

Reliability Coordinator (RC) Forum

Meeting Agenda

June 12, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MT

Webinar

Web Conference [Link](#) | Dial-in Number: 1-415-655-0003, Attendee Access Code: 803 671 956

1. Welcome—Rich Hydzik

2. Review WECC Antitrust Policy—Steve Ashbaker

Link to the [WECC Antitrust Policy](#).

3. Update from May 15-16, RC-RC Coordination meetings

- Real-time data exchange (including PMU data)
- Outage Coordination
- ECC/WIT
- EMS Model maintenance and exchange
- Reliability Messaging Tools

4. Regional Standard/Regional Variance status update

5. Reliability Coordinator Transition in the Western Interconnection memo

6. Open Mic

Question and Answer

7. Next Meeting

- a. July 19, face to face in conjunction with Standing Committee meetings**



WESTERN ELECTRICITY COORDINATING COUNCIL
155 North 400 West, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, Utah 84103-1114

MEMO

Date: May 29, 2018
To: Western Interconnection Balancing Authorities and Transmission Operators
Subject: Reliability Coordinator (RC) Transition in the Western Interconnection

On May 24, 2018, Peak Reliability issued a communication describing its ongoing planning and budgeting for Reliability Coordination operations. NERC and WECC are closely monitoring the evolving RC situation, and we will continue to work closely with all current and prospective RCs and stakeholders to assure the reliability of the Bulk Power System (BPS) in the Western Interconnection.

The Reliability Coordinator is the highest level of authority in real-time operations of the BPS, and its performance is vital to ensuring a reliable BPS. Each of your companies is required by the Reliability Standards to interact with an RC in many important ways. Therefore, as your company makes decisions regarding obtaining RC services going forward, you must, both during and after the ongoing RC transition, continue to obtain services from a certified and registered RC.

We are aware that many entities have submitted revocable notices of withdrawal from Peak but have not yet committed to obtaining RC services following that withdrawal. Uncertainty benefits no one; gaining clarity as to the ultimate RC landscape in the West sooner rather than later will enable all of us to plan for any necessary transitions in this critical reliability function. We are encouraged by Peak's request for an indication of your direction so they can plan accordingly. In addition, we request that you inform WECC no later than September 4, 2018, regarding your plan to obtain RC services going forward so that we can adequately resource all certification activities.

NERC and WECC have important responsibilities and authorities, but the ultimate responsibility for the success of this transition lies with each of you. We appreciate your commitment to reliability and your efforts in these matters. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us with any questions.



Steven F. Goodwill
WECC Interim President and CEO



James B. Robb
NERC President and CEO



These notes are being provided for informational purposes only. These notes are not a formal record of the meeting and do not necessarily represent the statements or positions of WECC or other participants.

Update: WECC

- Both WECC and NERC have very specific authorities regarding reliability coordination, namely that entities are properly registered, RC functions are certified, and all TOPs and BAs have identified their respective Reliability Coordinator.
- As of May 7, 2018, WECC has received official notification from one entity wishing to be certified, CAISO.
- WECC follows the NERC Rules of Procedure [Appendix 5a](#) in establishing a certification team.
- WECC, along with industry, will be looking at the unique circumstances to determine if any new RC standards or variances to existing standards are needed. If this is the case, WECC will begin working on them quickly.

Update: CAISO

- Currently working on a four-track effort: rate design, working toward certification, onboarding, and system development tools and technology.
- Established internal RC work groups that include: Seams, Operations Planning, Real-Time Operations, Emergency Preparedness and Power Restoration, Data Exchange, Settlements, and Training.
- In the process of writing work plans and creating a dashboard for tracking their path to certification.

Update: PEAK

- Will maintain high quality RC services, including what is needed in the future as industry continues to change.
- Peak stated they are an advocate for situational awareness, with one RC, but acknowledge this is not the direction the Western Interconnection is headed.
- They will continue work to ensure wide-area views and awareness of the entire Interconnection through models, data, etc.; Peak believes Western Interconnection wide situational awareness is necessary for any RC in the West to be successful.
- Peak has divided RC services they currently provide into three buckets:
 - 1) Core RC Services

- 2) Optional services
- 3) Interconnections shared services.

Update: SPP

- Continue work with MWTG and others in the West who have signed a letter of intent to join their possible RC.
- Discussed their 20-years of RC experience in the Eastern U.S.; noted the similarities and differences between the East and the West.
- Working on an overall planning process, modeling, familiarity with WECC Standards, RC to RC agreements, and developing a project plan for certification.

Question and Answer

1. *Data sharing between RC's, what are the arrangements? What's the future of the Universal Sharing Agreement?*

PEAK: Have started RC discussions about data sharing.

CAISO: Thinks UDSA can facilitate multiple RC's and multiple owners and signatories.

SPP: They will participate in UDSA as necessary.

2. *Network to Western Interconnection, is it possible to have an independent data warehouse?*

CAISO: Would be in favor of an independent warehouse, more of a long-term option.

PEAK: Agrees the consortium concept makes sense. Lots to be settled and understood.

Reliable first, and then figure out the right way to manage shared tools.

SPP: Open to different options.

Follow-up question: recommend WECC create a working group for EMS and RAS to follow the work groups created to solve issues that could impact reliability.

CAISO: In support of working groups as they continue forward and/or develop.

PEAK: Not in agreement to have WECC support a work group. PEAK already has an RC forum that could accommodate this work.

SPP: Support a sub-group to support the information.

3. *Has WECC had any outreach to the Eastern Interconnection?*

WECC: Yes, we have been in contact with other regional entities.

4. *Is Alberta involved in discussions? Is there going to be a joint meeting?*

CAISO: Yes, Alberta is part of the group meetings CAISO has been having.

5. *Regarding the RC certification process, will WECC know what BAs are within an individual RCs footprint?*

WECC: Yes. The RC is certified for a specific footprint that clearly identifies the BAs and TOPs within that footprint.

6. *Can WECC commit to having technical sessions? Feels like a lot of unknowns around tools, modeling etc.*

WECC: Content to continue hosting the RC forum, perhaps one per month and adjust up/down as needed.

7. *What are the feelings about use of an Interconnection-wide model and the impact of Remedial Action Scheme (RAS)?*

CAISO: They are onboard with west wide model/starting to model RAS – in support
PEAK: In favor of modeling Western Interconnection. If needed to come up with some criteria which ones to model, ones that are impactful. Issues in east/West.

SPP: In support of west wide model.

8. *Is there any concern about the possibility of non-continuous footprints within individual RC's?*

WECC: Internally we have discussed this issue and believe an RC would need to demonstrate how it would not cause reliability issues.

SPP: Have dealt with this issue before, emphasized the importance of RC Coordination. It relates back to the need for consistent modeling.

CAISO: Agrees that consistent modeling is necessary as well as cooperation between RC's.

PEAK: SEAMS issues create more “overhead” to make sure everything up and executed properly.