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Mapping Committee Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2022

Attendees:

PUC - Thomas Gleeson, Cindy Guerrero, David Smeltzer, Tom Hunter, Alison Smith, Therese Harris, Rama Singh Rastogi, Rebecca Zerwas, Komal Patel, Gary Horton, Brady Cox, Shawn Hazard, Chuck Bondurant, Ramya Ramaswamy, Harika Basaran, Gina Smith, Rich Parsons

RRC – Wei Wang, R J DeSilva, Jason Clark, Brandon Harris, Natalie Dubiel, Edgar Chavez

TDEM – Jeff Newbold, Michael Ouimet

ERCOT –Bill Blevins

Report from Thomas Gleeson, Executive Director, PUC

- Received positive feedback from the January public meeting

Project Team Updates

Communications Team – Rich Parsons

Recommended that agencies meet prior to press conferences

Critical Facilities Team – David Smeltzer

Rules have been adopted

Database Team – Gina Smith

No update

Report Team – Tom Hunter

No update

Weatherization Team – Ramya Ramaswamy

No update

Mapping Team – Therese Harris

PUCT Update includes:

1. Data preparation (comparing data from multiple sources and compiling it, into a single, reliable dataset for preparation for inclusion in the electricity supply chain map).
2. Building the geodatabase maintained by the PUCT to not only include the physical location of generating facilities, substations, and electric transmission and distribution lines which end users will be able to view on a map, but to also include sufficient attribute data to ensure that the electricity supply chain map can be easily used and understood by the end users in emergencies.

3. The PUCT received information from the RRC that identified the critical natural gas infrastructure sources. The PUCT used this information to request distribution level data from the electric utilities and cooperatives that serve the loads. This is essential to connect the critical infrastructure identified by the RRC to the electricity supply chain.
4. Meetings with electric utilities, TEC, and TPPA to discuss requests for distribution level data to include:
 - a. Points of delivery of electric service to the identified critical infrastructure sources;
 - b. Geographic distribution lines from the points of delivery to the transmission system;
 - c. Distribution substations in the path from the points of delivery to the transmission system;
 - d. Substations that connect the distribution lines that serve the critical infrastructure sources to the transmission system;
 - e. Unique identifying information for the line and point data provided to be used for inquiries about a specific line or point during an emergency; and
 - f. 24/7 emergency contact information (name, phone number, and email).
5. GIS staff is working to incorporate the distribution line data that we are receiving from the utilities into the electricity supply chain map.

Ongoing RRC work includes:

1. Multiple data requests to inform identification of critical infrastructure sources (natural gas production wells, natural gas storage facilities, compressor stations, etc.) that are a part of the electricity supply chain.
2. Connecting identified critical infrastructure sources to natural gas dependent generating facilities in the ERCOT power region.
3. Building corresponding data tables to be included in the geodatabase maintained by the PUCT.
4. Conducting follow up meetings with operators to confirm data submissions.

ERCOT has continued to work with the PUCT. Recent information includes 24/7 emergency contact information for the generation facilities in the ERCOT power region. ERCOT will provide 24/7 information for the transmission system as well.

Activities for Q1 2022

1. Continue to build out the geodatabase. Continue work to identify and fill gaps in geodatabase.
2. Share datasets between RRC, PUCT, ERCOT, and TDEM. This is a current work activity.
3. Continue the conversation with TDEM and PUC and RRC staff that are activated to the SOC during emergencies to determine what information is essential to include in the attribute tables of the critical infrastructure in the electricity supply chain. Incorporate feedback into the electricity supply chain map.
4. Refine data. Seek input from electric utilities, municipally owned utilities, and electric cooperatives with transmission to confirm certain transmission information (mainly in non-ERCOT areas).
5. Meetings with electric utilities to discuss confidential sharing of distribution level data to connect critical infrastructure sources (loads) to the transmission system.

6. Connect critical infrastructure sources identified by the RRC to the electricity supply chain via the relevant electric distribution level infrastructure information collected from electric utilities.
7. Testing of draft map.

Observations

The RRC is working to refine the process for critical natural gas infrastructure operators to upload information needed by the Committee to map the electricity supply chain map. Some entities may need to resubmit their information so that the Committee has the appropriate information to request distribution level data from the electric utilities.

The PUC is working with the electric cooperatives to ensure the distribution level data they provide is complete and meets the needs of the Committee for inclusion in the electric supply chain map.

Conclusion

Next meeting will be scheduled for March 25, 2022