

WECC UNSCHEDULED FLOW ADMINISTRATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE
Administrative Practice No. 002

**QUALIFIED PATH LOADING REQUIRED TO
REQUEST RELIEF OF UNSCHEDULED FLOW**

Background

The WSCC Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan, Attachment 1, Unscheduled Flow Reduction Procedure (Procedure) is silent on the minimum path loading at which a Qualified Path Operator may invoke the Procedure. This Procedure is intended to remedy the lack of guidance on this issue. Long standing practice, beginning with the Unscheduled Flow Reduction Procedure of July 1987, has been to allow requests for relief only when actual path loading has reached 97% of the Transfer Limit and the required level of USF accommodation has been reached. The 97% loading criterion, rather than 100%, was adopted as a practical solution to the inherent delay of the procedure in providing relief of line loading. If a Path Operator waits until the loading has reached 100% of the current Transfer Limit to request relief, path loading will inevitably exceed the capability before any relief can be attained.

Although the Procedure is silent on the minimum path loading at which the Procedure may be invoked, it uses 97% as the required loading level to satisfy the historical record of unscheduled flow for path qualification. During the first 4 Plan Years, UFAS recommended 97% of the Transfer Limit as the level above which a Qualified Path Operator could request unscheduled flow relief under the Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan. Following the inception of the WECC Reliability Management System, particularly sections pertaining to Transfer Path Overloads, UFAS recognized that the 97% threshold often failed to allow sufficient margin for the Path Operator to take actions and maintain compliance with the Transfer Path Overload criteria. The 3% margin afforded by the past practice is comparable to the magnitude of the USF fluctuation that typically occurs during a given hour; thus it has normally been insufficient to prevent Transfer Path limit violations from being experienced. Therefore, this Administrative Practice specifies 95% of the transfer limit as the threshold for initiation of USF relief under the Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan.

Procedure

Before invoking Step 3 or higher of the Unscheduled Flow Reduction Procedure, a Qualified Path Operator must ensure the following conditions are met:

1. The actual flow on the Qualified Path is equal to or greater than 95% of the current Transfer Limit.
2. The net schedule on the Qualified Path is less than the current Transfer Limit by at least the amount of the required Unscheduled Flow Accommodation level.

When the above conditions have been met, the Qualified Path Operator may request coordinated operation of controllable devices and request curtailment of Contributing Schedules as appropriate.

The Transfer Path Operator must notify Members via the WECC communications system to reduce or suspend contributing schedule curtailments when the actual flow on the Qualified Transfer Path is reduced below 92% of the Transfer Limit.

Approved by Unscheduled Flow Administrative Subcommittee: May 13, 1999

Approved by Operating Committee: September 16, 1999

