

EMS TELEMETRY PROTECTIVE MEASURES

PROBLEM / OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

Real-time SCADA communications between controls centers, as described in PJM Manual 01: Control Center and Data Exchange Requirements, are critical to the reliable and efficient operation of the grid.

- PJM hosts an alternate communication method that can be used as a backup for a wide variety of large-scale SCADA failure modes. This method deploys a simple file based alternative that is independent of most networking and many inner-EMS components, providing additional system robustness for relatively small development and integration costs. With PJM supplied with SCADA data even in additional severe failure modes, and PJM executing RTA duties, overall system reliability is increased.
- PJM has a “View-Only Mode” which allows PJM to lower risks to the EMS solutions and therefore operations by negating incoming links during windows of planned maintenance, where risks of incorrect data are elevated. As related to recent events where incorrect SCADA data was received by and forwarded by PJM to other TOs, PJM updated this “View-Only Mode” to extend the umbrella of protection to include PJM output links and members and entities receiving from those links. Those output links will similarly hold last good value for any data in “View-Only Mode.”

PJM has identified the opportunity to bring greater clarity to Manual 01 Section 3.2.4.1, addressing SCADA failure modes, and Attachment E, addressing “View-Only Mode.”