



NORTHEAST POWER COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.
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NPCC Request for Criteria Clarification

Note: a Clarification cannot be used to revise the Criteria within a Directory.

Request for a Clarification of Criteria	
Date submitted:	March 18, 2020
Date revised version submitted:	
Contact information for person requesting the clarification:	
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Identify the Directory that contains the Criteria requiring clarification:	
Directory Number:	NPCC Directory #8, September 25, 2018
Directory Title:	System Restoration
Identify specifically what portion of the Criteria needs clarification:	
Text of Requirement:	1.7 Battery Chargers, Batteries and Backup Power Supply Tests at Transmission, Generation Telecommunication Facilities and Control Centers identified as a Key Facility - (Reference: Appendix A-Table 1; Test Nos. KF-1 to KF-6). Requirement R10, R10.1 through R10.5

The language of section 1.7 appears to limit the applicability of its criteria and requirements to Telecommunication Facilities and Control Centers identified as a **Key Facility**.

Section 1.7 references “Transmission, Generation Telecommunication Facilities and Control Centers identified as a Key Facility”. There is no specific mention in section 1.7 to Blackstart Capability identified as a Key Facility.

Do the R10, R10.1 to R10.5 tests under section 1.7 apply to a Generating Station with Blackstart Capability identified as a Key Facility that does not have any Telecommunication Facilities and/or Control Centers identified as a Key Facility?

Identify the material impact associated with the lack of clarity:

Identify the material impact to your organization or others caused by the lack of clarity or an incorrect interpretation of this Directory:

Clear interpretation is required to determine under what conditions section 1.7 and its requirements (R10, R10.1 to R10.5) are applicable to the Generator Owner with a generating station identified as a Key Facility. Ontario Power Generation owned generating stations require clarity to ensure their maintenance programs account for appropriate requirements, or otherwise, to ensure they do not expend resources unnecessarily.

Task Force on Coordination of Operation
Response to Request for Criteria Clarification
Directory#8

The following clarification of the criteria in Directory #8 was developed by the Task Force on Coordination of Operation.

Directory Number and Text of Requirement

Directory #8

Question 1

Section 1.7 references “Transmission, Generation Telecommunication Facilities and Control Centers identified as a Key Facility”.

There is no specific mention in section 1.7 to Blackstart Capability identified as a Key Facility.

Do the R10, R10.1 to R10.5 tests under section 1.7 apply to a Generating Station with Blackstart Capability identified as a Key Facility that does not have any Telecommunication Facilities and/or Control Centers identified as a Key Facility?

Task Force Response to Question 1

Testing requirements as specified in R10, R10.1 to R10.5 apply to all Generating Stations having Blackstart Capability, whether or not the Generating Station also has a Telecommunication Facility and/or Control Center identified as a Key Facility. Generating Stations having Blackstart Capability are by definition considered Key Facilities as defined in the NPCC Glossary of Terms:

Key Facilities

Facilities required to establish a basic minimum power system following a system blackout. These facilities are essential to the restoration plan of the Reliability Coordinator Area and include generating stations having blackstart units and other selected generating stations, transmission elements which are part of the basic minimum power system, control centers, telecommunication centers and telecommunication facilities. Such facilities are necessary to support Special Protection Systems, protection and control systems, voice and data between and within control centers and voice and data between control centers and key generating / transmission stations.

Key Facilities include but are not limited to the following:

- *Generating stations having Blackstart Capability;*
- *Transmission facilities and generating stations;*
- *Control and telecommunication centers;*
- *Telecommunication facilities*

Testing requirements also apply to the critical components in all identified key facilities by definition in the NPCC Glossary of Terms.

Critical Components

Equipment required for continued and proper operation of a key facility in the event of a total loss of grid supply and for performing load restoration.

Critical components include but are not limited to the following:

- *Generating units with blackstart capability;*
- *Backup power supplies;*
- *Control center and telecommunication center computer systems and*
- *computer room HVAC;*
- *Telecommunication facilities backup power supplies;*
- *Cable pressurization units;*
- *Synchronizing systems.*

*It should also be noted that a comma appears to have inadvertently been omitted in Section 1.7 Battery Chargers, Batteries and Backup Power Supply Tests at Transmission, Generation Telecommunication Facilities and Control Centers identified as a **Key Facility**, between “Generation” and “Telecommunication Facilities”.*

*The section should instead read: Section 1.7 Battery Chargers, Batteries and Backup Power Supply Tests at Transmission, Generation, Telecommunication Facilities and Control Centers identified as a **Key Facility**.*

The omission will be addressed during the next triennial review of the Directory in 2021.