



NERC/RF Request (Blackstart Study)

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NERC Compliance

Recommendation #3 from the [FERC WSE Inquiry Report](#)

- **A joint NERC-Regional Entity team, collaborating with FERC staff, should study the overall availability and readiness of blackstart units to operate during cold weather conditions. This study should cover all portions of the U.S. not already studied, and should incorporate existing literature, studies, reports, and other analyses as to the availability and readiness of black start units. The scope of the study should include:**
 - an evaluation of existing blackstart restoration plans, including a review of potential single points of failure related to natural gas system dependence;
 - an evaluation of the sufficiency of existing blackstart availability, readiness, and testing criteria, including whether unscheduled, unannounced, or criteria-based testing (e.g., those used in ERCOT) would improve reliability during cold weather events; the need for ensuring that generating units with dual-fuel capability providing blackstart service have appropriate fuel storage (as determined by the Balancing Authority);
 - the need to require blackstart generators to test their fuel switching capabilities seasonally;
 - the need to require additional fuel storage due to import constraints;
 - the need for Transmission Operators to incorporate generating units' cold weather preparations into the qualification process for certifying generators as blackstart units; and,
 - any other subject areas identified as areas of substantial interest or concern in the report issued as a result of ongoing efforts to study blackstart unit availability and readiness in ERCOT

- NERC in conjunction with the Regions will be doing a Blackstart Study for the Eastern and Western Interconnections. The review will include the following:
 - Review the Blackstart Plans and talk with the RCs
 - Work with and talk to TOPs/TOs in the plan
 - Talk GOs/GOPs identified in the plans
 - Talk with Gas Suppliers for beginning to finish of the gas processes
- 5/1/2024, RF's request for Member TO Blackstart plans

- PJM intends to cooperate fully in this inquiry and will respond to data/information requests of Reliability First and/or SERC as the NERC Regional Entities for the PJM footprint relating to this effort (Requests).
- PJM will respond to the requesters by furnishing any necessary Member confidential information relating to Recommendation 3, which includes, but may not be limited to, PJM Member Blackstart Plans.
 - Member TO Blackstart Plans will be submitted to RF on 5/21/2024.

Note: PJM is providing this notice to affected entities consistent with Operating Agreement, section 18.17.1(b)(iii), after having determined that the release of this information to NERC and any Applicable Regional Entities is required to enhance and/or maintain reliability, and in light of NERC Rules of Procedure, sections 1501 (Confidential Information) and 1502 (Protection of Confidential Information), as approved by FERC.

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