



Hot Springs Montana

BPA Photo by: Joe Johnson

RELIABILITY MATTERS



March 2018

A Message From The Customer Service Reliability Program Supervisor

The BPA Customer Service Reliability Program (CSRP) is excited to once again provide you with its quarterly publication of Reliability Matters. These periodicals provide you with up-to-date information happening at BPA that have important customer impacts. For us, it's a chance to spotlight some of the area's that customers should be aware of.

2017 proved to be a very busy, yet productive year. BPA initiated its Transmission Operator (TOP) services program. CSRP has been working diligently on the Transmission Planner (TP) project as well and has made great strides in moving forward to provide services. BPA aims to have fully executed TP Coordinated Functional Registration (CFR) agreements in place in the 2018 year.

As we journey together in 2018, our focus remains steadfast on reliability and providing the best and most dependable customer service possible.

Recognizing that the industry continues to change around us, CSRP continues its commitment to deliver a high standard of customer service – reliability of the region is an important topic for all of us, and when it comes to reliability, we're all in this together!

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Industry Activity Events:

- Next WECC Open Mic –
 - April 19th
 - May 17th
 - June 21st

WECC CALENDAR [[LINK](#)]

Transmission Planner Update:

Throughout 2017, BPA has been moving forward with the Transmission Planner (TP) Coordinated Functional Registration (CFR) project. A CFR agreement is a contract between BPA and its customer(s) to bifurcate requirements where BPA has taken on most of the TP requirements and customers are responsible for a small subset of the TP requirements.

Through many meetings and discussions with customers, BPA has determined that many of the TP requirements lean heavily or rely entirely on existing BPA products. As a result, BPA has determined that the most sensible approach for achieving compliance for TP related standards and/or requirements is to offer CFR agreements to its qualifying (in our Planning Coordinator area) customers. The CFR will allow BPA and its customers to:

- Simplify the audit process by allowing either BPA or the customer to be accountable for individual reliability standards.
- Reduce the compliance burden for each of the entities involved in the CFR agreement.
- Limit the scope of compliance to the delineated responsibilities.

TP project information and TP CFR documents is provided at the following location [[LINK](#)].

NEXT STEPS:

Action	Responsibility	No later than
Receive draft TP CFR	Customers	3/29/2018
Create the CFRs in the NERC CFR Portal	BPA	4/6/2018
Approve draft TP CFR	Customers	4/12/2018
Post Draft Customer Implementation Plan	BPA	4/26/2018
Offer CFR Contract to participating Customers	BPA	5/16/2018
Execute CFR Contract	Customers	6/15/2018
Register in the NERC ERO Portal and request access to CFR Tool	Customers	6/15/2018
Submit Implementation Plan to WECC	Customers	6/18/2018
Register as a Transmission Planner with WECC	Customers	6/20/2018
Deliver draft version of the TPIP	BPA	6/29/2018
Reminder - Customer TP CFR Working Group Session	BPA/Customers	8/23/2018
Begin to implement the procedures and processes as defined in the CFR TPIP	BPA/Customers	8/20/2018

Annual Data Request MOD-032 & TPL-007:

With the start of the new year, the annual data request for new information to support compliance with MOD-032 and TPL-007 also begins again.

The Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) develops a series of power flow and dynamics simulation models which let BPA and its Customers to perform planning and operational reliability and economic studies needed to fulfill various North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and Tariff compliance obligations.

Pursuant to requirement R1 of TPL-007, BPA coordinates planning information for maintaining models and performing the study or studies needed to complete GMD Vulnerability Assessments.

Pursuant to requirement R1 of MOD-032-1, BPA established a set of common procedures for submitting data needed for developing the WECC interconnection planning models. [The BPA MOD-032 Model Data Requirements & Reporting Procedures document](#) outlines the data reporting procedures needed to support the development of power flow and dynamics simulation base case models in a manner compliant with MOD-032 that realistically simulate steady state and dynamic behavior of the transmission system.

The purpose of the Annual Data Exchange process is to ensure BPA planning models are built with accurate data to properly analyze and ensure the reliability of the interconnected transmission system. BPA, as a Planning Coordinator (PC), will create and manage a system modeling and analysis process in compliance with MOD-032 and TPL-007.

CSRP distributed the data request out to general customers on March 1, with a requested due date of March 31. Generator customers will receive the data request in the late March time frame.

All customers regardless of registration status are obligated to respond to the data request.

TOP Project:

Per the NERC Functional Model, the Transmission Operator (TOP) is responsible for the Real-time operating reliability under its purview which is referred to as the Transmission Operator Area. For nearly a decade, BPA's Reliability Program has been engaged with BPA SME's in the development of a TOP Services project where BPA would serve as the Transmission Operator for qualifying Transmission Owner customers.

Throughout 2017, BPA identified 12 utilities to whom TOP Agreements would be offered. Of the 12 Utilities, BPA has executed 10 contracts. One additional contract is expected to be completed this year.

ACTIVITIES:

In the process of coordinating work on TOP agreements, the Customer Service Reliability Program (CSR) team has been working collaboratively with its customers, Account Executives, Customer Service Engineers, and BPA's System Operations organizations to determine the specific equipment that will be covered by the TOP contracts. As a part of these activities, BPA completed a detailed analysis to clearly understand the scope of work and requirements involved. This process has been strengthened by holding a series working sessions to clearly identify impacted equipment and processes.

The TOPIC:

In order to provide BPA with the ability to carry out its TOP responsibilities, a Transmission Operator Integrated Compendium (TOPIC) was developed. The TOP processes and procedures in the TOPIC provide guidance for implementing and sustaining TOP services. Essentially, the TOPIC documents procedures necessary for BPA to carry out its TOP responsibilities as they relate to Customers' Bulk Electric System (BES) equipment. The TOPIC is available at the following location [[LINK](#)].

The TOPIC has been posted for a review/comment period – due April 28th.

Outreach & Next Steps:

- Documenting the TOP service BPA is providing, the annual TOP Service letters were sent out on March 30th. The TOP letter addresses BPA's compliance with NERC reliability standards as part of the BPA TOP Services project. Please note that the letter is in addition to and does not replace BPA's Annual System Review (ASR) letter.
- An all TOP Customer meeting will be scheduled in the 2018 summer timeframe. The meeting will be to discuss processes/procedures within the TOPIC and how they can be improved and discuss the coming year rates (cost allocation & cost reconciliation), changes in exhibits, and talk over any potential changes in BES equipment that would have impact on customers' equipment exhibit.

Industry News!

On February 26, the Bonneville Power Administration signed a letter of intent to explore receiving reliability coordinator (RC) services from the California Independent System Operator. CAISO announced in December that it would begin offering RC services outside of its footprint in September of 2019. The non-binding document enables BPA to participate in CAISO's stakeholder process as it forms its RC service, helping BPA to reduce potential seams issues between the federal transmission system and those transmission customers who use BPA's system to participate in that RC.



CSE Spotlight – Kevlyn Baker:

Kevlyn is one of many BPA's Customer Service Engineer's (CSE) located in Vancouver, WA. Kevlyn attended the University of Portland where she received an electrical engineering degree in 2010. Starting as an intern at BPA in 2008, Kevlyn worked in the Substation Design and Transmission Field Services organizations, after which she became a full time federal employee upon graduation.

Kevlyn is currently the CSE for Clark PUD, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and has recently taken on the CSE role for PacifiCorp. Her other responsibilities have included: being the Subject Matter Expert (SME) for metering loss adjustments, Small Generation Interconnection lead, and Non-Tariff Project lead.

Kevlyn was recently recognized and received an award for, "Outstanding Individual Performance" from the USBR, USACE, and BPA Joint Operating Committee and was part of the team for the KX26A 500/230 kV Emergency Transformer Replacement project in 2017.

Kevlyn is also a member of the Reliability Implementation Technical Subcommittee (RITS) team which is a joint Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) team that coordinates reliability issues impacted by the NERC reliability standards.

Congratulations Kevlyn on your 10 year anniversary with BPA!



2018 WECC Audit Schedule:

There a number of BPA customers currently listed on WECC's 2018 audit schedule [[LINK](#)]. CSRP stands ready to assist you with any compliance related documentation you may need. Please don't hesitate to ask.

ASR Success!

BPA has completed all the Annual System Review (ASR) letters for the 2017 year! Thirty-one customers participated in the 2017 ASR process. The CSRP team would like to thank all the BPA customers and the many CSE's involved in the process.

The ASR letter has been provided to customers since 2008, and has now become a smooth and seamless process due to the work and collaboration that takes place every year.

Due to the TOP Services BPA is now offering, one significant addition to this year's letters is the addition of Transmission Operator (TOP) requirements which directly address language as it relates to the TOP services project and referenced by the TOP contract number.



Meet the Customer Service Reliability Team:

- Lorissa Jones – Program Supervisor
- Denise Koehn – Reliability Standard(s) Owner
- Ken Lanhome – Critical Infrastructure Protection POC
- Donna Fields – Maintenance & Ownership POC
- Tom Daufaul – Annual System Review Letter(s) POC
- Debbie Miller – Planning Coordinator POC
- Chris Higgins – Transmission Operator POC
- Megan Walden – Customer Contract Support POC
- Cain Braveheart – NERC Reliability Standard(s) POC
- Alesia Crisman – Program Support