



AESO Reliability Standards Monthly Report

March 2009

TOP-005-1 - Operational Reliability Information IRO-005-1 - Reliability Coordination – Current-Day Operations

Purpose:

Request for Interpretation.

Standards:

Manitoba Hydro requests an interpretation of the meaning of the term “degraded/degradation” as used in NERC Standards TOP-005-1 and IRO-005-1 and specifically, whether a Special Protection System that is operating with only one communication channel in service would be considered “degraded” for the purposes of these standards.

Request and Interpretation:

Manitoba Hydro requests an interpretation of the meaning of the term “degraded/degradation” as used in NERC Standards TOP-005-1 and IRO-005-1 and specifically, whether a Special Protection System that is operating with only one communication channel in service would be considered “degraded” for the purposes of these standards.

The NERC response:

The TOP-005-1 standard does not provide, nor does it require, a definition for the term “degraded.”

The IRO-005-1 (R12) standard implies that degraded is a condition that will result in a failure of an SPS to operate as designed. If the loss of a communication channel will result in the failure of an SPS to operate as designed, then the Transmission Operator would be mandated to report that information. On the other hand, if the loss of a communication channel will not result in the failure of the SPS to operate as designed, then such a condition can be, but is not mandated to be reported.

To request a formal definition of the term degraded, the Reliability Standards Development Procedure requires the submittal of a Standards Authorization Request.

Applicability:

Transmission Operators, Balancing Authorities, Reliability Coordinators, Purchasing Selling Entities, Transmission Service Providers, Generator Operators, Load-Serving Entities.

Current Status:

The interpretation was posted for pre-ballot review until March 30, 2009. The AESO cast an affirmative ballot on the NERC interpretation. There were negative votes with comments, so the interpretation will go to a recirculation ballot after NERC considers all the comments received.

NERC Link:

[Operational Reliability Information & Reliability Coordination – Current-Day Operations](#)