



NORTHEAST POWER COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.  
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### **Governmental/Regulatory Affairs Advisory Group Report for the NPCC, Inc. Board of Directors**

The NPCC Governmental/Regulatory Affairs Advisory Group (“AG”) was formed (pursuant to NPCC’s 2006 Goal #6) to provide a forum where industry and governmental/regulatory representatives can exchange views and strive to develop consensus policy recommendations on reliability issues specific to the NPCC Region. The AG’s “Terms of Reference” was approved at the July 25, 2006 NPCC Executive Committee meeting.

The third meeting of the AG was held following the NPCC Compliance Workshop on October 25, 2006. The AG selected Thursday, May 24, 2007 (10:00 am to 3:00 pm at NPCC’s office following the NPCC CBRE annual meeting) and Tuesday, September 25, 2007 (1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, prior to the 2007 NPCC General Meeting in Toronto) for its 2007 meetings. A nominating committee was formed (John Buechler, Hans Mertens, and Kim Warren) to recommend an AG Chair and Vice Chair for 2007.

Joe Sukaskas and Brian Hogue described a "tabletop exercise" held in Toronto (entitled "*Silver Links*"), that brought together private and public critical infrastructure stakeholders to raise awareness of interdependencies among critical infrastructures that could potentially make the Great Lakes/North East Region vulnerable to the cascading effects of major disruptions. As a result of this and related questions raised by the NPCC Inter-Control Area Restoration Working Group, TFIST’s Telecommunications Working Group is investigating cross-border priority telecommunication for emergency communications.

After discussion of these issues, the AG supports TFCO becoming involved in this investigation, due to the critical importance of reliable cross-border communications among system operators, particularly in the event of an emergency situation.

The Advisory Group also discussed the status of the following items:

- NPCC’s transition to NPCC, Inc. and NPCC CBRE, Inc.
- NPCC CBRE Membership
- DOE’s Congestion Study
- New England’s State Committee on Electricity
- ISO-NE 2006 Regional System Plan
- New York Comprehensive Reliability Plan
- IESO 18 Month Outlook
- Northeast Joint Board on Security Constrained Economic Dispatch Recommendations
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- State Renewable Portfolio Standards
- Pandemic planning

**October 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting Participants:**

**New York ISO**

John Buechler

**New England Conference of  
Public Utilities Commissioners**

Bill Nugent (phone)

**New York State Department of Public Service**

Diane Barney

Howard Tarler (phone)

**Maine Public Utilities Commission**

Joe Sukaskas (phone)

Honorable Sharon Reishus

**Constellation Generation**

Michael Gildea

**NPCC**

Phil Fedora

Brian Hogue

(part-time- phone)

**Independent Electricity System Operator (Ontario)**

Kim Warren

**Ontario Power Generation**

Brian Gooder

**MA DTE**

Donald Nelson

**State of Vermont**

**Department of Public Service**

Hans Mertens