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TFSP Response to NPCC Request for Criteria Interpretation

Interpretation: Response to Request for an Interpretation of Directory 3 for the Acumen Engineered Solutions International Inc.

The following interpretation of Directory was developed by the Task Force on System Protection

Directory Number and Text of Requirement

5.7.1 **Protection group** DC circuit tests, battery bank and charger tests and breaker trip tests for **protection** required by the NPCC Automatic Underfrequency **Load Shedding** Program, need not be performed more frequently than the **protection group** DC circuit tests, battery bank and charger tests and breaker trip tests for other **protection** on the same breaker. Because of the distributed nature of this **load shedding protection**, random failures to trip do not compromise the objectives of the NPCC Automatic Underfrequency **Load Shedding** Program.

Question 1

What is meant where it states that DC circuit tests, battery bank and charger tests and breaker trip tests: "need not be performed more frequently than the protection group DC circuit tests, battery bank and charger tests and breaker trip tests for other protection on the same breaker"?

Response to Question 1

To illustrate the meaning of this statement, Protection Assembly Testing as specified in section 5.2 (Verify AC inputs and relay functionality) will follow the intervals in Table 1 and that Protection Group Testing as specified in section 5.3 (DC circuit Test), Battery Bank, and Charger testing as specified in section 5.4, and Breaker Trip Testing as specified in section 5.5 may follow the maintenance schedule defined for the associated feeder breaker that the UFLS relay is tripping. This UFLS breaker may be a distribution level feeder breaker with associated protection systems that have a maintenance program with intervals much different than those specified in section 5.3 thru 5.5.

Question 2

Are DC circuit tests, battery bank and charger tests and breaker trip tests required for all protection equipment that is required by the NPCC UFLS program?

Response to Question 2

Yes.

Question 3

Do the maintenance and testing activities and intervals from sections 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5 of NPCC Directory 3 for DC circuit tests, battery bank and charger tests and breaker trip tests, apply to all protection equipment required by the NPCC UFLS program?

Response to Question 3

The maintenance and testing activities from sections 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5 do apply to testing UFLS equipment. The interval of testing UFLS equipment does not have to be the same as the intervals specified in 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5. For instance, the frequency of UFLS trip testing can coincide with the associated feeder breaker testing. Also, it is reasonable for an entity to be required to provide evidence of the above maintenance activities.