

Advanced Network Protector Initiative Webex Call/Meeting

4/25/07

Attendees:

JP: Jose Palomo, CEC
MV: Mohammad Vaziri, PG&E
CW: Chuck Whitaker, BEW Engineering
DL: Dana Levy, NYSERDA
MT: Mark Torpey, NYSERDA
JBz: John Bzura, National Grid (NY, MA)
FC: Fran Cummings, MTC
ML: Meg Lusardi, Massachusetts DOER
JB: Jim Bing, New Energy Options
DR: Dan Rastler, EPRI
BS: Bill Steely, EPRI

JP: Meeting opened with introductions by host CEC.

JB: Presentation of historical background to the Massachusetts DG Collaborative's Advanced Network Protector initiative.

--Described objective of advancing acceptance of DG interconnection on secondary distribution networks while maintaining current high standard of safety and reliability. Initiative seeks consensus development effort, collaborative funding effort, stakeholder participation, prototype development and testing.

--Described Network Protector Enabled Generation (NPEG) concept.

--Described MTC funded research conducted by Bill Feero, resulting in May 18, 2005 GSA Williams Building report and draft RFP in June 2005 DG Collaborative report.

--Described concept presentation to IEEE 1547.6 Working Group in 2/2007.

--Described Multi State Approach: shared funding, R&D distributed across states, national markets and agenda.

Open discussion re next steps:

MV: Suggested that a concept something like this is necessary for forward motion on interconnections to networks.

JP: Agreed with objective.

JBz: Mentioned the di minimis solution already in place in MA: interconnection permitted if DG less than 1/15 of facility minimum load. Estimated that completion and ratification of 1547.6 may be ~1.5 years in the future.

DR: Asked will 1547.6 provide technology solutions?

JBz: Says that several solutions, such as the di minimis criteria, are already under discussion in the working group. Said that IEEE 1547.6 expects/anticipates that manufacturers will develop other (hardware?) methods for interconnection.

MV: Said that 1547.6 discussions are now defining the problem. If we can identify the problem we can get manufacturers to solve the problem.

DL: Noted that NYSERDA was very interested in this issue and already has a PON out seeking proposals. (Mark Torpey is NYSERDA point person on this issue. Second round proposals due Nov. 1.) Would require a significant NY component, either utility or NP manufacturer. Asked where NP manufacturers are based. (Eaton Cutler-Hammer in PA; Richards Manufacturing in NJ. Either/both may have NY manufacturing facilities.) Pointed out that ConEd, nation's largest network, was not represented. Recommended contacting Damian Sciano (212-460-1154) and Patrick Duggin (212-460-4020) at ConEd. Latter heads ConEd's "Third Generation Grid" project.

JBz: Said he would reach out to ConEd senior protection engineer, Dan Sammon.

DR: Said that EPRI was very interested and that they could bring insight regarding stakeholder interest from their membership and from research being done internationally (EU & Japan).

MV/JP: Discussed interest in providing a field installation. Also discussed a research type facility installation for iterative testing, such as the PG&E San Ramon (DUI) facility. MV recommended doing a field installation in a "active" network to gain experience with a real network.

JB: Offered to draft a white paper based on present state of development of the initiative.

JP: Said that CEC was strongly inclined to support the initiative provided significant CA component. Said that he could commit to R&D funding and possibly to project management support. Requested practical next steps, which Massachusetts offered to initiate (see first draft with these meeting notes).

DL: Noted that part of the preliminary work should be researching benchmark funding levels.

Call closed with general agreement that work discussed on the call should continue and that additional call(s) will be helpful to continue coordination.