All,

The annual “Severe Weather Drill” as requiredby the Nodal Operating Guides, Section 1.5.4, will be conducted November 16th, and 17th, 2011.

**Part of the requirement from this section states that: “Operators for QSEs that provide Ancillary Services and TOs are required to participate in the drill.”**

This year’s Drill will focus around the events of February 2nd and we will simulate those events as closely as possible. The Drill will begin at 0730 on Nov. 16, and simulate moving through the days leading up to the cold front reaching Texas. We will begin at 0730 on Nov. 16 with Communications Testing and move through OCN, Advisory and Watch. This will allow the Resources adequate time to prepare details of the preparedness for the approaching cold front. (See Drill Script for details)

For compliance purposes, it will be necessary to document your company’s participation.

Drill logs, attendance records, and a comprehensive training plan will be used to meet these requirements. Your company is required to develop its own additional in-house Drill scenarios, which should include coordination and participation with neighboring TOs and QSEs. Companies should also conduct a post-mortem Critique immediately following the Drill, and apply this time toward ERCOT’s 32-hour reliability training requirement. Finally, we would encourage the senior management of all companies to participate in the Drill.

ERCOT will coordinate the Drill from its Training Center in Taylor between the hours of 0730–1630 on November 16th and 17th. Operators will be available to answer questions and make log entries as Drill participants report simulated system conditions. No one will be available after 1630.

**Please do not call the ERCOT control rooms at anytime for Drill questions.**

Because the Training Center does not have turret phones, each Drill participant has been assigned a number to call during the drill. See the attached list for your assigned phone number. Please only use your designated number. This will help us facilitate the volume of calls. If you are not on the list, please contact me via e-mail and we will assign your company a number. ERCOT’s fax number for the drill is (512) 248-3887.

Please RSVP to [doatman@ercot.com](mailto:kblackmer@ercot.com) by October 7, 2011 and include the following required information:

* Your company’s Drill Coordinator and his/her phone number.
* The phone number of the site from which you intend to run your Drill. These numbers will be assembled into one phone list to be used by all Drill participants, in order to facilitate inter-communication.
* A copy of your training plan. Your plan will be forwarded to the Texas Regional Entity (TRE). [protocol@texasre.org](mailto:protocol@texasre.org)

Below is a timeline of events and due dates:

* September 19, 2011 – Drill Invite issued by ERCOT to market.
* September 21, 2011 Drill information and scripts sent out by ERCOT
* October 3, 2011 – ERCOT Client Relations send out individual follow-up emails on Drill Invite.
* October 7, 2011– Drill Participants’ RSVPs due back to ERCOT.
* October 25, 2011 – Drill Conference Call. There will be two separate instructional conference calls; one for TOs and one for QSEs. Once the details are confirmed, instructions will be e-mailed to all Drill participants.
* November 16-17, 2011– Drill days (0730 – 1630).
* November 21, 2011 – Drill Participants’ Critique responses due back to ERCOT.
* November 30, December 1, 2011 – Backup Drill days.

Please be aware that ERCOT will be unable to issue Continuing Education Hours for this Drill!

Contact me should you have any questions.

Regards,

Don Oatman

Sr. Training Specialist

ERCOT System Operations

(512) 248-4227