



AESO Reliability Standards Monthly Report

March 2010

TOP-001-1 – Reliability Responsibilities and Authorities

Purpose:

Florida Municipal Power Pool request for interpretation.

Standard:

The standard was approved by the NERC Board of Trustees on November 1, 2006.

Request:

For Requirement R8 is the Balancing Authority responsibility to immediately take corrective action to restore Real Power Balance and is the TOP responsibility to immediately take corrective action to restore Reactive Power Balance?

NERC Interpretation:

The answer to both questions is yes. According to the NERC Glossary of Terms Used in Reliability Standards, the Transmission Operator is responsible for the reliability of its "local" transmission system, and operates or directs the operations of the transmission facilities. Similarly, the Balancing Authority is responsible for maintaining load-interchange-generation balance, i.e., real power balance. In the context of this requirement, the Transmission Operator is the functional entity that balances reactive power. Reactive power balancing can be accomplished by issuing instructions to the Balancing Authority or Generator Operators to alter reactive power injection. Based on NERC Reliability Standard BAL-005-1b Requirement R6, the Transmission Operator has no requirement to compute an Area Control Error (ACE) signal or to balance real power. Based on NERC Reliability Standard VAR-001-1 Requirement R8, the Balancing Authority is not required to resolve reactive power balance issues. According to TOP-001-1 Requirement R3, the Balancing Authority is only required to comply with Transmission Operator or Reliability Coordinator instructions to change injections of reactive power.

Applicability:

Balancing Authority, Distribution Provider, Transmission Operator, Generator Operator, Load Serving Entity

Current Status:

The interpretation was posted for ballot until March 16. The interpretation was approved by the ballot body on the initial ballot.

NERC Link:

[Reliability Responsibilities and Authorities RFI](#)