

NEW YORK STATE RELIABILITY COUNCIL

MEETING 222: October 13th, 2017

Report for Agenda Item 10.1: Michael Forte

Summary of the FERC CIP-014 Report – Physical Security Protection for High Impact Control Centers

The next NPCC Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2017. The following is a summary of the FERC CIP-014 Report – Physical Security Protection for High Impact Control Centers.

FERC CIP-014 Report – Physical Security Protection for High Impact Control Centers

a. Background

- i.** FERC directed NERC to make an informational filing that assesses whether all High Impact Control Centers should be protected under the CIP-014 Reliability Standard, not just those primary Control Centers that physically operate a “critical” Transmission station or substation.
- ii.** FERC expressed concern that a successful attack on a High Impact Control Center not already covered by the CIP-014 Reliability Standard could prevent or impair situational awareness, especially from a wide-area perspective. A successful attack could allow attackers to distribute misleading and potentially harmful data and operating instructions that could result in instability, uncontrolled separation, or cascading failures.

b. Summary

- i.** NERC found that if a High Impact Control Center with operational control of BES Facilities, whether a primary or backup, is subject to a physical attack, it could have a direct and significant impact on real-time operations.
- ii.** NERC identified that there were 65 TOs or TOPs with a Control Center subject to CIP-014-2.
 - a.** The total number of High Impact Control Centers is 432
 - b.** 105 primary Control Centers subject to CIP-014-2
 - c.** 24% of High Impact Control Centers are afforded protection by CIP-014
 - d.** Backup Control Centers currently are not in scope

c. Future actions

- i.** NERC will initiate its stakeholder processes, including the Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee, to address the FERC findings and recommendations.
- ii.** NERC will continue to emphasize the evaluation of physical security controls during compliance monitoring engagements, both under CIP-014-2 and CIP-006-6.