A.1.3 Reliability Backstop Option

PJM will trigger a Reliability Backstop option given the following conditions:

- 2 failed incremental RFPs – no technical solution available even after consideration of cross zonal coordination options

- Technically feasible solution available, but not economically feasible (not in accordance with OATT rate or FERC rate is rejected)

- Reliability criteria not met in 5 year Selection Process in one or more areas

If the Reliability Backstop process is triggered, exceptions to the reliability criteria would be allowed for the following situations:

- Black Start capacity is less than Critical Load Requirement

- Less than 2 Black Start resources per zone (or Restoration Region if zones are aggregated)

- Critical Gas Infrastructure load restoration is longer than 4 hours

- Nuclear safe shutdown load restoration is longer than 4 hours

These exceptions would request (but not require) SOS-T endorsement.

If the Reliability Backstop process is triggered and one or more of the following situations exist, other options for remediation will be pursued:

- NPIR requirement violated

- No Black Start generation allocated to a zone that has a Critical Load requirement

These other options that will be pursued may include:

- RTEP Transmission only solution such as new transmission line for cranking path; reactor/SVC for voltage control; etc

- PJM will work with generators in Interconnection Queue to install new Black Start capability

- PJM will work with TO to contract for Black Start capability

If all of these methods fail:

- Deficient zone will receive cranking power as it becomes available from neighboring zones.
  - This cranking power will NOT be from a Black Start unit and will likely not be available until after an extended period of time
  - Based on M-36, Section 8.1.9, cranking power must be supplied to neighboring areas as a priority to restoring internal load