

Scope:

Spare Equipment Database Task Force

Purpose

The purpose of the Spare Equipment Database Task Force (SEDTF) is to recommend a uniform approach to collecting information on long-lead time electric transmission system critical spare equipment and to recommend a means for obtaining and communicating this information to the electric industry.¹ Data collection will be supported by a database to be used as a resource to obtain long-lead time equipment during emergencies. The database is not meant to be a replacement for pooling or bilateral programs.

The SEDTF will initially focus on bulk power transformers and will report to the Data Coordination Subcommittee.

Background

The availability of spare equipment during system emergencies can be a vital link to bridge to long-term recovery. In some cases, high voltage equipment can be scarce, and manufacturing may require long-lead times. Therefore, it is vital that a database of spare equipment for emergencies be developed to support industry sharing and to assess the current status, availability and inventory of critical spare equipment.

The SEDTF makes recommendations on five key subjects:

1. Long lead-time electric transmission equipment spares to be included in the data base;
2. Design criteria information to be maintained for each spare type;
3. Process for obtaining equipment information;
4. Specifications for the data base and communicating inquiries for emergency equipment; and
5. Follow-up procedures for assessing effectiveness of the SED program.

Activities

1. Recommend criteria for defining long-lead time bulk transmission system emergency equipment.
2. Recommend long-lead time electric transmission equipment to be included in the SED program.
3. Assemble and coordinate the activities of equipment specialists in defining the minimum design criteria to be associated with each equipment type to be included in the SED program.
4. Support NERC staff in developing processes to collect SED equipment design information, program/database specification, and communicate these to NERC's stakeholders.
5. Recommend a process for emergency equipment assistance alerts for broadcast to stakeholders.
6. Develop a process for conducting quality control reviews of the SED program.
7. Develop annual internal and external reports to assess the SED.

¹ This task force will support the Electricity Sub-sector Coordinating Council's Critical Infrastructure Protection Roadmap, work plan items: 1) G - Critical Spares, and 2) P- GMD – Restore the Bulk power System.

Milestones

Start Task Force Q3 2010

- Identify options and develop alternatives to achieve a robust spares capability.
- Enhance NERC and industry spare equipment programs.
- Develop plans and procedures to deploy critical equipment during emergency situations.
- Identify areas where government may be able to assist in procuring or deploying equipment.
- Finish Q4 2011

Membership

The SEDTF members will be comprised of the following:

- two (2) members from each of NERC's regions who are representative of industry segments;
- two (2) Canadian members;
- one (1) member from the NERC committee, or working group to whom the TF reports;
- industry experts as needed; and
- a NERC staff member will be assigned as the SEDTF secretary.

The Planning Committee Chair will appoint the chair of the SEDTF.

Meetings

Meetings and conference calls will be held as needed.

The SEDTF was approved by the Planning Committee on September 14, 2010