



1. Planning criteria

We employ various system planning criteria to ensure that we develop a reliable and robust transmission system. Our aim with these criteria is to support effective competition in energy markets, to reliably deliver power to systems connected to our system and customers dependent on our system, to provide support to distribution systems interconnected to our system and to deliver energy from existing and new generation facilities connected to our system.

These criteria may be revised from time to time. Situations that could precipitate such a change could include, but are not limited to new system conditions, new technologies, new operating procedures, extraordinary events, safety issues, operational issues, maintenance issues, customer requests, regulatory requirements and reliability council or NERC requirements.

The planning criteria are listed under the following headings:

- System Performance Criteria
- Capacity Benefit Margin Criteria
- Transmission Reserve Margin Criteria
- Facility Rating Criteria
- Model Building Criteria
- Facility Condition Criteria
- Planning Zones
- System Alternatives
- Load Forecast Criteria
- Economic Criteria
- Environmental Criteria
- Other Considerations

1.0 SYSTEM PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

System performance over a ten year planning horizon will be assessed at least annually. Such assessments will involve steady state simulations and, as appropriate, dynamic simulations.

Steady state assessments

Steady state assessments will include consideration of the following system load conditions:

- 1) Summer peak
- 2) Winter peak
- 3) Summer shoulder peak
- 4) Fall/spring off-peak
- 5) Summer 90/10 peak
- 6) Light load

The first three load conditions above will be assessed in all long-range planning studies. The last three load conditions will be considered when more detailed analyses are being conducted of specific alternatives developed to solve a particular problem. The Summer 90/10 peak load condition will be considered in the NERC Category B (loss of single element) analysis to help us



determine whether extreme weather conditions may require unusual measures to meet unexpected load. The 90/10 forecast will be used to help prioritize and stage projects but it will not necessarily be used as the sole reason to justify projects. The specific criterion associated with each of the load conditions above is provided in [Load forecast criteria](#). For each condition, wind generation is modeled at 20% of its reported output level for general planning studies and its full output level for generator interconnection deliverability studies and Power-Voltage (P-V) analysis. Generators that do not have automatic voltage regulation (AVR) or are not controllable (unmanned stations and no remote control) have been considered. When modeling these generators, special attention must be given to the limitations of these units.

Dynamic stability assessments

Dynamic stability assessments will include consideration of the following system load conditions:

- 1) Summer peak
- 2) Light load (50% of peak)

The first condition is typically used for voltage stability studies. The second condition is primarily used for angular stability studies. For all generator interconnection dynamic stability assessments, wind generation is modeled at its full output level.

1.1 STEADY STATE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Steady state performance assessments are done to identify potential transmission system vulnerabilities over a reasonable range of future scenarios. The steady state system performance criteria to be utilized by ATC shall include:

A. Normal conditions (NERC Category A)

- 1) No system element (line, transformer, terminal equipment, etc.) should experience loading in excess of its normal rating for NERC Category A conditions. This criterion should apply for a reasonably broad range of generation dispatch conditions.
(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-001-0-R1)
- 2) The acceptable voltage range is 95 percent to 105 percent of nominal voltage for NERC Category A conditions. Such measurements shall be made at the high side of transmission-to-distribution transformers. We will consider voltage levels outside of this range, if they are acceptable to the affected transmission customer. Exceptions for certain interconnected entities are evaluated accordingly. All voltage criteria should be met with the net generator reactive power limited to 90 percent of the reported reactive power capability.
(Applicable NERC Standards: TPL-001-0-R1)
- 3) Operating procedures (operating guides) are not preferred under normal conditions, but may be employed by ATC and/or entities with generation and/or distribution facilities interconnected with the ATC transmission system to avoid transmission facility loadings in excess of normal ratings provided such procedures are practical for sustained periods, if they meet the following conditions:



- do not impose on personnel or public safety
- do not significantly degrade system reliability,
- do not result in a significant loss of equipment life or significant risk of damage to a transmission facility,
- and/or do not unduly burden any entity financially.

Supervisory switching capability is required to accomplish these operating procedures. Field switching will not be relied upon as a means to reduce facility loadings or to restore voltages to within acceptable levels.

B. Loss of Single Element Conditions (NERC Category B)

- 1) No transmission element should experience loading in excess of its applicable emergency rating for applicable NERC Category B contingencies. This criterion should be applied for a reasonably broad range of generation dispatch conditions. Load curtailment may not be utilized in planning studies for overload relief. Field switching may not be considered as acceptable measures for achieving immediate overload relief for breaker-to-breaker contingencies. For restoration after breaker-to-breaker contingencies, field switching, LTC adjustments, Operating Guides and/or generator redispatch may be considered as acceptable measures to bring element loading levels below appropriate limits.

System design should ensure that loading in excess of any Interconnection Reliability Operating Limit (IROL) can be reduced to achieve a reliable state within 30 minutes. Temporary excursions above the applicable emergency rating are acceptable if a Special Protection System (SPS) will reduce loadings automatically (i.e. no manual intervention) to an acceptable loading level in an acceptable timeframe. The acceptable loading level after SPS operation cannot exceed the applicable emergency rating and the acceptable timeframe is determined by the type of violation that will occur if left unmitigated (e.g., clearance violation may take several minutes whereas exceeding a relay trip setting may result in an essentially instantaneous trip).

(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-002-0-R1)

- 2) Under applicable NERC Category B contingencies, the temporary acceptable voltage range is 90 percent to 110 percent of the system nominal voltage. Exceptions for certain interconnected entities are evaluated accordingly. Load shedding or field switching are not acceptable measures for achieving immediate voltage restoration for breaker-to-breaker contingencies. For restoration after breaker-to-breaker contingencies, field switching, LTC adjustments, Operating Guides and/or generator redispatch may be considered as acceptable measures to bring voltage levels within appropriate limits.
- 3) System design should ensure that voltage levels outside of any Interconnection Reliability Operating Limit (IROL) can be restored to achieve a reliable state within 30 minutes. These voltage criteria should be met with the net generator reactive power limited to 95 percent of the applicable reactive power capability. Temporary excursions below 90% or above 110% of system nominal voltage are acceptable if a Special Protection System (SPS) or control of shunt compensation will automatically (i.e. no operator intervention) restore system voltage



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to temporary acceptable voltage levels (i.e. 90% to 110%) within an acceptable timeframe. The acceptable timeframe will be situation dependent and may need to be reviewed with E&C Services.

(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-002-0-R1)

- 4) The steady state system operating point of selected ATC areas should be at least 10% away from the nose of the P-V curve to assure adequate system voltage stability and reactive power resources. This 10 percent P-V margin is chosen to reflect uncertainties in load forecasting and modeling, as well as to provide a reasonable margin of stability.
- 5) For assessments conducted using applicable MRO and RFC region-wide firm load and interchange levels (i.e. no market or non-firm system bias), generator real power output should not be limited under NERC Category B contingency conditions. We will consider a lower level of transmission service if requested by a transmission customer.

C. Loss of multiple element conditions (NERC Category C)

- 1) No transmission element should experience loading in excess of its applicable emergency rating for applicable NERC Category C contingencies. This criterion should be applied for a reasonably broad range of generation dispatch conditions. Overload relief methods may include supervisory controlled or automatic switching of circuits, generation redispatch, or firm service curtailments, as well as minimal planned load shedding. The transmission element loading should be reduced to within the normal ratings within the time frame of the applicable ratings.

(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-003-0-R1)

- 2) Under applicable NERC Category C contingencies, the temporary acceptable voltage range is 90 percent to 110 percent of the system nominal voltage. Exceptions for certain interconnected entities are evaluated accordingly. Methods of restoration to normal voltage range may include supervisory control of the following: capacitor banks, load tap changers, generating unit voltage regulation, generation redispatch, line switching or firm service curtailments. Minimal planned load shedding may also be used for voltage restoration. These voltage criteria should be met with the net generator reactive power limited to 95 percent of the applicable reactive power capability. For Category C contingencies, consideration may be given to operating procedures that are designed to shed a minimum amount of load.

(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-003-0-R1)

D. Extreme disturbance conditions (NERC Category D)

- 1) The MRO/RFC Extreme Disturbance Criteria and NERC Category D criteria should be used to assess system performance. These criteria may include examining loss of all circuits on a right-of-way and loss of an entire substation, including generation at that substation. These criteria should be used to determine system vulnerabilities, but may not necessarily dictate that potential problems identified need to be remedied with system additions.

(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-004-0-R1)



1.2 TRANSIENT AND DYNAMIC STABILITY PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Transient and dynamic stability assessments are generally performed to assure adequate avoidance of loss of generator synchronism, prevention of system voltage collapse, and system reactive power resources within 20 seconds after a system disturbance. The transient and dynamic system stability performance criteria to be utilized by ATC shall include the following factors.

A. Large disturbance stability performance assessment

- 1) For generator transient stability, faults will be modeled on the high side bus at generating plants.
- 2) For generating units with actual “as built” or “field setting” dynamic data, add a 0.5 cycle margin to the expected clearing time (ECT) for dynamic contingency simulations. For generating units with assumed, typical, or proposed dynamic data, add a 1.0 cycle margin to the ECT for dynamic contingency simulations. The total clearing time (ECT + margin) must be equal to or less than the calculated critical clearing time (CCT) from the simulation.
- 3) Generator transient stability will be demonstrated for at least one key contingency for each applicable NERC Category B contingency. These contingencies will typically be sustained three-phase faults of a single generator, transmission line, or transmission transformer with normal fault clearing.
(Applicable NERC Standards: TPL-002-0-R1)
- 4) Generator transient stability will be demonstrated for at least one key contingency for each applicable NERC Category C contingency. These contingencies will typically be three-phase faults of single elements with prior outage of a generator, line or transformer with normal clearing; single line-to-ground faults on a transmission bus or breaker with normal clearing; single line-to-ground faults on two transmission lines on a common structure with normal clearing; or single line-to-ground faults on a single generator, transmission line, transmission transformer or transmission bus section with delayed clearing.
(Applicable NERC Standards: TPL-003-0-R1)
- 5) Generator transient stability will be evaluated for at least one key contingency for two types of NERC Category D contingencies. These contingencies are three-phase faults on a transmission line with delayed clearing (D2) and three-phase faults on a transmission transformer with delayed clearing (D3). This ATC criterion is more severe than NERC Category D criteria because it requires every generating unit to maintain transient stability for this condition.
(Applicable NERC Standards: TPL-004-0-R1)
6. Generator transient stability will be reviewed for any other NERC Category D contingencies that are judged to be potentially critical to transmission system adequacy and security.
(Applicable NERC Standards: TPL-004-0-R1)
7. Unacceptable system transient stability performance for NERC Category A, B, and C outages and for ATC’S more severe Category D2 and D3 outages includes the following conditions:



A. Angular stability assessment

- a. Generating unit loses synchronism with the transmission system, unless it is deliberately islanded
- b. Cascading tripping of transmission lines or uncontrolled loss of load
- c. Poorly damped angular oscillations, as defined below

B. Voltage stability assessment

- a. Voltage recovery within 70 percent and 120 percent of nominal immediately following the clearing of a disturbance
- b. Voltage recovery within 80 percent and 120 percent of nominal for between 2.0 and 20 seconds following the clearing of a disturbance
- c. Voltage instability (collapse) at any time after a disturbance [100 percent constant current modeling for real power load and 100 percent constant impedance modeling for reactive power load may be used in areas where the steady state operating point is at least 10 percent away from the nose of the P-V curve, otherwise appropriate induction motor modeling should be used for the voltage stability assessment.]
(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-001-0-R1, TPL-002-0-R1, TPL-003-0-R1, TPL-004-0-R1)

C. Small disturbance performance assessment

The small disturbance (e.g. switching) stability performance criteria to be utilized by ATC will include:

- a. With all generating units at their prescribed base case (normally full) real power output, no unit will exhibit poorly damped angular oscillations [as defined below] or unacceptable power swings in response to a (non-fault) loss of a generator, transmission circuit, or transmission transformer.
(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-002-0-R1)
- b. With all generating units at their prescribed base case (normally full) real power output, no unit will exhibit poorly damped angular oscillations [as defined below] or unacceptable power swings in response to a (non-fault) loss of any two transmission circuits on a common structure.

Note: Poorly damped angular oscillations are ones that do not meet either of the following criteria:

1. The generator rotor angle peak-to-peak magnitude is within 1.0 degree or less at 20 seconds after the switching event.
2. The generator average damping ratio is 15.0 percent or greater at 20 seconds after the switching event. The average damping ratio = $(d1+d2+d3+d4)/4 * 100$ percent. $d1 = p5-p4/p5$, $d2 = p4-p3/p4$, $d3 = p3-p2/p3$, $d4 = p2-p1/p2$.



1.3 VOLTAGE FLICKER

The criteria for acceptable voltage flicker levels are defined by the requirements of regulatory entities in the states in which ATC owns and operates transmission facilities, IEEE recommended practices and requirements, and the judgment of ATC.

The following flicker level criteria are to be observed at minimum system strength with all transmission facilities in service. Minimum system strength shall be defined as the condition produced by the generation that is in service in 50 percent peak load case models, minus any generation that is:

- 1) Electrically close to the actual or proposed flicker-producing load
- 2) Could significantly affect flicker levels
- 3) Could reasonably be expected to be out of service under light system load conditions

Although the limits described below are not required to be met during transmission system outages, if these limits are exceeded under outage conditions, the flicker producing load must be operated in a manner that does not adversely affect other loads. Planned outages can be dealt with by coordinating transmission and flicker producing load outages. Because operating restrictions during unplanned outages may be severe, it would be prudent for the owner of the harmonic producing load to study the effect of known, critical, or long term outages before they occur, so that remedial actions or operating restrictions can be designed before an outage occurs. During outages, actual, rather than minimum normal, system strength should be considered.

All ATC buses are required to adhere to the following three criteria.

- 1) **Relative steady state voltage change is limited to 3 percent of the nominal voltage for intact system condition simulations. The relative steady state voltage change is the difference in voltage before and after an event, such as capacitor switching or large motor starting. These events should occur at least 10 minutes apart and take less than 0.2 seconds (12 cycles) to go from an initial to a final voltage level.**
- 2) Single frequency flicker is to be below the applicable flicker curves described in Table A.1 of IEEE 1453-2004 "Recommended Practice of Measurement and Limits of Voltage Fluctuations and Associated Light Flicker on AC Power Systems. Single frequency flicker is created by voltage affecting events that occur at a regular interval and superimpose a single frequency waveform between 0 and 30 Hz on the fundamental frequency 60 Hz voltage waveform. Depending on frequency (the human eye is most sensitive to frequencies in the 5 to 10 Hz range) sub-synchronous frequencies with magnitudes from 0.5 percent to 3 percent can cause irritable flicker. ATC uses the flicker curve in IEEE Standard 141 (commonly referred to as "The Modified GE Flicker Curve") to determine the acceptability of single frequency flicker.
- 3) Multiple frequency flicker is to be limited to a short term perception (Pst) of 0.8 and a long term perception (Plt) of 0.6. Pst and Plt are calculated using the calculation methods outlined in IEEE standard 1453-2004. These limits can be exceeded 1 percent of the time with a minimum assessment period of one week. Multiple frequency flicker has the same frequency range as single frequency flicker, but is more complex to analyze, especially



when flicker magnitudes and frequencies change over time. Multiple frequency flicker is best analyzed using a flicker meter.

1.4 HARMONIC VOLTAGE DISTORTION

In general, it is the responsibility of ATC to meet harmonic voltage limits and the responsibility of the load customers to meet harmonic current limits. The level of harmonics acceptable on the ATC system is defined by state regulations, IEEE Standard 519-1992 (Recommended Practices and Requirements for Harmonic Control in Electrical Power Systems) and the judgment of ATC. Usually, if harmonic current limits are met, then harmonic voltage limits will also be met.

The observance of harmonic limits should be verified whenever a harmonic related problem is discovered or a new harmonic producing load with a reasonable possibility of causing harmonic problems is connected to the ATC system. The following process is utilized by ATC when managing an existing harmonic-related problem or a new harmonic-producing load:

- 1) **Existing problems** - When a harmonic related problem is found on the ATC system, it is ATC's responsibility to determine the source of the harmonics. If harmonic current limits are violated, the source of the harmonics will be required to decrease their harmonic currents to below the limits specified in the ATC Planning and Service Guide. If, after the harmonic current has been reduced to an acceptable level, the harmonic voltage is still causing a problem and above specified levels, it shall be the responsibility of ATC to bring the harmonic voltages within limits. If limits are not violated and there is still a harmonic related problem (an unlikely situation), it is the responsibility of the entity experiencing the problem to harden its equipment to the effect of harmonics or reduce the harmonics at their location. An existing violation of these harmonic limits that is not causing any problems does not necessarily require harmonic mitigation.
- 2) **New harmonic producing loads** - It is the responsibility of any customer wanting to connect a harmonic producing load to the ATC system to determine if the proposed load will violate the harmonic current limits and, if these limits are violated, to determine and implement steps necessary to reduce the harmonic currents to acceptable levels. If harmonic voltage limits are not met after harmonic current limits have been met, it is the responsibility of ATC to determine if the harmonic voltage distortion will cause any system problems and if they will, it is ATC's responsibility to develop and implement a plan to meet the harmonic voltage limits.

2. Other Planning Criteria

2.1 Transmission Planning Assessment Practices

American Transmission Company generally subscribes to the zone approach to transmission planning assessment using a multi-level planning concept. Diagrams of the planning zones for which regional plans have been developed by ATC are attached in response to Part 3 of this FERC Form 715 and show the existing transmission facilities, 100 kV and above, within ATC's transmission system.



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The concept behind the zone approach to transmission planning is to develop plans that consider all of the needs, problems and developments within each zone and develop an overall plan for the zone (that is, a plan that emphasizes projects that serve multiple purposes or solve multiple problems within the zone). In addition, ATC's transmission planning philosophies incorporate the concept of multi-level transmission planning. When carrying out a comprehensive transmission planning process, consideration must be given not only to individual transmission needs, zone needs, and ATC-wide needs, but also to plans of other transmission providers. Solutions identified via planning activities within each level are vetted against those in adjacent levels until the most effective overall comprehensive plan is developed. ATC's planning process will continue to develop the first three levels (individual, zone, ATC-wide). ATC is participating with other transmission owners within and affected by the MISO territory in assessing regional needs.

ATC is employing the long-standing practice of using power flow analysis to identify needs and problems and to evaluate alternative mitigation measures. ATC identifies problems and needs by simulating non-simultaneous outages of each line, transformer, bus section, and generator. ATC does implement operating guides, such as opening lines and bus sections, to mitigate problems (overloads, low voltages, etc.) during extreme flow conditions.

ATC is also conducting dynamic stability analyses within each of its zones to assess the ability of its system to withstand power system disturbances. Many of these analyses have been or are being conducted in conjunction with proposed generation interconnections. Other independent analyses are being conducted to assess dynamic and/or voltage stability performance.

Further, ATC develops transmission projects to address the congestion issues in its footprint. ATC uses the PROMOD model to analyze congestion across the ATC footprint and develop projects that will relieve the congestion. ATC submitted to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin the first economically justified project in MISO and an order was received in the first half of 2008.

As part of the Midwest Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), ATC is participating in the MISO Transmission Expansion Plan process. ATC participates actively in all portions of MISO's planning efforts, including numerous committees and task forces, in regional and economic study efforts and in development of the Midwest Transmission Expansion Plan (MTEP).

The MAIN organization ceased to exist at the end of 2005 and ATC became a member of the two subsequent regional reliability organizations, the Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) and the ReliabilityFirst Corporation (RFC). ATC participates in regional transmission assessments conducted by the MRO Transmission Assessment Subcommittee (TAS), the RFC Transmission Performance Subcommittee (TPS), the MAPP Transmission Reliability Assessment Working Group (TRAWG), the ERAG Reliability Assessments and MISO Reliability Assessments.

In addition to the planning criteria, ATC considers a number of other factors in its transmission planning process. Following is a description of such factors.



2.2 Public/Stakeholder Input

ATC solicits public and other stakeholder input on the identification of ultimate solutions through its iterative planning process. Projects may be modified as potential solutions listed in this plan are further developed to address the specific needs identified by all stakeholders. The solutions selected to address the needs and limitations identified will reflect the input of transmission planning process stakeholders, including customers, state and local officials, the public, and coordination with other planning processes, to the extent possible.

Specific opportunities for public and stakeholder participation in the planning process are provided in accordance with ATC's tariff Attachment FF filed at the FERC in response to the portion of FERC's Order 890 calling for open, inclusive and transparent planning processes. The filing was made on December 7th to be effective February 7th. ATC is implementing the tariff provisions as we await FERC's order response. ATC's Attachment FF covers six separate planning processes and the opportunities stakeholders have to participate in the processes. The six planning processes include:

- Network adequacy planning
- Economic project planning
- Generation-transmission interconnections
- Transmission-distribution interconnections
- Transmission-transmission interconnections
- Transmission service requests.

Provisions include opportunities for stakeholders to provide input to the planning processes in terms of assumptions and projects, provide review of interim results and see final results.

2.3 Capacity Benefit Margin Criteria

Capacity Benefit Margin (CBM) is the amount of firm transmission transfer capability preserved by the transmission provider for load-serving entities (LSEs), whose loads are located on that transmission provider's system, to enable access by the LSEs to generation from interconnected systems to meet generation reliability requirements. Preservation of CBM for an LSE allows that entity to reduce its installed generating capacity below that which may otherwise have been necessary without interconnections to meet its generation reliability requirements. The transmission transfer capability preserved as CBM is intended to be used by the LSE only in times of emergency generation deficiencies.

ATC planning studies, except those required for Midwest ISO (MISO) transmission service, do not model CBM. CBM is instead accommodated in the planning process through the Loss of Load Expectation (LOLE) studies in the Midwest Transmission Expansion Planning (MTEP) process.

MISO performs annual studies to determine the import requirement of each study area operated as an isolated system to meet a LOLE of 0.1 day/year. All of ATC is defined as a single stand-alone study area. MISO then compares the flowgate CBM with the Automatic Reserve Sharing (ARS) component of the Transmission Reserve Margin (TRM) for that same flowgate. If the ARS component is greater, no CBM will be preserved on that flowgate. If the ARS component is less, the



incremental amount of CBM that is needed above the ARS component will be preserved as CBM for that flowgate.

All MISO transmission service studies use CBM in the flow based analysis of transmission service studies performed by ATC. The network analysis for transmission service studies does not use reductions in equipment ratings for CBM.

We will perform periodic analyses to evaluate (considering planned summer peak load and generation, as well as load forecast error and generator outage characteristics) the probable requirement to import power from external sources to meet a LOLE of 0.1 day per year, and ATC's ability to simultaneously import sufficient power from external sources to meet the 0.1 day per year LOLE reliability standard. If a deficiency is identified, we will incorporate any resulting incremental import capability requirements into ATC's overall transmission expansion plan.

2.4 Transmission Reserve Margin Criteria

Transmission Reliability Margin (TRM) is the amount of transmission transfer capability necessary to provide reasonable assurance that the interconnected transmission network will be secure. TRM accounts for the inherent uncertainty in system conditions and the need for operating flexibility to ensure reliable system operation as system conditions change.

ATC planning studies, except those required for MISO transmission service, will consider a 3 percent reduction in normal and emergency ratings for assessments within one year in the future and a 5 percent reduction for the assessments beyond one year in the future. However, the recommended timing of the resultant mitigation measures may be based on less than the 3 percent and 5 percent reductions.

In the planning horizon, anytime beyond 48 hours, MISO uses reservations from other transmission providers and control area generation merit orders to reduce uncertainty. MISO will apply a 2 percent reduction in normal and emergency ratings for input uncertainties in the planning horizon. This is often referred to as the uncertainty portion of the TRM.

The operating reserve component of TRM is the amount of transmission transfer capability on a constrained interface to provide the amount of regional operating reserves associated with 100 percent of the greatest single contingency impacting the flowgate. For determining the operating reserve portion of TRM, MISO performs analyses to identify the required reserve for each flowgate. The worst case will be determined by tripping units (or line outages when a reserve sharing member can request emergency energy for the line trip) within the region and picking up each reserve sharing member's share of the emergency energy to replace the unit that tripped. The distribution of each reserve sharing member's share of the emergency energy among its individual generating units should be a realistic estimate for the conditions for which the TRM is being determined. The worst case will be the case that has the greatest incremental flow over the flowgate in the direction of the constraint. The highest incremental flow on the flowgates for the contingencies evaluated (generation and transmission) will be the amount of Automatic Reserve Sharing (ARS) TRM required to reserve transmission service for operating reserves.

All MISO transmission service studies use the summation of ARS TRM and the 2 percent uncertainty TRM in the flow based analysis of transmission service studies. The network analysis



for transmission service studies does not use the ARS or 2 percent TRM, but requires for all network elements a 3 percent reduction in normal and emergency ratings for requests in the next 13 months and a 5 percent reduction in normal and emergency ratings for requests extending beyond the next 13 months.

2.5 Facility Rating Criteria

The following ATC Operating Instructions provide documentation of ATC's facility ratings criteria:

- PR-0285 Facility Ratings Update and Application,
- ECS-CR-0061 Conductor Ampacity Ratings for Overhead Transmission Lines,
- CR-0063 Substation Equipment Ampacity Ratings,
- CR-0062 Ampacity Ratings of Underground Transmission Lines

We will actively review, replace, and document legacy ratings with ratings based upon ATC criteria in its Substation Equipment and Line Database (SELD). The legacy ratings from the previous transmission facility owners' planning and operations models will be used in ATC planning models until valid SELD ratings, which are consistent with ATC facility rating criteria become available. The facility ratings criteria for legacy ratings are those of the corresponding contributing utility (e.g. Alliant East, Madison Gas & Electric, Upper Peninsula Power, Wisconsin Public Service, and We Energies). The ATC facility ratings criteria are consistently applied among ATC Planning, Engineering and Operations.

Facilities to be considered include, but are not limited to – overhead line conductors, underground cable, bus conductors, transformers, autotransformers, circuit breakers, disconnect switches, series and shunt reactive elements, VAR compensators, current transformers, wave traps, jumpers, meters, and relays (both overcurrent/directional overcurrent/impedance settings and thermal limits). Ratings derived from the ATC facility rating criteria are to be consistent with the following NERC standard.

[\(Applicable NERC Standards: FAC-004-0-R1\)](#)

2.6 Model Building Criteria

We will strive to develop and maintain consistency in the powerflow models used for planning efforts and in assessing whether and under what conditions transmission service is available. The starting point for ATC powerflow models will be models contained in the NERC and Regional data banks. We will use load forecasts provided primarily by our end-use load-serving customers as input into future model building efforts, both internally and in conjunction with the NERC, Regional Reliability Organization (RRO), and Regional Transmission Operator (RTO). These forecasts may be adjusted by ATC if adjustments are needed for transmission planning purposes either with concurrence from our customers or independently of our customers. All ATC powerflow models will be developed using PTI PSS/E software.

[\(Applicable NERC Standards: MOD-010-0-B, MOD-011-B, MOD-012-0-B\)](#)

2.7 Facility Condition Criteria

The facility condition criteria to be utilized by ATC for system planning purposes will include:



- 1) Any transmission line on structures that are beyond their design life, any transmission line that has exhibited below-average availability or any transmission line that has required above-average maintenance will be considered a candidate for replacement. In assessing potential line replacements, consideration will be given to other needs in the area of the candidate line to determine whether rebuilding the line to a higher voltage would fit into the “umbrella” plan for that planning zone (see **Planning Zones** below). ATC engineering, operation and maintenance and environmental employees work together to coordinate such assessments.
- 2) Any substation bus that is beyond its design life, has exhibited below-average availability or has required above-average maintenance will be considered a candidate for rebuilding and potential redesign. In assessing potential bus rebuilds, consideration will be given to likely and potential expansion at candidate substations, including consideration of the “umbrella” plan for the planning zone. ATC engineering, operation and maintenance and environmental employees work together to coordinate such assessments.
- 3) Any substation whose design or configuration prevents maintenance, in a safe manner, on substation equipment or lines terminating at the substation will be considered a candidate for rebuilding and/or potential redesign/reconfiguration. In assessing such rebuilds/redesigns /reconfigurations, consideration will be given to likely and potential expansion at candidate substations, including consideration of the “umbrella” plan for the planning zone. ATC engineering, operation and maintenance and environmental employees work together to coordinate such assessments.
- 4) Any underground cable that is beyond its design life, has exhibited below-average availability or has required above-average maintenance will be considered a candidate for replacement. In assessing potential cable replacements, consideration will be given to other needs in the area of the candidate cable to determine whether replacing the cable with a cable with a higher ampacity or with a cable capable of a higher voltage would fit into the “umbrella” plan for that planning zone. ATC engineering, operation and maintenance and environmental employees work together to coordinate such assessments.
- 5) We will strive to verify the efficacy of all operating guides that require on-site operations.

2.8 Planning Zones

We will conduct system planning on a long-range basis by developing plans for the ATC transmission system as a whole, as well as plans for specified zones within the boundaries of ATC’s transmission system. These zones are shown in Figures ZS-22 through ZS-26 (1.61M pdf). The idea behind the zone approach to long-range planning is to develop plans that consider all of the needs/problems/developments within each zone. The goal within the ATC footprint would be to develop an “umbrella” plan for the zone, that is, a plan that emphasizes projects that serve multiple purposes or solve multiple problems within the ATC system. The zone approach is intended to address requirements for support to the local distribution systems in that zone on a least cost basis. It is anticipated, however, that several projects that span more than one zone or possibly even the ATC transmission system boundaries, may evolve. Such projects will likely involve coordination with other transmission owners or regional transmission organizations.



The planning zones shown in Figures ZS-22 through ZS-26 deviate significantly from existing control area boundaries and from planning zones traditionally used for joint planning in conjunction with the Wisconsin PSC. The zones were selected considering the need for a manageable number of planning areas and to consolidate areas within the state with similar topology and load characteristics.

2.9 System Alternatives

We will consider alternatives to transmission solutions to problems on the transmission system as appropriate. Such alternatives could include, but not be limited to, central station generation, distributed generation, load management and conservation measures. We will use sound judgment in assessing whether non-transmission solutions are applicable on a case-by-case basis, keeping in mind that ATC is not a vertically integrated utility and does not own generation or serve as a load serving entity for retail load.

2.10 Load Forecasting Criteria

We will initially use load forecasts provided by our end-use load-serving customers. Such customers are required, under ATC's Distribution-Transmission Interconnection Agreements and Network Operating Agreements, to provide ATC with monthly peak demand forecasts for the next ten years. We may, in the future, develop load forecasts either concurrent with or independent of its load-serving customers. In addition, we may, in coordination with its load-serving customers, develop representative load duration curves based on actual and normalized load conditions. The ATC methodology for developing, aggregating and maintaining load forecast information should be in accordance with NERC Standards MOD-010-0 and MOD-011-0.

In utilizing or developing load forecasts, the following criteria will be used:

- 1) **Summer peak** demand forecasts will be calculated in such a way that there is an almost equal probability of exceeding or falling short of the forecast when average peak making weather does occur.
- 2) **Winter peak** demand forecasts will be calculated in such a way that there is an almost equal probability of exceeding or falling short of the forecast when average peak making weather does occur.
- 3) **Summer shoulder peak** demand forecasts will be developed reflecting moderate weather days (75 F-80 F). Such forecasts will be based on a load level that, within a reasonable range, captures as many shoulder peak hours within a representative load duration curve of load connected to the ATC transmission system. These demand forecasts will be developed to evaluate historical high power transfer conditions.
- 4) **Fall/spring off-peak** demand forecasts will be based on a load level that, within a reasonable range, captures as many off-peak hours within a representative load duration curve of load connected to the ATC transmission system.
- 5) **Summer 90/10 peak** demand forecasts will be developed that reflect above-average summer weather and peak demand conditions. This peak demand forecast will be calculated in such a way that there is a 90 percent probability of falling short of and a 10 percent probability of exceeding the forecast due to weather conditions. Until we develop



the capability for producing a specific 90/10 forecast, we will assume that it can be reasonably approximated through increasing the conforming loads by 5 percent and leaving the non-scalable loads unchanged. The ratio of the real to reactive power of the loads will remain unchanged.

- 6) **Light load (50 percent of peak)** demand forecasts will be developed that reflect light load levels, which are approximately 50 percent of the summer peak demand forecasts. Conforming loads will be scaled and non-scalable loads will remain unchanged.

2.11 Economic Criteria

We will conduct appropriate economic analyses when evaluating transmission additions, replacement and modifications. The criteria to be used in such economic analyses for purposes of system planning will include the following:

- 1) In developing screening level capital cost estimates for transmission lines and substations, terrain, geology and land use will be considered.
- 2) In conducting transmission system loss analysis, a sufficient number of powerflow cases will be developed to cover a reasonable range of load conditions from which to assess system losses. In addition, the value of losses shall be projected based on the energy futures market or on a credible energy price forecast.
- 3) In conducting analysis of generation redispatch precipitated by transmission constraints, a sufficient number of powerflow cases will be developed, or historical system loading may be used, in order to reasonably estimate the amount of time that such redispatch may be warranted. In addition, the cost of such redispatch will be projected based on marginal production costs and/or historical redispatch cost data of generating units dispatched to relieve the constraint. ATC will determine the economic feasibility of eliminating generation must-run situations based on these analyses.
- 4) All transmission projects have both reliability and economic benefits. In certain cases, economic benefit may be the primary driver of a project. In addition, economic analysis of projects may be used in the prioritization and staging of projects. In this effort, an attempt is made to capture all relevant factors to consider in determining the economic benefits of a project. Stakeholder input is utilized by ATC for this purpose. Various tools are also utilized by ATC, including New Energy Associates' PROMOD program; however, other methods and tools are open to consideration.

2.12 Environmental Criteria

The overriding environmental criterion to be used by ATC in system planning is that environmental analyses will be conducted at a screening level as opposed to a detailed siting/routing analysis level. The goal of such environmental analyses is to identify potential environmental impacts, avoid such impacts where possible and, where it is not possible, minimize and mitigate such impacts to the extent possible. More detailed analyses will be undertaken to support an application to siting authorities of specific transmission alternatives.



2.13 Variations on ATC Planning Criteria

The ATC transmission system consists of assets contributed by entities within the five control areas of the Wisconsin Upper Michigan System. Each of the original asset owners planned their system to separate planning criteria, particularly in regard to transient and dynamic performance. Therefore, as ATC has implemented its own planning criteria, portions of the system may require upgrade to meet the more stringent ATC criteria.

This section of the ATC planning criteria describes the philosophy that will be followed for completing projects in a portion of the system identified as deficient with respect to the ATC criteria.

- 1) Area does not meet NERC Planning Standards with respect to stability.
 - a. Complete projects required for bringing the existing system into compliance with NERC standards with no intentional delay.
 - b. New generator interconnections are not permitted until the NERC standards are met with the addition of the generator, if the new generator interconnection aggravates the stability condition. [A new generation interconnection is deemed to aggravate the stability performance of an area if a change in scope is required to meet NERC Planning Standards.]
 - c. Depending on the level of risk associated with the deficiency, special operating procedures (restrictions or guides) may be required to mitigate the risk until the system is in compliance. If a new generator interconnection is permitted but still negatively influences the stability condition, the operating restriction may follow a “last interconnected, first restricted” approach.
- 2) Area meets NERC Planning Standards but not ATC criteria with respect to stability.
 - a. Normal schedule for projects required for bringing the existing system into compliance with ATC criteria.
 - b. New generator interconnections are permitted as long as the system continues to meet the NERC Planning Standards. If the new generator interconnection causes a violation of NERC standards, 1.b above applies.
 - c. Operating procedures will not be required in the interim period until the projects to meet ATC criteria are completed.
- 3) Area meets ATC planning criteria for existing system but a new generator interconnection causes a violation of:
 - a. ATC planning criteria – New generator interconnection is not permitted until ATC criteria is met with the addition of the new generator.
 - b. NERC Planning Standards – New generator interconnection is not permitted until both NERC standards and ATC criteria are met.



2.14 Other Considerations

Project constructability

We will consider the constructability of proposed additions, replacements or modifications to the transmission system as part of its system planning process. In particular we will consider:

- 1) Whether addition, replacement or modification of a transmission line, transformer or other facility would result in violation of the System performance criteria above, and
- 2) Whether addition, replacement or modification of a transmission line, transformer or other facility precludes the ability of ATC Operations to conduct maintenance activities on other transmission facilities.

Multiple contingency planning

We will conduct system planning in accordance with the System performance criteria above, including planning for single contingency events. There may be circumstances, however, where the risk to ATC and/or ATC customers of a multiple contingency event is sufficiently severe to warrant consideration for planning purposes.

Examples of such an event would include:

- 1) The loss of a transmission facility during the period of maintenance or repair of another transmission facility,
- 2) A multiple contingency arising from a common cause such as a fire, flood, etc., or
- 3) Failure of a transmission structure supporting multiple circuits.

We will evaluate the probability and consequences of certain selected multiple contingency scenarios to determine whether to apply a multiple contingency standard.

Such multiple contingency scenarios may warrant consideration of operating guides or reinforcements. In these circumstances, we will document the potential event(s), the associated risks and potential mitigation measures, and will coordinate with affected customers, as appropriate.

(Applicable NERC Standard: TPL-003-0-B, TPL-004-0-B)

Terminal equipment limitations

Substation terminal equipment should not limit transmission facility ratings under NERC Category A or NERC Category B contingency conditions. This criterion would apply to new transmission facilities and should be reviewed when proposing modifications to existing facilities.

Maximization of existing rights-of-way

We will attempt to maximize use of existing rights-of-ways. Existing electric transmission, gas pipeline, railroad and highway corridors will be identified in all comparisons of alternatives and utilized where feasible. Environmental features of a right of way are also important to our operations. Environmental assessments are built into planning at a high level, and are continued into project assessments as projects move forward through to construction. In addition to avoiding and protecting environmentally sensitive areas, ATC is committed to working in partnership with regulators, environmental organizations and landowners to enhance areas of environmental significance.



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2009

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Since 2001, ATC has been an active partner in the Wisconsin karner blue butterfly partnership and manages rights of way in the karner blue butterfly range for host and nectar plants. ATC has also sponsored education and added management partnerships for this species. ATC is also recognized as a Green Tier company, with acceptance in October 2005. Green Tier is a program administered by the state of Wisconsin to recognize excellence in environmental performance. Through this program we continue to work closely with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to continually improve our environmental performance.

Reduction of transmission system losses

We will strive to plan the transmission system such that transmission system losses are minimized. We will undertake this goal by considering system losses along with all other cost factors in all evaluations of alternative transmission projects or plans. See [Economic criteria](#).

Operating flexibility

We will strive to plan the transmission system such that operating flexibility is maximized. We will accomplish this by considering as wide a variety of scenarios as practical, including maintenance scenarios, when evaluating alternative transmission projects or plans.

Radial transmission service

We will evaluate the risk of serving customer load from radial facilities. Such evaluations will consider the amount of load being served, the capability of the underlying distribution system and the amount of time that service is likely to be interrupted for the loss/failure of the radial facility.

Relaxation criteria

At times it may be appropriate to consider a relaxation of ATC-specific criteria, as long as NERC and RRO standards are still satisfied. As system planners perform their work, they should evaluate when it may be appropriate to allow a relaxation of ATC-specific criteria. A decision to relax ATC-specific criteria should be made very carefully considering all of the issues involved (including - but not limited to - ERO and RRO requirements and FERC directives related to transmission service requirements) and then only after performing a detailed assessment of the types and levels of risks involved in the decision. **Planners are not permitted to relax ATC-specific criteria on their own.** Instead, these situations should be identified and discussed with their manager for further evaluation. The final decision in this regard will be made by the Director – System Planning. If any decisions of this type are made, then these decisions will be documented and archived for future reference.

Interconnection studies

The following analyses and procedures should be performed for all new or modified interconnection facilities (generation, transmission, and end-user) to the ATC system to properly assess their reliability impact on the interconnected systems. For some analyses, a formal study report may be appropriate. For other analyses, a simple statement of assumptions and rationale may be sufficient.

Types of analyses

The analyses are to include steady state, short-circuit, and dynamic assessments that include the requirements in TPL-001-0, TPL-002-0, TPL-003-0, and TPL-004-0.



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Compliance with Applicable Planning Criteria

The analyses and procedures are to comply with all applicable NERC, Regional Reliability Organization, and individual system planning criteria of the affected parties.

Coordination with Affected Entities

The results of the analyses will be jointly evaluated and coordinated by the affected entities.

Essential Documentation

All analyses should include the evaluation assumptions, system performance, alternatives considered, and any jointly coordinated recommendations.