

To: Planning Advisory Committee

From: Kannan Sreenivasachar

Date: June 29, 2017

Subject: Notice of Initiation of Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island (SEMA-RI) Needs Assessment

This memo serves as the notice of initiation for the 2027 Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island (SEMA-RI) Needs Assessment. This Needs Assessment will be performed in accordance with the reliability planning process as established in Attachment K of the Open Access Transmission Tariff¹. The study area is bounded by the SEMA-RI electrical interface. This translates into a geographical area which includes the areas within Massachusetts located south of Boston as well as the entire state of Rhode Island.

The triggers for this Needs Assessment are:

From Section 4.1(a) of Attachment K of the Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT), the ISO shall perform a Needs Assessment if:

- (i): *“a need for additional transfer capability is identified by the ISO in its ongoing evaluation of the PTF’s adequacy and performance.”*
- (v): *“as otherwise deemed appropriate by the ISO as warranting such an assessment.”*

A SEMA-RI 2026 Needs Assessment report was finalized in May 2016 and an addendum report to the SEMA-RI 2026 Needs Assessment report was finalized in October 2016. A SEMA-RI 2026 Solutions Study report was finalized in March 2017 to develop solutions to time sensitive needs from the SEMA-RI 2026 Needs Assessment. There were non-time-sensitive needs identified in the SEMA-RI 2026 Needs Assessment. The Needs Assessment will examine if the non-time-sensitive needs still exist for the study area, and will identify the time-sensitivity of any identified needs.

The SEMA-RI Needs Assessment will include steady-state and short circuit analysis. The objective of this study is to assess adequacy of the Pool Transmission Facilities (PTF) within the study area. This is accomplished by ensuring that the portions of the PTF within the study area meet the applicable NERC, NPCC, and ISO-NE planning criteria.

All study files, notices, and other material related to the 2027 SEMA-RI Needs Assessment will be posted under the Planning Advisory Committee materials on the ISO-NE external website and be posted under

¹ https://www.iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/regulatory/tariff/sect_2/oatt/sect_ii.pdf

SEMA-RI Key Study Area on the ISO-NE external website. See link to the key study area on the ISO external website below:

<https://www.iso-ne.com/system-planning/key-study-areas/sema-ri>

A separate announcement will be made when these additional items are posted.