



ENE Reliability Risk Strike Team, RRC Update

July 9, 2024

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RRST Scope

- Identify strategic initiatives for extreme natural events:
 - 1) Identify specific risk areas within the broader topic of “extreme natural events” that pose unique risks to the reliability of the Western Interconnection Bulk Power System (BPS) that, if addressed, would be most valuable to stakeholders. Determine the best way to collaborate with the RAC on this initiative.
 - 2) Determine whether and how these specific risk areas are being addressed in the industry and determine how to share these lessons most effectively with stakeholders.
 - 3) Based on this research, determine one or more specific risks the RRC should address via the RRC Risk Management Process.
 - 4) Develop a strike team by February 2023, followed by developing a plan to identify specific tasks that can be completed within 12 months.

Extreme Natural Events

Factors to consider

1. What reliability impacts of extreme natural events exist for system operations?
2. What best practices already exist or are needed to address extreme natural events?
3. What types of system characteristics and conditions expose the interconnection to the greatest risk from natural events?

Extreme Natural Events

- Category A—Events Related to Changing Climate
 - Extreme temperatures—heat domes/waves and cold snaps
 - Haboobs/extreme dust storms
 - Wildfire events
 - Drought/aridification (climate change causing higher average temperature)
 - Atmospheric rivers and flooding
 - Rising oceans and coastal erosion
 - Extreme winds

Extreme Natural Events

- Category B—Physical Forces in Earth and Space Causing Disruptions
 - Earthquakes
 - Tsunamis
 - Volcanic eruptions
 - Geomagnetic disturbances

Extreme Natural Events White Paper

- Extreme natural events description
- Risks caused by these events that may disrupt grid operations
- Mitigation activities
 - WECC and external mitigation activities
- Posted on the RRC Approved Documents folder (April 16, 2024)
(<https://www.wecc.org/Administrative/RRST%20Extreme%20Natural%20Events%20White%20Paper.pdf>)
- RRST work completed—recommend the group be disbanded



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