

Standard TOP-006-2 — Monitoring System Conditions

A. Introduction

1. **Title:** Monitoring System Conditions
2. **Number:** TOP-006-2
3. **Purpose:** To ensure critical reliability parameters are monitored in real-time.
4. **Applicability**
 - 4.1. Transmission Operators.
 - 4.2. Balancing Authorities.
 - 4.3. Generator Operators.
 - 4.4. Reliability Coordinators.
5. ***Proposed Effective Date:** In those jurisdictions where no regulatory approval is required, the standard shall become effective on the latter of either April 1, 2009 or the first day of the first calendar quarter, three months after BOT adoption.

In those jurisdictions where regulatory approval is required, the standard shall become effective on the latter of either April 1, 2009 or the first day of the first calendar quarter, three months after applicable regulatory approval.

B. Requirements

- R1. Each Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall know the status of all generation and transmission resources available for use.
 - R1.1. Each Generator Operator shall inform its Host Balancing Authority and the Transmission Operator of all generation resources available for use.
 - R1.2. Each Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall inform the Reliability Coordinator and other affected Balancing Authorities and Transmission Operators of all generation and transmission resources available for use.
- R2. Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall monitor applicable transmission line status, real and reactive power flows, voltage, load-tap-changer settings, and status of rotating and static reactive resources.
- R3. Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall provide appropriate technical information concerning protective relays to their operating personnel.
- R4. Each Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall have information, including weather forecasts and past load patterns, available to predict the system's near-term load pattern.
- R5. Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall use monitoring equipment to bring to the attention of operating personnel important deviations in operating conditions and to indicate, if appropriate, the need for corrective action.

***Mandatory BC effective date: April 15, 2013 per BCUC Order R-1-13**

Standard TOP-006-2 — Monitoring System Conditions

- R6.** Each Balancing Authority and Transmission Operator shall use sufficient metering of suitable range, accuracy and sampling rate (if applicable) to ensure accurate and timely monitoring of operating conditions under both normal and emergency situations.
- R7.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall monitor system frequency.

C. Measures

- M1.** The Generator Operator shall have and provide upon request evidence that could include but is not limited to, operator logs, voice recordings, electronic communications, or other equivalent evidence that will be used to confirm that it informed its Host Balancing Authority and Transmission Operator of all generation resources available for use. (Requirement 1.1)
- M2.** Each Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have and provide upon request evidence that could include but is not limited to, operator logs, voice recordings, electronic communications, or other equivalent evidence that will be used to confirm that it informed its Reliability Coordinator and other affected Balancing Authorities and Transmission Operators of all generation and transmission resources available for use. (Requirement 1.2)
- M3.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have and provide upon request evidence that could include but is not limited to, computer printouts or other equivalent evidence that will be used to confirm that it monitored each of the applicable items listed in Requirement 2.
- M4.** Each Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have and provide upon request evidence that could include but is not limited to, printouts, training documents, description documents or other equivalent evidence that will be used to confirm that it has weather forecasts and past load patterns, available to predict the system's near-term load pattern. (Requirement 4)
- M5.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have and provide upon request evidence that could include but is not limited to, a description of its EMS alarm capability, training documents, or other equivalent evidence that will be used to confirm that important deviations in operating conditions and the need for corrective actions will be brought to the attention of its operators. (Requirement 5)
- M6.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have and provide upon request evidence that could include but is not limited to, a list of the frequency monitoring points available to the shift-operators or other equivalent evidence that will be used to confirm that it monitors system frequency. (Requirement 7)

D. Compliance

1. Compliance Monitoring Process

1.1. Compliance Monitoring Responsibility

The British Columbia Utilities Commission

1.2. Compliance Monitoring and Reset Time Frame

***Mandatory BC effective date: April 15, 2013 per BCUC Order R-1-13**

Standard TOP-006-2 — Monitoring System Conditions

One or more of the following methods will be used to assess compliance:

- Self-certification (Conducted annually with submission according to schedule.)
- Spot Check Audits (Conducted anytime with up to 30 days notice given to prepare.)
- Periodic Audit (Conducted once every three years according to schedule.)
- Triggered Investigations (Notification of an investigation must be made within 60 days of an event or complaint of noncompliance. The entity will have up to 30 days to prepare for the investigation. An entity may request an extension of the preparation period and the extension will be considered by the Compliance Monitor on a case-by-case basis.)

The Performance-Reset Period shall be 12 months from the last finding of non-compliance.

1.3. Data Retention

Each Generator Operator shall keep 90 days of historical data (evidence) for Measure 1.

Each Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall keep 90 days of historical data (evidence) for Measure 2.

Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have current documents as evidence for Measure 3, 5 and 6.

Each Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have current documents as evidence of compliance to Measure 4.

If an entity is found non-compliant the entity shall keep information related to the noncompliance until found compliant or for two years plus the current year, whichever is longer.

Evidence used as part of a triggered investigation shall be retained by the entity being investigated for one year from the date that the investigation is closed, as determined by the Compliance Monitor,

The Compliance Monitor shall keep the last periodic audit report and all supporting compliance data

1.4. Additional Compliance Information

None.

Standard TOP-006-2 — Monitoring System Conditions

2. Violation Severity Levels:

| R# | Lower | Moderate | High | Severe |
|-----------|--------------|---|--|--|
| R1 | N/A | N/A | N/A | The responsible entity failed to know the status of all generation and transmission resources available for use, even though said information was reported by the Generator Operator, Transmission Operator, or Balancing Authority. |
| R1.1 | N/A | N/A | N/A | The Generator Operator failed to inform its Host Balancing Authority and the Transmission Operator of all generation resources available for use. |
| R1.2 | N/A | N/A | N/A | The responsible entity failed to inform the Reliability Coordinator and other affected Balancing Authorities and Transmission Operators of all generation and transmission resources available for use. |
| R2 | N/A | The responsible entity monitors the applicable transmission line status, real and reactive power flows, voltage, load-tap-changer settings, but is not aware of the status of rotating and static reactive resources. | The responsible entity fails to monitor all of the applicable transmission line status, real and reactive power flows, voltage, load-tap-changer settings, and status of all rotating and static reactive resources. | The responsible entity fails to monitor any of the applicable transmission line status, real and reactive power flows, voltage, load-tap-changer settings, and status of rotating and static reactive resources. |

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Standard TOP-006-2 — Monitoring System Conditions

| R# | Lower | Moderate | High | Severe |
|----|--|----------|---|---|
| R3 | The responsible entity failed to provide any of the appropriate technical information concerning protective relays to their operating personnel. | N/A | N/A | The responsible entity failed to provide all of the appropriate technical information concerning protective relays to their operating personnel. |
| R4 | N/A | N/A | The responsible entity has either weather forecasts or past load patterns, available to predict the system's near-term load pattern, but not both. | The responsible entity failed to have both weather forecasts and past load patterns, available to predict the system's near-term load pattern. |
| R5 | N/A | N/A | The responsible entity used monitoring equipment to bring to the attention of operating personnel important deviations in operating conditions, but does not have indication of the need for corrective action. | The responsible entity failed to use monitoring equipment to bring to the attention of operating personnel important deviations in operating conditions. |
| R6 | N/A | N/A | N/A | The responsible entity failed to use sufficient metering of suitable range, accuracy and sampling rate (if applicable) to ensure accurate and timely monitoring of operating conditions under both normal and emergency situations. |
| R7 | N/A | N/A | N/A | The responsible entity failed to monitor system frequency. |

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Standard TOP-006-2 — Monitoring System Conditions

E. Regional Variances

None identified.

Version History

| Version | Date | Action | Change Tracking |
|----------------|------------------|--|------------------------|
| 0 | April 1, 2005 | Effective Date | New |
| 0 | August 8, 2005 | Removed “Proposed” from Effective Date | Errata |
| 1 | November 1, 2006 | Adopted by Board of Trustees | Revised |
| 2 | | Modified R4 Modified M4 Modified Data Retention for M4 Replaced Levels of Non-compliance with the Feb 28, BOT approved Violation Severity Levels (VSLs) | Revised |
| 2 | October 17, 2008 | Adopted by NERC Board of Trustees | |
| 2 | March 17, 2011 | Order issued by FERC approving TOP-006-2 (approval effective 5/23/11) | |

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