequacy plans from the Planning Coordinator.

## Function — Reliability Operations

### Tasks

1. Monitor all reliability-related parameters within the reliability area, including generation dispatch and generation/transmission maintenance plans.
2. Identify, communicate, and direct actions if necessary to relieve reliability threats and limit violations in the reliability area.
3. Develop Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits (to protect from instability and cascading outages).
4. Assist in determining reliability-related services requirements for balancing generation and load, and transmission reliability (e.g., reactive requirements, location of operating reserves).
5. Perform reliability analysis (actual and contingency) for the reliability area.
6. Direct revisions to transmission maintenance plans as permitted by agreements.
7. Direct revisions to generation maintenance plans as permitted by agreements.
8. Direct implementation of emergency procedures including load shedding.
9. Direct and coordinate system restoration.
10. Curtail Confirmed Interchange that adversely impacts reliability.



## Functional Entity — Reliability Coordinator

### Definition

The functional entity that **maintain** ensures the real-time operating reliability of the **bulk power system** **Bulk Electric System** within a Reliability Coordinator Area.



### Introduction to the Reliability Coordinator

The Reliability Coordinator maintains the real-time operating reliability of its Reliability Coordinator Area and in coordination with its neighboring Reliability Coordinator's wide-area view. The wide-area view includes situational awareness of its neighboring Reliability Coordinator Areas. Its scope includes both transmission and balancing operations, and it has the authority to direct other functional entities to take certain actions to ensure that its Reliability Coordinator Area operates reliably.

**Transmission operations.** With respect to transmission operations, the Reliability Coordinator and Transmission Operator have similar roles, but different scopes. The Transmission Operator directly maintains reliability for its own defined area. However, the Reliability Coordinator also maintains reliability, in concert with the other Reliability Coordinators, for the Interconnection as a whole. Thus, the Reliability Coordinator needs a “wide-area” view that reaches beyond its boundaries to enable it to operate within Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits. The Transmission Operator may or may not have this “wide- area” view, but the Reliability Coordinator does have it. The Reliability Coordinator may direct a Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area to take whatever action is necessary to ensure that Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits are not exceeded.

**Balancing operations.** The Reliability Coordinator ensures that the generation-demand balance is maintained within its Reliability Coordinator Area, which, in turn, ensures that the Interconnection frequency remains within acceptable limits. The Balancing Authority has the responsibility for generation-demand-interchange balance in the Balancing Authority Area. The Reliability Coordinator may direct a Balancing Authority within its Reliability Coordinator Area to take whatever action is necessary to ensure that this balance does not adversely impact reliability.

### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

#### Ahead of Time

1. Coordinates with other Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Planners, and Transmission Service Providers on transmission system limitations.
2. Receives facility and operational data from Generator Operators, Load-Serving Entities, Transmission Owners, Generator Owners, and Transmission Operators.
3. Receives generation dispatch from Balancing Authorities and issues dispatch adjustments to Balancing Authorities to prevent exceeding limits within the Reliability Coordinator Area (if not resolved through market mechanisms).
4. Receives integrated operational plans from Balancing Authorities for reliability analysis of Reliability Coordinator Area.
5. Receives transmission and generation maintenance plans from Transmission **Owners** **operators** and Generator **O**wners **operators**, respectively, for reliability analysis.
6. Develops Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits, based on Transmission Owners’ and Generator Owners’ specified equipment ratings, and provides them to Transmission Operators.

7. Assists Transmission Operators in calculating and coordinating System Operating Limits.
8. Provides reliability analyses to Transmission Operators, Generator Operators and Balancing Authorities in its area as well as other Reliability Coordinators.
9. Directs Generator ~~Owners~~operators and Transmission ~~Owners~~operators to revise generation and transmission maintenance plans that are adverse to reliability.
10. Receives balancing information from Balancing Authorities for monitoring.
11. Receives final approval or denial of Arranged~~Confirmed~~ Interchange from Interchange Coordinator.
12. Provide IROLs and TTC to the Transmission Service Provider for ATC calculation.
13. Develops operating agreements or procedures with Transmission Owners.
14. Coordinates with Transmission Operators on system restoration plans, contingency plans and reliability-related services.

#### Real Time

15. Coordinates reliability processes and actions with and among other Reliability Coordinators.
16. Receives real-time operational information from Balancing Authorities, Interchange Coordinators~~Authorities~~ and Transmission Operators for monitoring.
17. Issues reliability alerts to Generator Operators, Transmission Operators, Transmission Service Providers, Balancing Authorities, Interchange Coordinators, Regional Entities and NERC.
18. Issues corrective actions and emergency procedures directives (e.g., curtailments or load shedding) to Transmission Operators, Balancing Authorities, Generator Operators, Distribution Providers, and Interchange Coordinators.
19. Specifies reliability-related requirements (e.g., reactive requirements, location of operating reserves) to Balancing Authorities.
20. Receives verification of emergency procedures from Balancing Authorities.
21. Receives notification of Confirmed Interchange changes from Balancing Authorities.
22. Orders redispatch of generation by Balancing Authorities.
23. Directs use of flow control devices by Transmission Operators.
24. Responds to requests from Transmission Operators to assist in mitigating equipment overloads.

## Function — Balancing

### Tasks

1. Control any of the following combinations within a ~~reliability~~ [Balancing Authority Area](#):
  - a. Load and generation (an isolated system)
  - b. Load and Confirmed Interchange
  - c. Generation and Confirmed Interchange
  - d. Generation, load, and Confirmed Interchange
2. Calculate area control error within the reliability area.
3. Operate in the ~~reliability~~ [Balancing Authority Area](#) to maintain load-interchange-generation balance.
4. Review generation commitments, dispatch, and load forecasts.
5. Formulate an operational plan (generation commitment, outages, etc.) for reliability evaluation.
6. Approve Arranged Interchange from ramping ability perspective
7. Implement Confirmed Interchange.
8. Operate the ~~reliability~~ [Balancing Authority Area](#) to ~~support~~ [contribute to](#) Interconnection frequency.
9. Monitor and report control performance and disturbance recovery.
10. Provide balancing and energy accounting (including hourly checkout of Confirmed Interchange, [Implemented Interchange](#) and actual interchange), and administer inadvertent energy paybacks.
11. Determine needs for reliability-related services.
12. Deploy reliability-related services.
13. Implement emergency procedures.



# Functional Entity — Balancing Authority

## Definition

The functional entity that integrates resource [plans](#) ahead of time, maintains [generation-load-interchange-balance](#) within a Balancing Authority Area, [and contributes to](#) Interconnection frequency in real time.



## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

### Ahead of Time

1. Receives operating and availability status of generating units and operational plans and commitments from Generator Operators (~~including annual maintenance plans~~) within the Balancing Authority Area.
2. [Receives annual maintenance plans from Generator Owners within the Balancing Authority Area.](#)
- ~~2.3.~~ Receives reliability evaluations from the Reliability Coordinator.
- ~~3.4.~~ Receives [final approval or denial of a request for an Arranged Interchange](#) ~~approved valid, and balanced Confirmed Interchange~~ from the Interchange Coordinators.
- ~~4.5.~~ Compiles load forecasts from Load-Serving Entities.
- ~~5.6.~~ Develops agreements with adjacent Balancing Authorities for ACE calculation parameters.
- ~~6.7.~~ Submits integrated operational plans to the Reliability Coordinator for reliability evaluation and provides balancing information to the Reliability Coordinator for monitoring.
- ~~7.8.~~ Confirms Arranged Interchange with Interchange Coordinators.
- ~~8.9.~~ Confirms ramping capability with Interchange Coordinators.
- ~~9.10.~~ Implements generator commitment and dispatch schedules from the Load-Serving Entities and Generator Operators who have arranged for generation within the Balancing Authority Area.
- ~~10.11.~~ Acquires reliability-related services from Generator Operator.
- ~~11.12.~~ Receives dispatch adjustments from Reliability Coordinators to prevent exceeding limits.
- ~~12.13.~~ Receives generator information from Generator Owners including unit maintenance schedules and retirement plans.
- ~~13.14.~~ Receives information from Load Serving Entities on self-provided reliability-related services.
- ~~14.15.~~ Coordinates system restoration plans with Transmission Operator.
- ~~15.16.~~ Provides generation dispatch to Reliability Coordinators.
- ~~16.~~ [Receives final approval or denial of Arranged Interchange from Interchange Coordinator.](#)

### Real Time

17. Coordinates use of controllable loads with Load-Serving Entities (i.e., interruptible load that has been bid in as a reliability-related service or has agreed to participate in voluntary load shedding program under resource/reserve deficiency situations).
18. Receives loss allocation from Transmission Service Providers (for repayment with in-kind losses).

19. Receives real-time operating information from the Transmission Operator, adjacent Balancing Authorities and Generator Operators.
20. Receives operating information from Generator Operators.
21. Provides real-time operational information for Reliability Coordinator monitoring.
22. Receives reliability alerts from Reliability Coordinator.
23. Complies with reliability-related requirements (e.g., reactive requirements, location of operating reserves) specified by Reliability Coordinator.
24. Verifies implementation of emergency procedures to Reliability Coordinator.
25. Informs Reliability Coordinator and Interchange Coordinators of Arranged Interchange changes (e.g., due to generation or load interruptions) involving its Balancing Authority Area.
26. Directs resources (Generator Operators and Load-Serving Entities) to take action to ensure balance in real time.
27. Directs Transmission Operator (or Distribution Provider) to reduce voltage or shed load if needed to ensure balance within its Balancing Authority Area.
28. Directs Generator Operators to implement redispatch for congestion management as directed by the Reliability Coordinator.
29. Implements corrective actions and emergency procedures as directed by the Reliability Coordinator.
30. Implements system restoration plans as directed by the Transmission Operator.
31. Directs Transmission Operator to implement flow control devices.
32. Receives information of [Implemented Interchange and](#) Confirmed Interchange curtailments from Interchange Coordinator.

After the hour

33. Confirms ~~Implement~~Confirmed Interchange with [Confirmed Interchange provided by the](#) Interchange Coordinators after the hour for “checkout.”
34. Confirms [Implemented Interchange and](#) Confirmed Interchange with adjacent Balancing Authorities after the hour for “checkout.”

## Function — Market Operations

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The Market Operations function, its tasks, and the interrelationships with other entities are included in the Functional Model only as an interface point of reliability Functions with commercial functions.



## Functional Entity — Market Operator (Resource Integrator)

### **Definition**

The market entity whose interrelationships with other entities are included in the Functional Model only as an interface point of reliability functions with commercial functions.

### **Relationships with Other Functional Entities**

Market Operator tasks and relationships are specific to a particular market design and will depend on the market structure over which the Market Operator presides.



## Function — Transmission Operations

### Tasks

1. Monitor and provide telemetry (as needed) of all reliability-related parameters within the reliability area.
2. Monitor the status of, and deploy, facilities classed as transmission assets, which may include the transmission lines connecting a generating plant to the transmission system, associated protective relaying systems and Special Protection Systems.



~~3. Provide transmission maintenance schedules.~~

~~4.3.~~ Develop system limitations such as System Operating Limits and Total Transfer Capabilities, and operate within those limits.

~~5.4.~~ Develop and implement emergency procedures.

~~6.5.~~ Develop and implement system restoration plans.

~~7.6.~~ Operate within established Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits.

~~8.7.~~ Perform reliability analysis (actual and contingency) for the Transmission Operator Area.

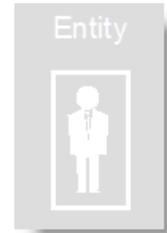
~~9.8.~~ Adjust flow control devices within the transmission area to maintain reliability.

~~10.9.~~ Deploy reactive resources to maintain transmission voltage within defined limits.

# Functional Entity — Transmission Operator

## Definition

The functional entity that ensures the real-time operating reliability of the transmission assets within a Transmission Operator Area.



## Introduction to the Transmission Operator

The Transmission Operator is responsible for the real-time operating reliability of the transmission assets under its purview, which is referred to as the Transmission Operator Area. The Transmission Operator has the authority to take certain actions to ensure that its Transmission Operator Area operates reliably.

The Transmission Operator and Reliability Coordinator have similar roles with respect to transmission operations, but different scopes. The Transmission Operator scope is narrower than the Reliability Coordinator, and the Transmission Operator does not necessarily “see” very far beyond its own boundaries. Therefore, the Transmission Operator can calculate System Operating Limits, but will not necessarily calculate Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits, which requires the wider scope of the Reliability Coordinator.

## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

### Ahead of Time

1. Coordinates restoration plans with Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operators, Balancing Authorities, and Distribution Providers.
2. Receives maintenance ~~requirements~~ and construction plans and schedules from the Transmission Owners and Generation Owners.
3. Receives Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits as established by the Reliability Coordinator.
4. Receives reliability evaluations from the Reliability Coordinator.
5. Develops agreements with adjacent Transmission Operators for joint transmission facilities.
- ~~6. Revises transmission maintenance plans as directed by the Reliability Coordinator and as permitted by agreements.~~
- ~~7.6.~~ Defines Total Transfer Capabilities and System Operating Limits based on facility information provided by the Transmission Owners and Generator Owners and assistance from Reliability Coordinator.
- ~~8.7.~~ Arranges for reliability-related services from Generator Operators.
9. Develops contingency plans, and monitors operations of the transmission facilities within the Transmission Operator Area control and as directed by the Reliability Coordinator.
- ~~10.8.~~ ~~Provides maintenance schedules and construction plans to Reliability Coordinator and Transmission Planner.~~
- ~~11.9.~~ Provides facility and operating information to the Reliability Coordinator.
- ~~12.10.~~ Provides to the Transmission Planner information on the capability to curtail (reduce) and shed load during emergencies.

~~13.11.~~ Provides Total Transfer Capabilities and System Operating Limits to, and coordinates Available Transfer Capability with, Transmission Service Provider.

~~14.12.~~ Receives operating and availability status of generating units from Generation Operators including status of automatic voltage regulators.

~~15.13.~~ Develops operating agreements or procedures with Transmission Owners.

#### Real Time

~~16.14.~~ Coordinates load shedding with, or as directed by, the Reliability Coordinator.

~~17.15.~~ Provides real-time operations information to the Reliability Coordinator and Balancing Authority.

~~18.16.~~ Notifies Generator Operators of transmission system problems (e.g., voltage limitations or equipment overloads that may affect generator operations).

~~19.17.~~ Requests Reliability Coordinator to assist in mitigating equipment overloads. (e.g., redispatch, transmission loading relief).

~~20.18.~~ Deploys reactive resources from Transmission Owners and Generator Owners to maintain acceptable voltage profiles.

~~21.19.~~ Directs Distribution Providers to shed load if needed to ensure reliability within the Transmission Operator Area.

~~22.20.~~ Implements flow control device operations for those ties under the Transmission Operator's purview as directed by the Balancing Authorities or Reliability Coordinator.

~~23.21.~~ Receives reliability alerts from Reliability Coordinator.

~~24.22.~~ Directs Balancing Authorities and Distribution Providers to implement system restoration plans.

## Function — Interchange

### Tasks

1. Receive an Arranged Interchange.
2. Ensure an Arranged Interchange is balanced and valid (Balancing Authority and Transmission Service Provider validation of sources and sinks, transmission arrangements, reliability-related services, etc.).
3. Coordinate (i.e., collect, [and consolidate](#), ~~and disseminate~~) approval, change, and denial requests for an Arranged Interchange to become Confirmed Interchange. ~~Approvals may be explicit or by exception.~~
4. Receive confirmations of requested Arranged Interchange.
5. Communicate status of an Arranged Interchange that becomes Confirmed Interchange or otherwise.
6. Communicate Confirmed Interchange information to [the appropriate reliability assessment tools](#) ~~Reliability Assessment Systems~~ (e.g., the interchange distribution calculator in the Eastern Interconnection).
7. Maintain record of an individual Confirmed Interchange.



# Functional Entity — Interchange Coordinator

## Definition

The functional entity that ensures communication of Arranged Interchange for reliability evaluation purposes and coordinates implementation of valid and balanced Confirmed Interchange between Balancing Authority Areas.



## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

### Ahead of Time

1. Receives ~~Arranged Interchange from Purchasing-Selling and Load Serving Entities~~ requests from ~~Purchasing-Selling and Load Serving Entities to implement an Arranged Interchange.~~
2. Submits request for an Arranged Interchange to become Confirmed Interchange to the Balancing Authorities and Transmission Service Providers for approvals.
3. Receives approval or denial from Transmission Service Providers of transmission arrangement(s) for Arranged Interchange.
4. Receives approval or denial from Balancing Authorities of the ability to meet ramping requirements for submitted Arranged Interchange.
5. Communicates final approval or denial of a request for an Arranged Interchange to become Confirmed interchange to the [Reliability Coordinator](#), Balancing Authorities, Transmission Service Providers, ~~and~~ [Purchasing-Selling Entities](#), and ~~Load-S~~erving Entities for implementation and NERC identified reliability analysis services.

### Real Time

6. Receives curtailments and redispatch implementation requests from Reliability Coordinators for an Arranged Interchange.
7. Receives information on Confirmed Interchange interruptions from the Balancing Authorities and communicates the Confirmed Interchange status to Balancing Authorities, Transmission Service Providers, Reliability Coordinators, and Purchase-Selling/Load Serving Entities.
8. Informs Transmission Service Providers, Purchasing-Selling/Load Serving Entities, Reliability Coordinators, and Balancing Authorities of Confirmed Interchange [revisions \(including curtailments\)](#).

### After the hour

9. Maintains and provides a record of individual Confirmed Interchange for which it coordinated with the Balancing Authorities.
10. Coordinates Confirmed Interchange with Balancing Authorities after the hour for “checkout.”

## Function — Transmission Service

### Tasks

1. Receive transmission service requests and process each request for service according to the requirements of the tariff.
  - a. Maintain commercial interface for receiving and confirming requests for transmission service according to the requirements of the tariff (e.g., OASIS).
2. Determine and post available transfer capability values.
3. Approve or deny transmission service requests.
4. Approve Arranged Interchange from transmission service arrangement perspective.
5. Allocate transmission losses (MWs or funds) among Balancing Authority Areas.



## Functional Entity — Transmission Service Provider

### Definition

The functional entity that administers the transmission tariff and provides Transmission Service to Transmission Customers under applicable transmission service agreements.



### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

#### Ahead of Time

1. Receives Total Transfer Capabilities, System Operating Limits and Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits from Planning Coordinator, Transmission Planner, Transmission Operator and Reliability Coordinator, and coordinates Available Transfer Capability with these entities and other Transmission Service Providers.
2. Receives transmission facility ratings from Transmission Owners.
3. Receives transmission expansion plans identified by the Planning Coordinator to help determine ability to accommodate long-term transmission service requests.
4. Approves or denies transmission service requests from Purchasing-Selling Entities, Generator Owners, and Load-Serving Entities.
5. Confirms [validity of transmission service requests indicated in the Arranged Interchange](#)~~transmission service requests to~~ [with](#) Interchange Coordinators.
6. Develops agreements or procedures with Transmission Owners.
7. Receives final approval or denial of [Arranged](#)~~Confirmed~~ Interchange from Interchange Coordinator.

#### Real Time

8. Receives Confirmed Interchange ~~implementation and~~ revisions (including curtailments) from the Interchange Coordinators.
9. Receives reliability alerts from Reliability Coordinator.
10. Provides loss allocation to Balancing Authorities.

## Function — Transmission Ownership

### Tasks

1. Develop interconnection agreements.
2. Establish ratings of transmission facilities.
3. ~~M~~Authorize ~~maintain~~en~~ance~~ of transmission facilities and rights-of-way.
4. Design and install owned facilities classified as transmission and obtain associated rights-of-way.
5. Design and authorize maintenance of transmission protective relaying systems and Special Protection Systems.



## Functional Entity — Transmission Owner

### Definition

The functional entity that owns and maintains transmission facilities.



### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Coordinates with Transmission Planners and the Planning Coordinator, Generator Owners, other Transmission Owners, and Load-Serving Entities desiring to connect with the ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#).
2. Receives approved transmission expansion plans from the Transmission Planner.
3. Develops agreements or procedures with the Transmission Service Providers.
4. Develops operating agreements or procedures with the Transmission Operators, Reliability Coordinators and Distribution Providers.
5. Develops agreements with adjacent Transmission Owners for joint transmission facilities.
6. Provides transmission expansion plans and changes to the Planning Coordinator and Transmission Planners.
7. Provides transmission facility ratings to Transmission Operators, Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Service Providers, Distribution Providers, Transmission Planners, and Planning Coordinator.
8. Provides [maintenance and](#) construction plans and schedules to the [Reliability Coordinator](#), Transmission Operator, and Transmission Planner.
- ~~9. Provides maintenance plans and schedules to the Transmission Operator and Transmission Planner.~~
- ~~10.9.~~ Develops interconnection agreements with the Distribution Providers and Generation Owners for connecting to the ~~bulk power system~~[Bulk Electric System](#).
- ~~11.10.~~ Provides reactive resources to Transmission Operators.
- [11. Revises transmission maintenance plans as requested by the Reliability Coordinator.](#)

## Function — Distribution

### Tasks

1. Provide and operate electrical delivery facilities between the transmission system and the End-use Customer.
2. Implement voltage reduction.
3. Design and maintain protective relaying systems, under-frequency load shedding systems, under-voltage load shedding systems, and Special Protection Systems that interface with the transmission system.
4. Provide and implement load-shed capability.
5. Maintain voltage and power factor within specified limits at the interconnection point.



## Functional Entity — Distribution Provider

### Definition

The functional entity that provides facilities that interconnect an End-use Customer load and the electric system for the transfer of electrical energy to the End-use Customer.

### Introduction to the Distribution Provider

The Distribution Provider delivers electrical energy to the End-use Customer ~~and from~~ the transmission system. For those End-use Customers who are served at transmission voltages, the Transmission Owner may also serve as the Distribution Provider. Thus, the Distribution Provider is not defined by a specific voltage, but rather as performing the Distribution function at any voltage. The Distribution Provider provides the switches and recloses that could be used to shed load for emergency action.



### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

#### Ahead of Time

1. Coordinates with Transmission Planners on transmission expansion.
2. Coordinates system restoration plans with Transmission Operator.
3. Coordinates with End-use Customers and Load-Serving Entities to identify new facility connection needs.
4. Develop interconnection agreements with Transmission Owners on a facility basis.
5. Provides operational data to Transmission Operator.
6. Coordinate with Load-Serving Entities to identify critical loads that are to be precluded from load shedding where avoidable.

#### Real Time

7. Implements voltage reduction and sheds load as directed by the Transmission Operator or Balancing Authority.
8. Implements system restoration plans as coordinated by the Transmission Operator.
9. Directs Load-Serving Entities to communicate requests for voluntary load curtailment.

## Function — Generator Operation

### Tasks

1. Formulate daily generation plan.
2. Report operating and availability status of units and related equipment, such as automatic voltage regulators.

~~3. Develop annual maintenance plan for generating units and perform the day-to-day generator maintenance.~~

~~4.3.~~ Operate generators to provide real and reactive power or reliability-related services per contracts or arrangements.

~~5.4.~~ Monitor the status of generating facilities.

~~6.5.~~ Support Interconnection frequency.



# Functional Entity — Generator Operator

## Definition

The functional entity that operates generating unit(s) and performs the functions of supplying energy and reliability-related services.



## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

### Ahead of Time

1. Provides generation commitment plans to the Balancing Authority.
2. Provides Balancing Authority and Transmission Operators with requested amount of reliability-related services.
3. Provides operating and availability status of generating units to Balancing Authority and Transmission Operators for reliability analysis.

~~4. Reports annual maintenance plan for generating units to Reliability Coordinator, Balancing Authority and Transmission Operators.~~

~~5.4. Reports status of automatic voltage regulators to Transmission Operators.~~

~~6.5. Provides operational data to Reliability Coordinator.~~

~~7. Revises generation maintenance plans per directive of Reliability Coordinator.~~

~~8.6. Receives reliability analyses from Reliability Coordinator.~~

~~9.7. Receives notice from Purchasing-Selling Entity if Arranged Interchange approved or denied.~~

~~10.8. Receives reliability alerts from Reliability Coordinator.~~

~~11.9. Receives notification of transmission system problems from Transmission Operators.~~

### Real Time

~~12.10. Provides real-time operating information to the Transmission Operators and the required Balancing Authority.~~

~~13.11. Adjusts real and reactive power as directed by the Balancing Authority and Transmission Operators.~~

## Function — Generator Ownership

### Tasks

1. Establish generating facilities ratings, limits, and operating requirements.
2. Design and authorize maintenance of generation plant protective relaying systems, protective relaying systems on the transmission lines connecting the generation plant to the transmission system, and Special Protection Systems.
3. ~~Authorize maintenance of~~ owned generating facilities.
4. Provide verified generating facility performance characteristics / data.



## Functional Entity — Generator Owner

### Definition

The functional entity that owns and maintains generating units.



### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

1. Provides generator information to the Transmission Operator, Reliability Coordinator, Balancing Authority, Transmission Planner, and Resource Planner.
2. Provides unit maintenance schedules and unit retirement plans to the Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, Transmission Planner, and Resource Planner.
3. Develops an interconnection agreement with Transmission Owner on a facility basis.
4. Receives approval or denial of transmission service request from Transmission Service Provider.
5. Provides reliability-related services to Purchasing-Selling Entity pursuant to agreement.
6. [Reports the annual maintenance plan to the Reliability Coordinator, Balancing Authority and Transmission Operator.](#)
7. [Revises the generation maintenance plans as requested by the Reliability Coordinator.](#)

## Function — Purchasing-Selling

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### Tasks

1. Purchase and sell energy or capacity.
- ~~2. Communicate Arranged Interchange.~~
- ~~3.2.~~ Arrange for transmission service that is required by tariffs.
- ~~4.3.~~ Request implementation of Arranged Interchange.



## Functional Entity — Purchasing-Selling Entity

### Definition

The functional entity that purchases or sells, and takes title to, energy, capacity, and reliability-related services.



### Relationships with Other Functional Entities

#### Ahead of Time

1. Arranges for transmission service from Transmission Service Providers and makes arrangements for reliability-related services with Generator Owners or Load-Serving Entities ~~as applicable for Arranged Interchange.~~
2. Submits ~~R~~requests For Interchange to Interchange Coordinators. ~~to implement Arranged Interchange.~~
3. Notifies Generator Operators and Load-Serving Entities if Arranged Interchange requests are approved or denied.
4. Receives final approval or denial of Arranged~~Confirmed~~ Interchange from Interchange Coordinator.
5. Receives load profiles and forecasts from Load-Serving Entities.

#### Real Time

- ~~5.6.~~ Notifies Interchange Coordinators of Confirmed Interchange and Implemented Interchange cancellations or terminations.
- ~~6.7.~~ Receives notice of Confirmed Interchange curtailments from Interchange Coordinator.
- ~~7.~~ ~~Receives load profiles and forecasts from Load-Serving Entities.~~

## Function — Load-Serving

### Tasks

1. Collect individual load profiles.
2. Identify capability for and communicate requests for voluntary load curtailment.
3. Participate in under-frequency load shedding systems and under-voltage load shedding systems through identification of critical customer loads that are to be excluded from the load shedding systems.
4. Identify need for facilities and provide capability of self-provided reliability-related services for its load.
5. Develop overall load profiles and forecasts of end-user energy requirements.

~~6. Communicate Arranged Interchange.~~

~~7.6. Acquire necessary transmission service, and reliability-related services.~~

~~7. Submits Requests For Interchange to Interchange Coordinators.~~

~~8. Request implementation of Arranged Interchange.~~

~~9.8. Manage resource portfolios to meet demand and energy requirements of End-use Customers.~~



# Functional Entity — Load-Serving Entity

## Definition

The functional entity that secures energy and transmission service (and reliability-related services) to serve the electrical demand and energy requirements of its end use customers.



## Relationships with Other Functional Entities

### Ahead of Time

1. Submits load profiles and characteristics, plans, and forecasts as needed to the Balancing Authorities, Purchasing-Selling Entities, Planning Coordinator, Resource Planners, and Transmission Planners.
2. Identifies new facility connection needs for End-use Customers.
3. Provides generation commitments and dispatch schedules to the Balancing Authority.
4. Provides information as to self-provided reliability-related services to the Balancing Authority.
5. Provides planned purchases to the Resource Planner and Transmission Planner for system modeling and reliability evaluation.
6. Arranges for transmission service from Transmission Service Providers and makes arrangements for reliability-related services with Generator Owners or Load-Serving Entities ~~as applicable for Arranged Interchange.~~
- [7. Submits Requests For Interchange to Interchange Coordinators.](#)
- ~~7. Submits requests to Interchange Coordinators to implement Arranged Interchange.~~
8. Notifies Generator Operators ~~and Load-Serving Entities~~ if Arranged Interchange requests are approved or denied.
9. Receives final approval or denial of ~~Arranged~~**Confirmed** Interchange from Interchange Coordinator.
10. Coordinates with Distribution Provider on identifying new facility interconnection needs.
- [11. Receives notification from Purchasing-Selling Entity if Arranged Interchange requests approved or denied.](#)

### Real Time

- ~~11.12.~~ [12.](#) Receives requests from the Balancing Authority and Distribution Provider for voluntary load curtailment.
- ~~12.13.~~ [13.](#) Communicate requests for voluntary load curtailment to end-use customers as directed by the Balancing Authority and Distribution Provider.
- ~~13. Informed by Purchasing-Selling Entity if Confirmed Interchange requests approved or denied.~~
14. Notifies Interchange Coordinators of Confirmed Interchange cancellations or terminations.
15. Receives notice of Confirmed Interchange curtailments from Interchange Coordinator.