



## NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL

Princeton Forrestal Village, 116-390 Village Boulevard, Princeton, New Jersey 08540-5731

October 31, 2003

James D. Castle  
New York Independent System Operator  
3890 Carman Road  
Schenectady, New York 12303

Dear Mr. Castle:

### Request for Generating Plant Data

In support of the U.S.–Canada Joint Task Force on the Power Outage investigating the August 14, 2003 blackout, the investigation team at NERC is requesting information that will assist in better understanding the mechanisms of the system collapse. We are requesting that you complete and return the enclosed surveys associated with generating units that we have identified that either a) tripped on August 14, or b) has been identified as a key plant that did not trip. This information is critical to understanding the dynamics and boundaries of the cascading failure that occurred on August 14.

The forms are organized by control area for your convenience. Each control area package has an instructional cover sheet which should also be returned with the completed forms. We request that the surveys be returned no later than November 14, 2003.

Follow-up questions associated with this data request should be directed to:

Gary C. Bullock, Team Leader  
NERC Generator PPCMD Team  
Desk Phone: (609) 524-4087  
Cell Phone: (423) 718-5309  
Email: [gcbullock@tva.gov](mailto:gcbullock@tva.gov)

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

David W. Hilt  
Director–Blackout Investigation Team

Attachments

**US-Canada Task Force: Generation Data Request**  
Actual status and values applicable for 8/14/2003, 12:00 – 16:10 EDT

**INSTRUCTIONS**

The NERC Blackout Investigation Team for Generation Protection, Performance, Control, Maintenance, and Damage (PPCMD) respectfully requests the completion of the attached information forms for each of the identified generating plant units. The information is required to complete our investigation. The forms may be filled in manually (hand-written). The heading information on each sheet consists of the best known data available to NERC at this time. Any incorrect information in the heading section should be noted and corrected on the form as required. Additional sheets and/or plant drawings may be added and attached if necessary for more detailed explanations. Requested plots should be made at maximum available sampling rate. Please return to NERC the original front-back copies with any attachments stapled to it along with the contact information requested below. Copies may be retained for your records.

Completed forms should be delivered to: NERC

Attn: Blackout Investigation Generation Team  
116-390 Village Boulevard  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540-5731

All parts the form should be completed no later than November 14, 2003. The Generation PPCMD Team understands that not all of these units were necessarily tripped during or as a result of the August 14, 2003, blackout. You may call either of the following for more explanation on the requested data:

- Gary Bullock, Team Leader 423-718-5832
- Brian Nolan, NERC Team Coordinator 609-452-8060

Follow-up questions for clarification of data you provide may be necessary. Plant single line drawings and reactive capability characteristics (D Curves) may be requested at a later time for specific units as needed for further investigation. Please indicate the person(s) and preferred method of contact should any of this be required:

Plant Operations \_\_\_\_\_  
Plant Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_  
Generation Protection \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit/Equipment Damage \_\_\_\_\_