FERC’S RELIABILITY TEAM

April 14, 2004
Purpose

• Improve bulk grid reliability for next summer
• Improve bulk system reliability for the long term
• Assure that reliability complements and improves markets, and vice versa
• Learn from past reliability failures, and don’t repeat them
Short-term priorities

• Reliability readiness audits, supporting NERC effort
• Work with NERC to improve reliability standards – scope, clarity, measurability, enforceability
• Bi-national blackout investigation
• On-going work incorporating reliability considerations into rules and cases
• Building staff for new group
Long-term priorities

• Build excellent reliability team staff and long-term capabilities in Reliability team and broader agency
• Build federal-state partnership for reliability regulation on issues like vegetation management
• Build partnership with Canada, NERC and industry to assure strong, consistent bi-national reliability rules and implementation
• Improve bulk grid reliability and security
Some specific initiatives

- 20 reliability readiness audits -- 11 to date
- FirstEnergy reliability study (done 4/30/04)
- Learning from the blackout – planning May conference with DOE, Canada, NERC, industry on reliability standards and schedule
- Working with NERC on reliability standards revision and compliance templates (12/04)
- Working with NRC on grid reliability and nuclear plant needs
R&D initiatives

• Transmission vegetation management (3/04)
• Quantity and cost of needed spare transformers (5/04)
• Understanding technology risk and prudence (5/04)
• SCADA Cyber-security (7/04)
• Gas pipeline disruption impacts and reallocation (on-going)
• Operator training
• Lake Erie Loop – problem, implications and solution options
The Reliability Team

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