

North American Transmission Forum External Newsletter

April 2019

NATF Posts Document to Assist Industry with PRC-026-1 Tools

The NATF has posted the “Relay Performance During Stable Power Swings (PRC-026-1) Evaluation Tools Reference Document” to our [public website](#) for industry use.

NERC Reliability Standard PRC-026-1, “Relay Performance During Stable Power Swings,” requires utilities to evaluate the performance of various load-responsive protective relays in response to stable power swings during non-fault conditions. Impedance-based relays are evaluated against a power swing region defined by the standard. This evaluation is unlike any analysis currently performed when setting most impedance-based relays. Thus new power swing analysis functions are needed within commercial protection system analysis tools, or utilities must develop custom calculators using general-purpose spreadsheets or engineering calculation software.

This document lists functional attributes for either type of tool. Tool developers may reference this list when developing software requirements specifications.

NATF and NERC Sign Updated MOU

NATF President and CEO Tom Galloway and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) President and CEO Jim Robb recently signed an updated memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two organizations. The MOU is designed to facilitate collaboration and leverage respective and collective strengths to identify existing and emerging risks, prioritize actions, and implement mitigation strategies to advance the reliability, resilience, and security of the Bulk Power System.

“The NATF and NERC recognize the importance of efficient and effective coordination and collaboration in this time of unprecedented industry change,” said Galloway. “This MOU will support our shared goals of identifying and addressing risks and advancing reliability, resilience, and security objectives.”

NATF, NERC, and DOE Conduct Joint Human Performance Conference

The NATF, NERC, and the Department of Energy (DOE) collaborated on a [human performance conference](#) March 26–28 in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference brought together experts in a cooperative forum to share best practices at the organizational, process, and individual levels to help improve human performance on the Bulk Power System.

NATF Partners with EPRI and NERC on Resiliency Summit

The NATF, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and NERC conducted a resiliency summit April 3–4 in Charlotte, North Carolina. The summit focused on grid security emergency preparation and response; incident command structure; emergency communications; blackstart and critical load restoration; and actions to address cyber security, physical security, and EMP threats. The collaborative effort addressed the 2018 Reliability Issues

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Steering Committee (RISC) [report](#) recommendation to conduct a comprehensive workshop related to risk profile 7: Extreme Natural Events.

NATF CEO Participates in FERC-DOE Security Technical Conference

NATF President and CEO Tom Galloway participated in the March 28 “Security Investments for Energy Infrastructure” technical conference co-hosted by the DOE and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The conference was designed to “discuss current cyber and physical security practices used to protect energy infrastructure” and “explore how federal and state authorities can provide incentives and cost recovery for security investments in energy infrastructure, particularly the electric and natural gas sectors.”

Galloway served on panel 1 (“Cyber and Physical Security, Best Practices, and Industry and Government Engagement”) and emphasized NATF resiliency and security activities; the NATF’s all-hazards approach to resiliency, which includes cyber and physical security; and the importance of coordination among the electric industry, other industries, and government.

Workshops and Meetings

In addition to regular web conferences, NATF working groups hold annual workshops and in-person meetings. Recent and upcoming activities include:

- NERC-NATF-DOE Human Performance Conference and Workshops (March)
- NATF-EPRI-NERC Transmission Resiliency Summit (April)
- Compliance Practices Workshop (May)
- Metrics Working Group Annual Face-to-Face Meeting (May)
- System Protection Workshop (May)
- Joint NATF-NERC-EPRI Planning and Modeling Workshop (June)

Redacted Operating Experience Reports

Since our last newsletter, we have posted three reports to our [public site](#) for members and other utilities to use internally and share with their contractors to help improve safety, reliability, and resiliency.

For more information about the NATF, please visit www.natf.net.