PJM Compliance Bulletin

CB014 Definition of Bulk Electric System (BES) – PJM Member Notifications

Purpose
The purpose of this Compliance Bulletin (CB) is to describe the process PJM members use to notify PJM of a Bulk Electric System (BES) status change of an element as a result of the application of the revised definition of the BES effective July 1, 2014. This CB provides guidance on how to make the notifications to PJM when:

1. a change to the BES status of an element is determined as a result of the application of the revised definition of the BES.
2. a PJM member files an exception request to appropriate regulatory entities.
3. a PJM member receives a decision on a filed exception request.

Background
In 2012 and 2013, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) through orders 773 and 773-A approved the NERC-filed definition of the BES to be applied uniformly for all Regional Entities. The definition focuses on equipment rated 100 kV or higher to establish key elements and equipment in the transmission (Bulk Electric) system. In this definition, radial components of the system are excluded, provided they meet the required criteria. The definition also accommodates the inclusion of equipment rated below 100 kV.

The BES definition including the exception process can be found publicly on the NERC website at: [http://www.nerc.com/pa/RAPA/Pages/BES.aspx](http://www.nerc.com/pa/RAPA/Pages/BES.aspx). FERC approved effective date for the BES Definition was July 1, 2013. However, NERC filed a motion to extend the effective date of BES Definition to July 1, 2014 to address the modifications FERC directed in orders 773 and 773-A. FERC approved this motion on June 26, 2013. Registered Entities are to apply the definition of the BES to their asset inventory beginning July 1, 2014 and utilize a 24 month implementation period to effect an orderly transition where all Elements and Facilities necessary for the reliable operation and planning of the interconnected bulk power system are included in the BES by July 1, 2016.

Notification Process for PJM Members

PJM Manual 03A: Energy Management System Model Updates and Quality Assurance describes the specific processes and procedures for updating and verifying the PJM EMS model that contains all monitored BES facilities within the PJM footprint. This Manual describes member responsibilities with respect to type, quality, and specifications of modeling data that members need to provide PJM to keep the PJM EMS model current. PJM Manual 3A is publicly available on the PJM website at: [http://www.pjm.com/~/media/documents/manuals/m03a.ashx](http://www.pjm.com/~/media/documents/manuals/m03a.ashx)
Manual 03A, Energy Management System Model Updates and Quality Assurance, Appendix C: Bulk Electric System (BES) Definition Implementation at PJM contains the definition for a BES facility. PJM Manual 03A Appendix C states:

“All transmission facilities operated by PJM fall within one of two NERC Regional Entities - ReliabilityFirst or SERC Reliability Corporation. In 2013, NERC approved a definition of the Bulk Electric System (BES) to be applied uniformly for all Regional Reliability Organizations. The definition focuses on equipment rated 100 kV or higher to establish key elements and equipment in the transmission (Bulk Electric) system. In this definition, radial components of the system are excluded, provided they meet the required criteria. The definition also accommodates the inclusion of equipment rated below 100 kV which may impact through transmission components of the electric system. Transmission Owners are responsible for defining BES elements for their systems, as well as, any exclusions or inclusions. To comply with NERC standards, these key elements must be identified and appropriately monitored. As such, each Transmission Owner should notify PJM if any existing elements have been excluded, or any new elements have been included, in its transmission area. In most, but not all, cases, PJM will model these elements explicitly to determine whether the equipment is in service (status) or that thermal loading or voltage levels deviate from recommended limits.”

While PJM intends to automate the notification process, in the interim Members should notify PJM by emailing the Data Management Subcommittee Officers Group distribution list DMS_Officers@pjm.com and Regional_Compliance@pjm.com when

1. a change to the BES status of an element is determined as a result of the application of the revised definition of the BES.
2. a PJM member files an exception request to appropriate regulatory entities.
3. a PJM member receives a decision on a filed exception request.

While PJM does not require a specific format for the notification, PJM members can, where applicable, use the PJM Transmission Providers Facilities List to notify PJM. This is the list that PJM sends annually to applicable members for verification of transmission facilities. PJM may require additional information once a notification is received and will contact the PJM Member directly.

**Conclusion**

The BES Definition will become effective July 1, 2014. Each PJM Member needs to notify PJM of a BES status change of an element as a result of the application of the revised definition of the BES effective July 1, 2014. Additionally, PJM will require all Members to notify PJM of any exception requests that are filed with appropriate regulatory entities as described above.
## Development History

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| **Reason for Change:** | This is a newly developed document. |