

Meeting Notes ATCT Drafting Team — Project 2006-07

February 6, 2009 | 1–3 p.m.
Conference Call and WebEx

1. Administration

a. Introduction of Attendees

The following members and guests were in attendance:

- Laura Lee, Chair
- Bob Birch
- DuShaune Carter
- Chuck Falls
- John Harmon
- Ray Kershaw
- Dennis Kimm
- Ross Kovacs
- Larry Middleton
- Nate Schweighart
- Aaron Staley
- Don Williams
- Andy Rodriguez

2. Review of NERC and NAESB Capacity Benefit Margin

Andy Rodriguez reviewed the NERC and NAESB standards related to the approval/denial of CBM schedules. The members of the SDT are concerned that the NAESB requirement for an OASIS reservation number may not be consistent with FERC's intentions around CBM. The members of the SDT agreed to work with NAESB should it be determined that a conflict exists between the NERC Reliability Standard and the NAESB Business Practice.

3. Review of VRF Comments

Laura Lee provided the SDT with the SC's direction to respond to the comments received on the staff report on ATC VRFs. Laura proposed that the SDT develop one set of responses, while Andy (staff) develops a set of staff responses. The two can then be merged where they are consistent and kept separate where they differ.

Aaron Staley volunteered to work on the responses for comment on MOD-008. Ross Kovacs questioned how the SDT would achieve consensus. Laura and Andy suggested that the team would do so through the same process it has used in the past — someone will develop an initial response, and then the team will weigh in and suggest modifications as necessary. If needed, a minority opinion could be included.

Some of the team expressed concern that the questions in the comment form were leading, and questioned who drafted them. Andy reported that he drafted them, and they were intended to elicit detailed responses (e.g., “the way we mitigate this risk is through the following processes...”), rather than general statements of disagreement (e.g., “we believe the VRF should be low because there is a low risk”). Some members of the team did not believe the questions were open to disagreement, and were displeased by the structure of the questions.

Andy reiterated that if the team felt the VRF definitions themselves were inappropriate, that it would be good to state this somewhere. Andy briefly updated the team on the SCPS efforts to redo the VRF definitions. Ross asked if it might be possible to use that work, or would it be more likely that work would not be completed for at least six months. Andy responded that 6 months was probably an accurate minimum. The team discussed that they might create a summary of sorts at the front of the comment responses that addresses this issue.

The team discussed trying to focus on the low hanging fruit first. Question 2 was largely non-controversial. Andy will draft an initial response.

Question 3 had two main issues raised in the comments. The first argument was that since CBM was optional, it could not have a medium VRF. The SDT agrees that if you do not have CBM, then none of this applies, but to the extent an entity does maintain CBM, it is important that it be accurate. The second argument is effectively that CBM accuracy, as part of the ATC process, is inherently low risk — this will not be resolved until that fundamental question is answered.

The SDT reviewed question 4. Aaron agreed to draft initial responses for the R6 and R7 issue.

The SDT reviewed question 5. Don Williams is going to write up a response for the Q5 issue of CBM being mostly administrative. He will include language explaining why FERC Guideline 2 should not apply.

As discussed above, Aaron will draft initial responses for question 6. The team agreed to have a single-topic conference call to discuss whether or not Firm ATC should be a medium risk or a low risk (see below).

4. Future Meetings

February 26th, from 12:30–3:30 p.m. EST
Topic: discuss the “Firm/Medium VRF” Issue.
Consortium conference server: 732-694-2061.
Conference code is 1205022609.
<http://nerc.webex.com> | password: standards

5. Adjourn

The drafting team adjourned at approximately 3:20 p.m.