

June 13, 2007

Conference Call: Network Protector Enabled Generation (NPEG)

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

MB: Martin Baier, Eaton
TK: Tom Kenny, Eaton
JP: Jose Palomo, CEC
MV: Mohammad Vaziri, PG&E
ML: Meg Lusardi, Massachusetts DOER
DR: Dan Rastler, EPRI
BS: Bill Steely, EPRI
FC: Fran Cummings, MTC
DL: Dana Levy, NYSERDA
MT: Mark Torpey, NYSERDA
JB: Jim Bing, New Energy Options

Power Point Presentation:

The meeting started with a summary of the research conducted to date under Massachusetts Technology's DG Collaborative. The presentation recounted the objectives of the initiative, the history of the research work done under the MTC DG Collaborative, and the core technical concepts. It went on to describe the present state of the NPEG initiative, noting what had been accomplished to date, what the major obstacles appear to be, and suggestions about how best to proceed (see attached MTC-NEO NPEG 070613.ppt). At this point in the presentation representatives of state research funding organizations –CEC, NYSERDA, MTC-- spoke about their current and upcoming programs that support research in this area.

JP: Jose explained that the CEC is moving forward with work in this area and will engage a local utility in an effort that will eventually results in a demonstration project in one of the local network grids.

DR: Dan Rastler asked if it would make sense to precede any state level research with the development of some form of high level performance specification and the identification of stakeholders.

JP: Jose agreed that developing the details of this specification document would be an appropriate first step. He said that should be followed by a second, system specific work plan, and indicated that this is the route that CEC would consider taking in their program.

JB: Jim Bing said that MTC had authorized his company, New Energy Options, (NEO) to provide support to any of the states, utilities or other stakeholders in the form of technical summaries, consultation, or coordination services until the end of its present MTC contract. For the next several months NEO will be available in that capacity.



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DL: Dana Levy gave a brief history of NYSERDA's DG program with particular emphasis on the CHP projects. He noted that they frequently located in dense urban area which are often served by secondary network distribution systems.

MT: Mark Torpey went on to greater detail regarding some of NYSERDA program objectives citing a recent award to ConEd and American Superconductor aimed at enhancing the asset utilization of some of ConEd substation. He noted that the technology being discussed in this forum was consistent with the goals of that program and suggested the parallels to some elements of ConEd's "Third Generation Network" program. He said that a project funded under their guidelines would have to be conducted in collaboration with a New York utility.

DR: Dan Rastler asked if NEO could draft that high level specification.

FC: Fran Cummings endorsed the idea and instructed Jim to produce the specification, and as part of the deliverable, sketch out a work plan.

DR: Dan recommended the idea of a technical webcast as a means of collaboration.

MV: Mohammad Vaziri pointed out that in California only PG&E and SMUD had secondary networks (check this detail). To complement their research Mo wanted to have input from other utilities and ask for an inventory of companies that had major secondary network distribution.

FC: Fran asked if another conference call like this one would be appropriate before the next IEEE 1547.6 meeting that will take place on August 7th and 8th. All in attendance seem to agree that it would be beneficial. August 1st at the same time as this meeting (11:00am PDT/2:00pm EDT) was selected. Jose offer to host the webex conference call again.

JP: Jose requested that the participant act as technical evaluator for the periodic reports that would be produced under the CEC program.

JB: Jim offered to contact Dan Sammon, Patrick Duggan and others at ConEd.

FC: Fran said that we will extend a welcome to Nstar.

MT: Mark asked to be a party to calls with ConEd, as did Dan Rastler and Bill Steely of EPRI.

JB: Jim agreed to compile and circulate the meeting minutes and the presentation. He will follow up with the people on the distribution list who were unable to be on the call. Jim will move forward with the high level specification and deliver that in advance of the August 1st call.

Introductions:

- New participants: Utilities, network protector manufacturers, Federal agencies/National Labs
- Recap of April 25 conference call
- Response to “Next Steps” document circulated May 7

Review of Developments:

- California
- New York
- Massachusetts
- Other

Discussion:

- Coordination of independent state level research
- Interest at Federal level
- Optimal path to commercialization
- Obstacles to advancement