Reliability Coordinator Transition Coordination Group Update

WECC RC Forum – 1/24/19

Presented by Jim Shetler / Eric Whitley - RCTCG

Agenda

- RC Transition Project Roll-Out Update

- Update on Activities to Date
  - Track 1 RC-RC Coordination
  - Track 2 Peak Wind Down

- RC Transition Project Plan and Oversight

- RC provider feedback (CAISO/SPP/BCH/Peak)

- Communications

RC Transition Plan Rollout

- Just about 5 months left before first RC Transition (CAISO's BAA footprint)
- 2 months from 1st RC Certification
  - CAISO – March 2019
- BCH in September, 2019
  - Readiness review – May 2019
- CAISO larger footprint, November 2019
  - Certification – August 2019
- SPP footprint in December, 2019
  - Certification – August 2019

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Update on Activities

Track 1 – RC-RC Coordination Meetings and Subgroups

- RC to RC meetings being held – working on decisions and setting up communication outreach
  - RC Readiness activity tracking
  - Western Interconnection tools and processes to address
    - Governance document drafted to cover common tool guidance for WIT and ECC
    - SOL Methodology comparisons between the different RC's undertaken
  - Subgroups formed to resolve technical issues on a variety of subjects
- Need for focus on RC "Seams" issues –
  - RC's working on known issues (cranking path coordination, frequency recovery, RAS coordination)
  - Canvassing BA and TOP entities for issues (RCTCG engaging entities regionally)
  - Seams specific teams to meet in March

Update on Activities

Track 2 – Peak Wind Down activities

- People –
  - In December of last year, Peak and RCTCG met to review Peak's readiness plans to meet planned and un-planned attrition
- Process
  - Peak shared Wind Down Project Plans and workstreams with RCTCG
  - Peak has developed plans to any significant unplanned attrition (contracting externally, cross-training existing staff, management capable of fulfilling roles as attrition occurs)
  - RCTCG and Peak drafting resource "Sharing Agreement" to mitigate un-planned attrition
  - Peak Operations coordinating transition details with each new RC and engaged with RC-RC Coordination
    Peak continues to focus on reliability and operational excellence
- Technologies
  - Determine tools and systems to be retired and when
  - Historical data retention, use and future – Peak and NERC in separate discussions with PNNL, also discussing an "escrow" of relevant data by an entity or NERC itself or contract with a vendor (Iron Mt).

RC – RC Coordination Meetings

- RC-RC meetings being held twice per month currently
  - Agenda items include:
    - Issue discussion (historical data, ECC and WIT administration, Shadow Ops, Decision log review, various risks, etc)
    - Tracking key decisions
- Identifying and tracking key risks
  - Keeping track of action items to ensure resolution of the issues and risks in a timely manner
  - Resolution of key items continues with tracking each "Decision" that the RC's make.
- Focusing on Subgroups
  - Subgroup leads reporting out on progress
  - Each RC is represented in each Subgroup

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RC – RC Coordination "Decisions" to date

- Decisions
  - ECC - to be enhanced for multi-RC operation. CAISO will hold contract and integrate with their EMS systems
  - WIT – to be modified to allow each RC to administrate their BA's data – CAISO will assume Time Error monitoring and provide Delta Time Error value to WIT
  - Westwide Interconnection Model to be administered by CAISO. Each RC will send their model updates to CAISO in an agreed upon format (CIM-15XML)
  - CAISO serves as the data repository for Western Interconnection for outage data
  - Each RC obtain interchange forecast data from WIT
  - CAISO will be the only supporter of the Merchant Advisory Protocol through their messaging system (the other RC's do not have a use for MAP)
  - NERC/WECC have decided not to do a full "certification" of Peak for each RC Transition. They will hold a short "operational review" of Peak after each footprint change / downsize.
  - UFMP - CAISO will manage and approve UFMP step 4 for Path 66 through the use of the ECC tool. SPP will manage and approve UFMP step 4 for Path 30,31 and 36 through the use of the ECC tool

RC Transition Key Dates

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CAISO – CA area	Certification	▓	▓	▓									
	Shadow					▓	▓						
	Go Live							7/1					
BCH	Readiness Review			▓	▓	▓							
	Shadow							▓	▓				
	Go Live									9/2			
CAISO – Large	Certification							▓	▓				
	Shadow									▓	▓		
	Go Live											11/1	
SPP	Certification							▓	▓	▓			
	Shadow										▓	▓	
	Go Live												12/3

Key Information

- CAISO on schedule to meet first RC Transition on July 1st, 2019
- BCH on schedule to meet second RC Transition on September 2nd, 2019
- CAISO on schedule to meet third RC Transition for the balance of their RC customers on Nov 1st, 2019
- SPP on schedule to meet fourth and final RC Transition on Dec 3rd, 2019
- Peak will maintain RC function for each transition up until their transition date, then begin their full wind down activities after the last transition on Dec 3rd

Risks and Concerns

- Each RC has their RC function to prepare for as well as the pickup of several services important to the interconnection (ECC, WIT, Network Modeling, Data Sharing, Data Archival etc). – These issues are being worked on via the RC-RC Coordination effort.
- Timely resolution of data sharing issue
- Peak staffing until the end is being tracked but initial concerns mitigated for now
- Seams issues continue to be a concern with levels of details being uncovered. Working groups engaged.

Additional Points of Interest

- ECC will be administered by CAISO
- WIT tool administration via each RC
- Data Sharing transition from the UDSA to the Western Interconnection Data Sharing Agreement (WIDSA) is being worked on.
- Archived data from Peak is being discussed to determine it's future.
- Western Interconnection Model will be administered by CAISO working with entities and each RC

RC – RC Subgroups

SubGroup	Purpose
ECC-WIT-USFM	Subgroup formed to take up technical details of these tools and their administration by RC members
ICCP and Data Share Subgroup	Formed to coordinate ICCP and other protocols technical details and IRO-010 requirements
Messaging Tool Subgroup	Formed to ensure RC – RC messaging details are addressed
Network Modeling Subgroup	Formed to coordinate CAISO's role as central interconnection model aggregator and each RC's obligations
Operations Planning Subgroup	This team is to take up issues of data exchange that focuses on CD/ND, Outage Coordination, SOL and IROL exchange, load and dispatch forecast exchange.
Shadow Operations Subgroup	Formed to coordinate the upcoming RC Shadow Operations with all RC's
SOL Methodology Subgroup	Each RC is looking at their SOL methodology and comparing it to all other RC's to ensure no gaps
Synchrophasor and WECC – NERC Reporting Needs	Working with WECC and NERC and with all RC's to ensure events and analytical data needs are met
EOP and Restoration Procedures and Drills	RC – RC Coordination on EOP Plans submissions, RC-RC Plan exchanges and Restoration Drills

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Risk tracking

Tracking high level risks

- Peak viability - staff attrition
  - Risk of not retaining key staff through the end of 2019
    - Mitigation – Peak retention plans and employee engagement appears to be working to retain key roles and staffing to complete the 2019 transitions. Peak assistance agreement with key entities in progress.
    - Tracking key roles and staff levels monthly via Peak's updates
- Any of the 3 new RC organizations having to delay their official RC start dates
  - Peak is not planning to be operational post the last transition (Dec 3rd, 2019)
  - Systems and support will be at minimal levels at the end of 2019
    - Mitigation – Clear communication that after the last transition on 12/3/2019, Peak will not be in a position to resume operations (Closure activities commencing immediately). Coordination and decision-making at RC-RC Coordination meetings
    - Tracking – Certification dates, shadow operations and transition dates with each new RC and Peak's status after each transition
- Multiple transition dates
  - Risk of multiple seams transitions that could conflict with multiple RC operations
    - Mitigation – Seams issue information gathering in progress
    - Tracking – Subgroup and RC-RC Coordination information gathering taking place

Communications

Discussions on RCTCG communications:

- RC Customers
  - Periodic written update reports
    - Monthly/As needed
    - Keep parties informed on status and issues
  - Periodic RC Customer Executive Webinars hosted by WECC
    - As scheduled by WECC
    - Allows for two way communications
  - WEIL meeting updates
- Other Stakeholders
  - WECC RC Forum Webinars – quarterly
  - Post update reports on WECC RC portal
  - Updates at Peak and WECC Member Advisory Committee meetings

Questions?

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