



Philip B. Tice
Chair, Market Interface Committee
Deseret Power Electric Cooperative
801.619.6505
philtice@deseretpower.com

July 20, 2010

Mr. Jeff Atkinson
Chairman, Executive Committee
WSPP

Ms. Donna Foy
Chairman, Operating Committee
WSPP

Subject: Implementation of the WECC Merchant Alert Protocol Guideline.

Dear Donna and Jeff:

The WECC Market Interface Committee (MIC) Chair was directed to notify appropriate parties in the electric industry concerning completion of the WECC Merchant Alert Protocol Guideline ("MAP"). The purpose of my letter is to inform the industry, especially real time personnel, that the MAP is available for use in appropriate situations.

The MIC has completed testing and implementation of the MAP, effective June 28, 2010. The MAP provides an efficient communication protocol that Load Serving Entities and Purchasing-Selling Entities (Merchants) can use when there is a concern that they may not have enough resources to meet their load obligations. MAP is a voluntary system whereby a Merchant can communicate broadly to the industry its urgent need for resources utilizing the westTrans OASIS bulletin board and the WECCNet Messaging System. The MAP **is not** intended for use as a marketing tool.

A review of the alarm setting in westTrans OASIS is recommended to assure receipt of audible and visual alarms whenever the MAP system is utilized. The alarm settings can be accessed through the Options box in westTrans OASIS. Select Alarm Preferences and configure the Merchant Alerts alarm based on the users preference.

A copy of the MAP is attached. The MAP can be accessed on the WECC web site at:
<http://www.wecc.biz/committees/StandingCommittees/MIC/Shared%20Documents/Guideline%20-%20Merchant%20Alert%20Protocol%20Guideline.pdf>.

Please distribute this letter to the membership of WSPP. If I may be of further assistance please contact me.

Sincerely,

Philip B Tice

Philip B Tice
Chair, Market Interface Committee

Attachment

| | |
|---|---|
| Document Name | Merchant Alert Protocol Guideline |
| Category | (xx) Guideline |
| Document Publication Date | February 9, 2009 |
| Approved By | Market Interface Committee |
| Date Approved | March 12, 2009 |
| Custodian (entity responsible for maintenance and upkeep) | Market Interface Committee |
| Stored/Filed | Physical Location: Web URL: http://www.wecc.biz/documents/meetings/MIC/2009/MAP%20Guideline%20Final.pdf |
| Previous Name/Number | None |
| Status | (XX) In Effect () Usable, Minor Formatting/Editing Required () Modification Needed () Superseded By _____ () Other _____ () Obsolete/Archived) |



**WECC Guideline
Merchant Alert Protocol Guideline
February 9, 2009**

Introduction

The intent of this Guideline is to provide an efficient communication protocol that Load Serving Entities and Purchasing-Selling Entities (—Merchants||) can use when there is a concern that they may not have enough resources to meet their obligations. This is not intended to replace or interfere with the process for declaring capacity and energy emergencies — via Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) — as described in NERC Standard EOP-002-2 – Capacity and Energy Emergencies. Instead, the Merchant Alert Protocol (MAP) can be used prior to declaring an EEA to prevent the necessity of declaring an EEA. In addition, the MAP can be used after an EEA has been declared to assist the merchant in returning to pre-EEA conditions. While use of the MAP is strongly encouraged, the election to use the MAP is voluntary. However, Merchants who use this protocol are expected to follow this guideline as presented and only for the purpose of finding energy to avoid or remedy an emergency. Merchants should also note that resource owner/operators may require use of the MAP (or some similar communication method) to demonstrate that the market has been exhausted before access to emergency resources can be made available.

Guideline

As with all issues that could potentially affect reliability, clear and frequent communication between Merchants and their host Balancing Authorities (BA) is critical. Prior to the initiation of the MAP, any requesting Merchant is expected to contact their BA(s) to describe the problem and to provide notification that a Merchant Alert will be issued. After this communication occurs, the decision to proceed with the MAP rests solely with the Merchant.

Merchant Alert Process

- Merchant with access to wesTTrans OASIS bulletin board.
 1. Merchant determines that a Merchant Alert is necessary.
 - o Merchant notifies host BA of intent to issue a Merchant Alert before proceeding
 2. Merchant accesses wesTTrans OASIS bulletin board.
 - o Selects the Merchant Alert button on the wesTTrans OASIS bulletin board.
 - o Merchant enters the following required information into the template:
 - Contact information.



- POR/POD.
- Date and start/stop time.
- Optional comments, if any, but do not include either price or quantity.

3. Merchant issues the Merchant Alert.

4. OASIS software issues:

- o A unique visual and audible alarm to all currently logged-in wesTTrans OASIS users.
- o An e-mail with the subject heading “*Merchant Alert*” to a mailbox that is linked to the WECCnet messaging system. The body of the e-mail will contain all information from the template.
- o Direct e-mails to merchants who have requested to be provided this form of communication.

5. WECCnet messaging system forwards Merchant Alert e-mail from wesTTrans OASIS to the —ALL WECC|| e-mail group

Merchant without access to wesTTrans OASIS bulletin board

1. Merchant determines that a Merchant Alert is necessary.

2. Merchant contacts its host BA. Merchant requests BA to issue on its behalf a Merchant Alert via the WECCnet messaging system to the —ALL WECC|| e-mail group. Merchant provides BA with the information listed below.

- Contact information.
- POR/POD.
- Date and start/stop time.
- Optional comments, if any, but do not include either price or quantity.

3. Final decision on issuing the Merchant Alert in this circumstance rests solely with the BA.



A merchant receiving the Merchant Alert who has excess resource capability, and is willing to provide assistance, directly contacts the requesting merchant to negotiate terms.

All information exchanged via this process is stored and retained for at least one year.

Note: This process will be reviewed at least twice a year by a team assigned by the Market Issues Subcommittee. 4 5



Additional Topics

The MAP uses a bulletin board feature in the wesTTrans Open Access Same-time Information System (OASIS) as the primary method for disseminating information. While the initial functionality of the bulletin board was not sufficient for implementation of this protocol, the OASIS vendor — Open Access Technology International, Inc. (OATI) — has agreed to make the necessary changes to support the MAP. Merchants who have obtained a digital security certificate from OATI access the bulletin board feature to issue a Merchant Alert. The requesting Merchant goes directly to the bulletin board and selects the Merchant Alert button. This constructs a template which requires the following alert information:

- contact information
- point of receipt/point of distribution (POR/POD)
- date and start/stop time
- comments (in field provided)

In order to minimize the risk of market manipulation, price and quantity are not to be included in this template.

Once the completed template has been submitted, a unique visual and audible alarm is issued to all currently active users of the wesTTrans OASIS (the user must be logged in). Concurrently, an e-mail is automatically sent to a mailbox that is linked-to the WECCnet messaging system. The e-mail will contain a subject heading of “*Merchant Alert*” and the body of the e-mail will contain all information from the template. WECCnet will then forward this e-mail on its messaging system to the —ALL WECC|| e-mail group. Additionally, merchants who have obtained a digital security certificate may request direct e-mail notifications from OASIS.

Merchants who have not obtained a digital security certificate from OATI cannot access the bulletin board feature in wesTTrans OASIS to issue a Merchant Alert. These Merchants may contact their host BA to discuss whether a Merchant Alert will be sent by the BA using the WECCnet messaging system. The final decision on issuing the Merchant Alert in this circumstance rests solely with the BA.

A merchant receiving the Merchant Alert who has excess resource capability and is willing to provide assistance, directly contacts the requesting Merchant to negotiate terms. This communication protocol places no requirement on any entity to contact the requesting Merchant, nor does it place any requirement on entities who do respond to communicate electronically.

The wesTTrans OASIS will store and retain all information exchanged via the Merchant Alert process for later review by WECC. Additionally, after-the-fact spot reviews may occur, so it is recommended that merchants who request the Merchant Alert retain relevant information for a



period of one year. This process will be reviewed twice a year by the Market Issues Subcommittee.

Approved By:

| Approving Committee, Entity or Person | Date |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| | |
| | |