

# North American Transmission Forum External Newsletter

January 2019

## TPL-001-4 Reference Document Posted for Industry

The NATF has posted version 3.0 of the “NATF TPL-001-4 Reference Document” to our [public website](#) for the benefit of the industry. The document provides guidance regarding the use of consistent, industry-wide approaches to certain topics in NERC standard TPL-001-4. The goal of sharing this information externally is to support responsible Transmission Planners and Planning Coordinators with the various transmission system planning analyses as called for under TPL-001-4, thus enhancing the reliable planning and operation of the entire Bulk Electric System.

## NATF CEO Testifies on Blackstart at Senate Committee Hearing

NATF President and CEO Tom Galloway served on a panel of experts and provided testimony during the October 11 [Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing on blackstart](#). In his written testimony, Galloway noted the significant industry efforts to preserve high levels of grid reliability and resiliency and improve restoration from broad-scope outages, including educating the industry and regulators on resiliency threats, hardening the bulk power system, ensuring adequacy of key spares, augmenting mutual aid, enhancing restoration planning, conducting comprehensive drills and exercises, and increasing coordination with cross-sector (e.g., gas and water) and governmental entities.

## 2018 External Coordination Highlights

An important aspect of the NATF value proposition is to foster efficient use of industry resources. To that end, the NATF interfaces with industry partners and regulatory agencies through meetings and conferences; shares documents with the industry via its public website; conducts joint workshops with select organizations; and coordinates or supports industry initiatives on key reliability and resiliency topics.

Examples in 2018 included:

- [Inverter-Based Resource Webinar Series](#) (March–June)
  - Hosted with NERC<sup>1</sup>, EPRI<sup>2</sup>, and the UVIG<sup>3</sup>
- [Joint NERC/NATF Human Performance Conference and Workshops](#) (March)
- Joint NATF-EPRI resiliency summit
- [NERC-NATF-EPRI 2018 Power System Modeling Conference](#) (June)
- Continued work with EPRI on equipment performance
- New MOU with the Utilities Technology Council to coordinate on topics of mutual interest and benefit
- Report to the Department of Energy related to a Grid Security Emergency (GSE)
  - Communication between the DOE and the electricity subsector after the declaration of a GSE

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<sup>1</sup> North American Electric Reliability Corporation

<sup>2</sup> Electric Power Research Institute

<sup>3</sup> Utility Variable-Generation Integration Group

- Suggested criteria for declaring a GSE related to a geomagnetic disturbance<sup>4</sup>
- Emergency operations and waivers associated with issuance of a GSE order
- NATF CEO participation in government/industry meetings
  - [July 31 FERC technical conference](#) regarding the Bulk-Power System
  - [Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing on blackstart](#)
  - Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC)
- Posting of reliability [documents](#) for the benefit of the industry on relevant topics
  - EMS external modeling
  - Supply chain cyber security
  - Distributed energy resources
  - Physical security plans
  - Software integrity
  - Vendor remote access
  - Transmission planning
  - Redacted operating experience (safety)

## Joint Resiliency Summit (NATF, EPRI, and NERC)

The NATF will conduct a spring 2019 resiliency summit with EPRI and NERC. The summit, slated for April 2-4 in Charlotte, North Carolina, will focus on restoration, including blackstart. The joint offering will address the 2018 Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC) [report](#) recommendation to conduct a comprehensive workshop related to risk profile 7. More information will be distributed in early 2019.

## 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.

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For more information about the NATF, please visit [www.natf.net](http://www.natf.net).

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<sup>4</sup> Criteria for other GSEs to follow in subsequent phases