DTS Members –

Very few comments were actually received for the courses delivered in the second half of 2014. Of those that we did receive, nearly \( \frac{1}{4} \) were in reference to the GEN/OPS series, which is being retired at the end of December 2014. So this discussion will focus on changes/improvements that PJM has already implemented, based on comments received, and a selection of comments that may merit further discussion.

Changes Already Made to Existing Programs:

1. Extended the GOF course from 4 days to 5, beginning with the January 2015 Delivery. Our initial delivery clearly showed that 4 days was too compressed a time schedule.

2. Scheduled the GOF deliveries (and the FOTO deliveries) so that they closely follow sessions of Power System Fundamentals. This will allow those operators who need the fundamentals review to attend it close to the time when they start the GOF/FOTO series.

Participant Comments Worth Discussing:

1. I liked the way, in this course, subjects are covered by different presenters. It is nice to get a mix of presenters in a given course to change the atmosphere during the course which kept me more focussed.

   With the changes in the way PJM is structuring their courses, this becomes easier to do. (At least for longer courses.) We alternate instructors for in-person sessions for exactly the reason stated above. For FOTO and GOF we did the same thing for the online sessions. Should we extend that philosophy to all online training?

2. Word test questions better, very confusing and lead to missing questions I shouldn't have.
We continue to struggle to hit the “sweet spot” with our questions. Recognizing that we will never make everyone happy, there are improvements that can be made. Perhaps more Peer Reviewers can help us weed out the bad questions.

3. There were a few comments from both the FOTO and GOF courses that suggest PJM make changes to those courses to make it easier for the attendees to pass the appropriate PJM Certification Exam.

Both FOTO and GOF are geared to cover all the common tasks on the applicable Operator Task Lists. Since the Certification exams are also based on the task lists, these courses are an invaluable aid to passing those exams. However, neither course should be considered an exam “prep course”. As the exam developer, PJM is strictly prohibited from offering a prep course for our own exam. The Initial training programs for both Transmission Owner and Generation Operators are both geared to cover the common tasks on the task lists—nothing more or less. It should be made clear to your operators that additional studying beyond attending these courses should be considered prior to taking the exam. (i.e. - Review of PJM Manuals)