Health and Human Services and DOE Process
Allocation of Testing and PPE

Electric Sub-Sector Coordinating Council (ESCC)
Department of Human and Health Services (HHS) committed to support the energy sector through allocation of COVID-19 Tests and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from the national stockpile.

DOE is the coordination point and designated agency for the energy sector with HHS.

Initial allocation focused on critical transmission and generation system operators who have sequestration plans in place within the next twenty days.

Day 2 — Data Consolidation and Coordination: An initial request was submitted to DOE by the energy trades requesting an allocation for each state.

Day 2 — Analysis: DOE is performing the analysis.

Next Step: Allocation, followed by distribution.
Days 1–2: Survey

- Trade Associations (APPA, EEI, NRECA, EPSA, RTO/ISO Council) survey members, focusing on Bulk Electric System entities/assets.
- Survey respondents deliver number of employees, in response to survey questions, to respective trade association.

Day 2: Data Consolidation & Submission

- Trade associations/ESCC Secretariat combine responses into one spreadsheet (organized by state, with entities identified).
- ESCC Secretariat delivers data to DOE and cc’s trade associations.

Day 2: Analysis

- DOE analyzes spreadsheet submission against COVID-19 hotspot analysis, based on Johns Hopkins University data, as well as current events (e.g., natural disasters, weather events, etc.).
- DOE sends list to Reliability Coordinators (RC) to review data to ensure allocation meets reliability needs. (NERC will facilitate an introduction between DOE and RCs to begin this process.)

Days 2–3: Allocation

- DOE, with technical input from RCs, allocates equitable distribution across segments of industry if test supplies do not meet all needs in hotspots.
- DOE returns decisions on test allocation to ESCC and recipients of tests. Decision includes reference to all elements of decision making formula.

Day 3: Distribution

- ESCC informs the sector about organizations who are receiving tests, along with decision making formula, as well as the type and source of testing.
- DOE/HHS ship tests using pre-printed labels provided by recipient organizations.