

Meeting Minutes

GADS Working Group (GADSWG)

November 12, 2015 | 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM ET
Conference call

Introduction and Chair's Remarks – Leeth DePriest introduced himself as the new Chair and Steve Wenke as the vice Chair of the Working Group.

NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines and Public Announcement – NERC GADSWG Coordinator Donna Pratt reviewed the Antitrust and Public Announcement Policies of NERC.

Agenda Items

1. **PAS approved Leeth as the Chair and Steve as the Vice Chair of the GADSWG.**
2. **New NERC GADSWG liaison/program coordinator:**
 - a. Margaret Pate introduced Donna Pratt as the new NERC liaison for the GADSWG
3. **PAS Update:**
 - a. PAS Chair Melinda Montgomery described PAS activities and made a request for new members. If interested, please contact Donna Pratt.
 - b. Current roster and scope are on the NERC website at:
[http://www.nerc.com/comm/PC/Pages/Performance-Analysis-Subcommittee-\(PAS\)-2013.aspx](http://www.nerc.com/comm/PC/Pages/Performance-Analysis-Subcommittee-(PAS)-2013.aspx)
4. **Wind DRI decision – Thursday, November 5th:**
 - a. The Board approved the Section 1600 data request for the Wind DRI.
5. **Change Orders:**
 - a. Lee Thaubald reported that NERC is reviewing a Change Order from OATI. The Change Order will eliminate the “A” and “B” values that were appended to cause codes and a few data validations have been added.
6. **2016 Data Reporting Instructions (DRI) update:**
 - a. Lee Thaubald reported that the 2016 DRI had been sent out to the Working Group for comments. Lee received some good comments for changes that require more discussion and they will be considered for next year's DRI.
 - i. There was a suggestion that the document be sent out earlier for review.
 - ii. The 2016 DRI will be posted in mid to late December.
 - b. Josh Collins of SERC raised another item for consideration in the next DRI: the reporting of behind-the-meter generators that are not tied to the BES

- i. This topic was suggested for further discussion at the March face-to-face meeting

7. Training sub-team update:

- a. Leeth DePriest announced that two GADS training sessions are planned for next year:
 - i. April in Atlanta, GA and June in Salt Lake City, UT.
 - ii. Objectives of the training are to improve cause code selection and descriptions to provide more accurate information for future analysis
 - iii. Leeth will take the lead on looking at how to integrate Southern Company's in-house GADS training examples with NERC's existing GADS training materials.
- b. Suggestion was made to put together an FAQ document
 - i. This will be added to the March face-to-face agenda
- c. A question was raised about how many people look at the GADS website and whether NERC can provide any website activity reports
 - i. This topic was suggested for further discussion at the March face-to-face meeting
 - (1) Margaret Pate will look into what web traffic statistics are available
- d. Lewis De La Rosa of TRE commented that there were opportunities for process improvements in the data submittal process and notifications from GADS
 - i. Lewis will circulate a document with ideas for improvements
- e. Wind training
 - i. Fred (Doc) Beasom reported that he estimates that there are approximately 15 hours of training to understand the reporting process
 - (1) He has developed an outline for the training, but there is a big time commitment needed to develop the materials
 - (2) There will need to be "train the trainer" sessions as well
 - (3) Mike Grimes from EDP Renewables will join Doc, Leeth, and Donna in the subgroup that will be developing the training
 - (a) Hourly calls once a week beginning in January

8. Other GADS Items

- a. Ron Fluegge provided feedback that GADS produces validation issues when creating capacity values which cause reporters to have to adjust the values to pass validation.
- b. Ken Millick of First Energy provided feedback on the process for reporting retired units and asked if there was a way to streamline the process.
- c. Ron Fluegge brought up the issue of not being able to report activities (e.g., retirements and commercial in-service dates) that occur in the middle of a month or middle of the year.

- d. Leeth DePriest recommended that the reporting of retired units be addressed first.
- e. Ken Millick initiated a discussion about Pumping and Service Condensing Hours being treated as Service Hours
 - i. There was considerable discussion on this topic
 - ii. This topic was suggested for further discussion at the March face-to-face meeting
- f. Josh Collins raised some issues related to use of GADS and the OATI system
 - i. Regional Entities currently need to pull reporting status, event data, performance, data and the unit metrics reports by individual company
 - (1) Regional Entities would like to have the ability to pull all companies in a region at one time
 - ii. The current process for Freeze Periods creates coordination issues between the Regional Entities and reporting companies, effectively limiting the Regional Entities' access to data to be every other month
 - (1) Would like NERC and OATI to find a way to improve this aspect of the reporting process

9. Q3 Data Submittal Issue:

- a. Denise Lam of FRCC and others reported that there is an issue with reporting third quarter data into GADS and duplicate records are being produced. The workaround proposed by OATI did not work for many companies.
 - i. A request was made to extend the reporting by one week so that the problem could be addressed and resolved.
 - (1) NERC agreed to extend the reporting period to November 20
 - (2) Denise agreed to participate in a call with OATI on Friday, November 13 to provide more information about the duplicate record problem
 - (3) Maggie Peacock asked that NERC specifically notify the Regional Entities when the deadline was extended because they don't always get the automatic notification when the deadline is changed in GADS

10. Topics for December call:

- a. Change Order update
- b. Wind training