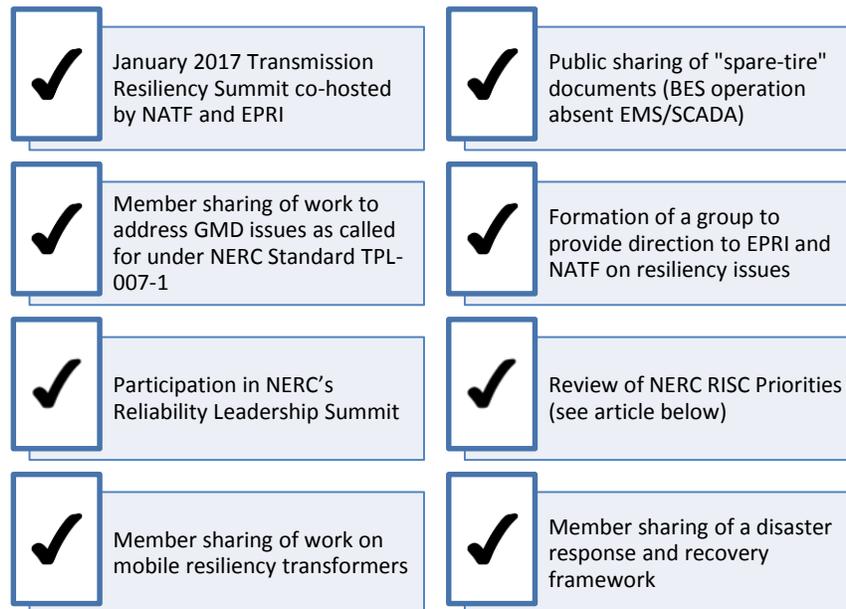


North American Transmission Forum External Newsletter

June 2017

NATF Resiliency Work Ongoing

Resiliency continues to be a focus area for the North American Transmission Forum (NATF). Our members continually work to harden their systems and improve response/recovery processes and capabilities. The NATF shares information both internally and externally and coordinates with other organizations to leverage expertise and efficiencies. Here are some examples:



Recent external-sharing efforts include [public postings](#) of "spare-tire" documents mentioned above and a coordination meeting with the Electric Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC)—the organization that posed the question, "How would we operate the Bulk Electric System (BES) if both primary and backup control center capabilities were lost?"

The NATF's "Bulk Electric Systems Operations absent Energy Management System and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Capabilities - a Spare Tire Approach" document, posted to the NATF public site in June, discusses the results of an assessment of operating strategies and reliability tools present for BES operations during such events and identifies future areas of industry work and research to better enable operations during scenarios where there is a total loss of EMS/SCADA capability.

RISC Priorities

The NATF is currently reviewing [RISC Priorities](#)—developed by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC)—to identify where and how it can offer support and leadership. Logical candidate topics for NATF involvement include asset management, human



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performance and skilled workforce, and resiliency. As we align on activities to pursue, we'll incorporate into our operational and business plans. A key aspect of this effort will be coordination with other industry organizations to limit duplication of effort.

NATF Program Overview: Assistance

In the NATF Assistance Program, NATF staff and subject-matter experts help member companies develop action plans to improve on selected topics or issues to promote operational excellence.

Engagement options and offerings include on-site and virtual "assistance visits," surveys, discussion boards, challenge boards, and group webinars to share and gather experiences. Topics currently being addressed with members include:

- Relay misoperation rates
- Cyber and physical security
- Switching, tagging, and clearances
- Cause analysis
- Safety
- Internal controls and risk assessment

Each of the options results in information, including lessons learned, being shared with the broader membership.

Long-Range Operational Plan

NATF members approved the "NATF 2017–2021 Long-Range Operational Plan" in June. The plan establishes proposed NATF activities and resource requirements for the next five years. The NATF plans to continue its current activities (e.g., peer reviews, practices, assistance, training, metrics, reliability initiatives, and operating experience sharing) and external coordination, with increased focus on addressing issues and risks related to the scope and pace of electric-industry change.

NERC Compliance Implementation Guidance

NERC recently approved the "NATF CIP-014-2 Requirement R1 Guideline" as "Compliance Implementation Guidance." The NATF document provides information on performing initial and subsequent risk assessments of transmission stations and substations that if rendered inoperable or damaged could result in instability, uncontrolled separation, or cascading within an interconnection.

The document is an update to our previous version, which was also endorsed by NERC as Implementation Guidance, to account for the change in standard from CIP-014-1 to CIP-014-2.

The document is posted on the NATF [public documents](#) and NERC [compliance guidance](#) pages.

Workshops

NATF practices groups hold annual workshops. Recent and upcoming activities include:

- Control Center Workshop (March)
- NATF-NERC Human Performance Workshop (March)
- Joint Compliance/Security Practices Workshop (May)

- System Protection Practices Workshop (May)
- Transmission-Nuclear Power Plant Interface Practices Workshop (May)
- Joint NATF-NERC Modeling Workshop (June)
- Metrics Face-to-Face Meeting (June)

New Overview Video



We recently posted a new overview video about the NATF on our [public website](#). The video explains our programs, highlights our mission and vision, and features testimonials from current members. Our members also provided the footage.