

**10.10.1.1 TDSP Data Security Responsibilities**

The TDSP shall:

- (1) Maintain and modify the passwords for programming and read access to EPS Meters;
- (2) Provide the appropriate password access to ERCOT, which will allow ERCOT to synchronize the meter clock;
- (3) Establish any other security requirements for accessing the EPS Meters so as to ensure the security of those meters and their meter data;
- (4) Coordinate any EPS Meter programming parameter changes with ERCOT according to this Section, including informing the Load or Resource Entity of any changes to the meter;
- (5) Upon request of the Resource Entity that represents an EPS metered Facility, provide the EPS meter "read only" password to such Resource Entity for such Facility and other EPS metered Facility required to calculate their QSE load, to the extent that such provision does not violate the Customer Service and Protection Rules of the PUCT; Substantive Rules; and
- (6) Modify the "read only" password for EPS meters when a Resource Entity that represents a Facility requests a change due to data security reasons, provided that such modification does not violate the Customer Service and Protection Rules of the PUCT Substantive Rules.

**10.10.1.2 ERCOT Data Security Responsibilities**

ERCOT shall:

~~Request~~ may request that the TDSP to alter the password and other requirements for accessing EPS Meters, as it deems necessary.

**10.10.1.3 Resource Entity Data Security Responsibilities**

A Resource Entity shall:

~~Request must request that the TDSP to modify the EPS meter~~ "Meter read only" password for a Facility when the Resource Entity relationships that ~~effect~~ affect EPS meter Meter data security change. Such request ~~shall~~ must include the reason for the request.

**10.10.1.4 Third Party Access Withdrawn**

If, in the reasonable opinion of ERCOT, access granted to a third party ~~in any way interferes with or impedes with ERCOT's~~ ERCOT's ability to poll any EPS Meter, ERCOT may require

immediate withdrawal of any access ~~granted to~~ such third party. Separate access through additional communications ports ~~will~~may be allowed so long as it does not interfere with ERCOT's ability to communicate with the meter.

#### 10.10.1.5 Meter Site Security

EPS metering Facilities must meet the following requirements:

- (1) ~~—Metering Facilities and secondary devices that could have any impact on the performance of the EPS Metering Facilities must be sealed to the extent practicable; and.~~
- (2) ~~—ERCOT shall provide TDSPs with uniquely numbered seals to be used by the TDSP EPS Meter inspector.~~ Inspector to seal EPS Meters and EPS Meter test switches. Procedures for seal use ~~will~~shall be in accordance with this Section and the Operating Guides ~~SMOG~~.

#### 10.10.2 TDSP Metered Entities

Security for TDSP polled meters and meter data shall be the responsibility of the TDSP ~~and.~~ Each TDSP shall ~~be maintained~~maintain polled meters in accordance with applicable Governmental Authority rules and regulations. The TDSP ~~must also~~shall ensure that only Customer-approved Market Participants have access to the Customer meter.

### 10.11 ~~Validation~~Validating, Editing, and Estimating of Meter Data

#### 10.11.1 ERCOT Polled Settlement Meters

The raw meter data that ERCOT retrieves from EPS Meters ~~will~~must be processed by MDAS using the ~~Validation~~Validating, Editing, and ~~Estimation~~Estimating (VEE) procedures published in this Section 11, Data Acquisition and Aggregation, and the Operating Guides ~~SMOG~~ in order to produce Settlement Quality Meter Data. During periods for which no primary EPS Meter data is available, ERCOT shall use the backup meter data or substitute estimated usage data for that metered Entity using estimation procedures referred to in these Protocols and the SMOG. This data shall be used by ERCOT in its settlement and billing process.

#### 10.11.2 *Obligation to Assist*

At the request of ERCOT, TDSPs and Market Participants shall promptly assist ERCOT in correcting or replacing defective data from EPS Meters and in detecting and correcting underlying causes for such defects. Such assistance shall be rendered in a timely manner so that the settlement process is not delayed.

### 10.11.3 *TDSP Polled-Settlement Meters*

~~TDSPs are responsible for providing~~The TDSP shall provide ERCOT with Settlement Quality Meter Data for the TDSP ~~polled-meters~~Settlement Meters on their system and for ~~ensuring~~shall ensure that at a minimum the VEE requirements as specified in the Uniform Business Practices (UBP) standard for ~~Validation, Validating, Editing, and Estimating and Editing~~Validation, Validating, Editing, and Estimating have been properly performed on such data. ERCOT ~~will~~shall not perform any VEE on the Settlement Quality Meter Data it receives from TDSPs.

The following UBP manual validation processes are exempt for Interval Data:

- (1) Spike Check; and
- (2) Reactive channel check for kWh data

## 10.12 Communications

### 10.12.1 *Communication Links*ERCOT Acquisition of Meter Data

ERCOT ~~will~~shall acquire meter data via the following communication links:

- (1) ERCOT ~~will acquire data from~~ ERCOT real-time metered Entities via ERCOT private communication network established by ERCOT; for ERCOT Real-Time metered Entities; and
- (2) ~~ERCOT will acquire data from EPS Meters via a standard~~Standard voice telephone circuit or other ERCOT-approved communication technology provided by the TDSP for EPS Meters.

### 10.12.2 *TDSPs Meter Data Submittal to ERCOT*

(3) ~~TDSPs will~~shall submit meter consumption data to ERCOT through a standard data interface into the MDAS. In order to submit meter consumption data, TDSPs ~~must~~shall use an automated system with an ERCOT approved and tested interface to MDAS.

### 10.12.3 *ERCOT Distribution of Settlement Meter Data*

ERCOT ~~will~~shall distribute Settlement Quality Meter Data to Market Participants via:

- (1) MIS Pass-Through – When a TDSP submits meter consumption data to ERCOT, information pertaining to specific Market Participants ~~will~~shall be removed and automatically forwarded on to that specific Market Participant (i.e., a CR will automatically receive the meter consumption data and other information for the ESI ID's that the CR represented during the meter data timeframe.); and

- (2) On Request – A Market Participant may submit an electronic request via the MIS for specific meter consumption data. ERCOT will receive and validate the request and, if appropriate, automatically forward the appropriate information to the Market Participant.

### 10.13 Meter Identification

The ~~meter number~~device id used to identify an EPS Meter shall be unique for such meters on the ERCOT System. ERCOT shall maintain a master list of ~~meter numbers~~device ids and ~~will~~shall notify ~~the~~each TDSP if the ~~meter number~~device id selected has been used elsewhere in MDAS.

### 10.14 Exemptions from Compliance to Metering Protocols

#### 10.14.1 Authority to Grant Exemptions

ERCOT ~~has the authority under this Section to~~may grant on a case by case basis, exemptions from compliance on a temporary basis until new arrangements can be completed in accordance with the guidelines as listed in the following ~~Section below~~. Any permanent exemption to this Section requires approval by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the ERCOT Board. Any permanent exemption shall be subject to periodic review and revocation by the ERCOT Board.

#### 10.14.2 Guidelines for Granting Temporary Exemptions

ERCOT ~~will~~shall use the following process when considering applications for temporary exemptions from compliance with this Section and the ~~Operating Guides~~SMOG.

##### (1) Publication of Guidelines

: ERCOT ~~will~~shall post on the MIS the general guidelines that it will use when considering applications for exemptions within one (1) week of a change of guidelines, so as to achieve consistency in its reasoning and decision-making and to give prospective applicants an indication of whether an application for exemption ~~will~~may be considered favorably.

##### (2) Publication of Decision

: ERCOT ~~will~~shall post on the MIS the application for exemption and whether the application was approved or rejected by ERCOT and the reasons for rejecting the application, if applicable, on a quarterly basis.

#### 10.14.3 Procedure for Applying for Exemptions

All applications to ERCOT for exemptions from compliance with the requirements of this Section must be ~~made~~submitted in writing. ERCOT ~~will~~shall confirm receipt of ~~each~~an

application it receives within three (3) Business Days of receipt. For temporary exemptions, ~~with~~ERCOT shall decide whether to grant or reject the exemption within forty-five (45) Business Days of receipt. For permanent exemptions, ERCOT ~~will~~shall forward the application to TAC for review at the next scheduled meeting for which appropriate notice~~Notice~~ can be made. At any time during the application process, ERCOT may require the applicant to provide additional information in support of its application.

The applicant ~~must~~shall provide such additional information to ERCOT within five (5) Business Days of receiving the request or within such other period as ERCOT may specify. If ERCOT requests additional information more than forty (40) Business Days after the date on which it received the application, ERCOT ~~will~~shall have an additional seven (7) Business Days after receiving that additional information in which to consider the application. If the applicant does not provide the additional information requested, ~~then~~ERCOT ~~will refuse~~shall reject the application, in which case it will notify the applicant that its application has been rejected for failure to provide the additional information.

#### 10.14.3.1 Information to be Included in the Application

The ~~submitted~~ application for exemption to ERCOT ~~must provide~~shall include:

- (1) A detailed description of the exemption sought ~~(, including specific reference to the relevant sectionSection(s) of these Protocols or the Operating Guides givingSMOG authorizing~~ ERCOT authority to grant the exemption, and the Metering Facilities to which the exemption will apply;
- (2) A detailed statement of the reason for seeking the exemption ~~(, including any supporting documentation);~~
- (3) Details of the Entity(s) ~~(if any)~~ to which the exemption will apply;
- (4) Details of the location ~~(if any)~~ to which the exemption will apply;
- (5) Details of the period of time for which the exemption will apply ~~(, including the proposed start and finish dates of that period);~~ and
- (6) Any other information requested by ERCOT.

**ERCOT Protocols**  
**Section 23: Texas Test Plan Team – Market Testing**

~~November~~ September 1, 2001 2005

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## 23 TEXAS TEST PLAN TEAM – RETAIL MARKET TESTING

This Section contains an overview of the purpose and scope of the Texas Test Plan Team (TTPT). It also refers to the standards that are defined in the Texas Market Test Plan (TMTP). This Section applies to ~~Competitive Retailers~~ ERCOT, CRs and TDSPs serving areas where Customer Choice is in effect. This information is posted on the ERCOT website.

### 23.1 Overview

The Texas Test Plan Team (TTPT) is an ERCOT standing working group that reports to the Retail Market Subcommittee (RMS). The TTPT is comprised of volunteers from Market Participant (MP) companies. These volunteers work in a cooperative manner to establish processes and procedures for testing the commercial operations to verify retail systems ~~compliance~~ are in compliance with ERCOT ~~protocols~~ Protocols and Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) rulemakings.

~~The TTPT works with the Texas Standard Electronic Transactions (TX SET) standing working group to monitor transaction changes that must be tested in the Retail Market. The TTPT processes and procedures for testing represent the consensus view of MPs directly involved in the testing process.~~

The TTPT evaluates market processes defined by the ERCOT Protocols, other Retail Market Subcommittee working groups, and PUCT rulemakings to establish testing material requirements and materials necessary to validate those processes among ~~Market Participants~~ MPs.

ERCOT may ~~utilize~~ enlist the services of an Independent Third Party Testing Administrator (ITPTA) in this testing process.

~~The TTPT will work~~ works with the ~~ITPTA~~ ERCOT Flight Administrator to ensure that testing processes and procedures are defined for the Market and that the content of those materials are thoroughly and equitably administered with all participants.

### 23.2 Market Testing Participants

~~The Commercial Retail Market is comprised of the following participants~~

The following parties conduct market compliance testing and abide by the testing process defined by the TTPT:

- (1) ERCOT;
- (2) Transmission/Distribution Service Providers (TDSP; and)
- (3) Competitive Retailers (CR.)



### 23.3 Documentation and Testing Materials

The TTPT will ~~develop~~develops and ~~maintain~~maintains a test plan and related testing standards as identified below. These documents will be used as guidelines. The processes and procedures for testing of ~~are defined in the Commercial Retail Market systems:~~

- ~~Texas Market Test Plan~~
- ~~Testing Standards for connectivity among Market Participants~~
- ~~Test Scripts to validate business processes~~
- ~~FAQ's~~TMTP and Technical Bulletins to assist participants in ~~understanding~~on the retail testing process
- ~~Testing schedules and entry/exit criteria for Market Participants~~
- ~~Other testing materials and procedures~~
- ~~Information already developed by the TTPT represents the consensus view of Market Participants directly involved in the testing process. This information supports a comprehensive market test. Changes should only be made after thorough review and analysis.~~

~~Information identified above will be posted to a website, which is administered by ERCOT.~~

### 23.4 Market Changes

The TTPT will ~~stay~~stays abreast of changes within the ERCOT market (i.e. TX SET guidelines, Texas Data Transport Working Group (TDTWG) communication Protocols, ~~ERCOT protocols~~Protocols, and PUCT rulemakings) and ~~develop~~develops testing processes to validate changes. When such changes occur, the TTPT will ~~modify~~modifies the testing standards defined in the TMTP as needed to provide for adequate testing of all ~~effected~~affected market systems. Testing of these changes will ~~be~~is scheduled to allow ERCOT and all ~~Market Participants~~MPs adequate time to modify their systems and participate in the testing process.

### 23.5 Testing Success

Testing success is defined according to the information in the TMTP, ~~the testing standards and the test scripts. Where these documents are not explicit, the ITPTA, or its successor, will determine whether or not a test is successful.~~The ERCOT Flight Administrator is the final authority on all levels of business process certification among trading partners, including the verification that a party has successfully passed testing and is eligible to go into production.