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WECC Cold Weather outreach

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Winter Storm Elliott – Recommendation 1 b

Recommendation 1(b): Findings from the Report support the need for robust monitoring by NERC and the Regional Entities of compliance with the currently effective and approved generator cold weather Reliability Standards, to determine if reliability gaps exist. NERC should identify the generating units that are at the highest risk during extreme cold weather and work with the Regional Entities (and Balancing Authorities, if applicable) to perform cold weather verifications of those generating units until all of the extreme cold weather Standards proposed by the 2021 Report are approved and effective. (Verify highest risk units by Q4, 2023; implement by Q3, 2024)

Determining Potential Generators Posing Risk

- NERC dependent on assistance from Regional Entities

- Data Sources Used
 - NERC - Alert Cold Weather Preparations for Extreme Weather Events
 - Generation Type and Location
 - GADS Outage Data

Cross Departmental Team

- Curtis Crews – Senior Technical Advisor – Entity Monitoring
- Greg Park - Senior Risk Analysis Specialist – Risk Analysis & Data Services
- Curtis Holland – Senior Reliability Specialist – Operations Analysis
- Fahad Ansari - Senior Technical Advisor – Oversight Planning
- Dave Grover - Senior Reliability Engineer – Operations Analysis
- James Hanson – Manager – Operations Analysis

Additional Information Requested

- Questions were developed touching on:
 - Incomplete Essential Actions tied to NERC Alert
 - Cold Weather Readiness Processes and Procedures
 - Cold Weather Maintenance and Training
 - Units involved in Cold Weather Events – What was learned
 - Freeze Protection Measures for units with ECWT above 32 degrees
 - How Freeze Protection Measures are Monitored

Contact with Selected Entities

- Held Webinars with Entities Explaining the Effort
 - Why
 - Selection Process
 - Review of Questions

- Offered assistance throughout the response period

Responses Received

- Internal team reviewed responses
 - Identified where follow up was necessary to understand approach
 - Identified responses exhibiting stand out practices
 - Identified responses where improvements could be made
- Held follow up calls with entities to address questions from initial responses
- Identified generating stations to perform on site verifications

Feedback from Effort

- Individual Feedback to Selected Entities
 - Observation Sheet
 - Areas of Strength
 - Opportunities for Improvement

- General Audience
 - Provide observations to NERC for ERO-Wide Presentation
 - Regional Presentations

Continued Efforts – Recommendation 1c

1(c) Generator Owners/Operators should assess their own freeze protection measure vulnerability, and NERC or the Regional Entities should perform targeted cold weather verifications pursuant to a risk-based approach.

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Resources

- [NERC Information on Cold Weather Preparation and BPS Impacts](#)
- [NERC Major Event Reports](#)

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