

CHARTER OF

FORUM

OF

LOAD DESPATCHERS

(FOLD)

FOLD Secretariat
NLDC, B-9 Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi

<http://www.forumofd.in>
<http://www.forumofloaddespatchers.in>

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Forum of Load Despatchers

1. Background

A committee on “Manpower, Certification and Incentives for System Operation and Ring-fencing of Load Despatch Centres” was set up under the chairmanship of Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Power on 04th February 2008. The committee submitted its report to the Government on 18th August 2008. Under Section 6.5 (b) of the Report, the Committee had recommended creation of a Forum of Load Despatch Centres with secretariat provided by the National Load Despatch Centres. The committee had suggested that the Forum could take up issues of common interest and also formulate a Code of Ethics for the Load Despatch Centre personnel. Subsequently, Secretary, Ministry of Power chaired a meeting of State Regulators, State Power Secretaries, State Utilities and representatives from CPRI and NPTI on 07th October 2008 and a detailed action plan was approved for implementation of the recommendations of the committee through the Minutes of Meeting.

The Forum of Regulators (FOR) in their ninth meeting held at Bhubaneswar on 14th and 15th November 2008 approved the formation of Forum of Load Despatchers (FOLD). Para 7(e) of the Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of 'FOR' are reproduced below

"Keeping in view the suggestion of the Ministry of Power, the Forum also approved setting up a Forum of Load Dispatchers (FOLD) on the lines as indicated in Annexure-I. The Secretariat was directed that a detailed proposal may be obtained from NLDC accordingly and the approval of the Forum on the same may be obtained by circulation."

The Secretariat of Forum of Regulators vide its letter No.:15/8(1)/2008-FOR/CERC dated 02nd January 2009 addressed to Executive Director (System Operation), POWERGRID requested for a proposal to be submitted to FOR. This document suggests a broad outline in this regard. The Annexure-I mentioned in the Minutes of ninth Meeting of FOR is enclosed as Annex-1 of this document.

2. Vision

“Forum of Load Despatchers envisions being a catalyst in reliable, efficient and economic operation of the Indian bulk electric power supply system.”

3. Mission

“Forum of Load Despatchers of India shall strive to achieve its vision through technical cooperation, knowledge sharing, regular interaction, active collaboration, mutual respect, cooperation, consensus building, international benchmarking and promoting ethical, non-discriminatory and fair practices.”

4. Functions

The functions of the FOLD are outlined as under:

i. Promoting technological excellence

- a. Helping Load Despatch Centres in Management of Technology (such as forecasting, assessment, adoption, absorption etc.) required for Load Despatch, Communication and Market Operation;
- b. Facilitate better utilization and exploitation of available technologies and tools in System/Market Operation and Logistics;
- c. Conducting research, exploration and trial of promising new technology in the area of System Operation and control in collaboration with educational institutes and vendors.

ii. Promoting harmonization of practices

- a. Documentation and sharing of best practices in Load Despatch Centres;
- b. Facilitating harmonization of the Grid Codes of power systems connected to the Indian National Grid;
- c. Suggesting Standard Operating Procedures and guidelines for Power System/Market Operation and Logistics;
- d. Facilitating International bench marking and developing best practices.

iii. Promoting compliance to Reliability Standards

- a. Developing consensus among Load Despatch Centres on issues relating to reliability of Indian bulk electric power system;
- b. Objective analysis of grid operation related data, near misses/ grid incidents / disturbances and disseminating lessons learned from them with regards to tools, human performance factors, equipment performance etc;

- c. Providing feedback to stakeholders on issues related to resource adequacy, system security and market operation in long-term, medium term and short time horizons;
- d. Developing proposals for reliability standards;
- e. Facilitating compliance to Reliability Standards and Grid Code.

iv. Facilitating development of Ancillary Services in power system

- a. Suggesting principles, philosophies and proposals for reliable, efficient and transparent delivery of ancillary services in power system;
- b. Helping Load Despatch Centres in streamlining their internal processes for delivery of ancillary services.

v. Promoting capacity building in Power System/Market Operation

- a. Identification of focus areas for capacity building of human resource in Load Despatch Centres;
- b. Creating opportunities for development of human resource employed at Load Despatch Centres through training, workshops conferences, seminars, visits, expert talks, certification and other activities as deemed fit;
- c. Assimilate and develop electronic resources for learning and knowledge dissemination;
- d. Facilitate the development of faculty of Power System/Market Operation and System Logistics in India.
- e. Evolving a mechanism for rewarding excellence in Load despatching.

vi. Facilitating information sharing with stakeholders

- a. Compilation and sharing of information among Forum Members for comparison of performance in all relevant aspects of power system operations and electricity market operations in India and other countries;
- b. Convening public and other information-sharing sessions from time to time that may involve the participation of all stakeholders;
- c. Facilitating information sharing with academic institutions for research in Indian power system.

vii. Developing Code of Ethics for Load Despatchers in India

- viii. **Development and review of suitable Performance indicators** for assessment of Load Despatch Centres and Load Despatchers in India as well as recognition (by peers) of exemplary contributions by individuals in load despatching.
- ix. Deliberating any other issues referred to it by the Forum of Regulators and other stakeholders.

5. Members

All the State Load Despatch Centres, Regional Load Despatch Centres and National Load Despatch Centre in India would be members of this forum. FOLD could be invited members from industry and academic institutions.

6. General Body, Steering Committee and Working Groups

All the executives working in SLDCs, RLDCs, NLDC would be members of the General Body of Forum of Load Despatchers (FOLD). A Steering Committee comprising of the Head of State/Regional/National Load Despatch Centres or its authorized representative would be constituted to steer the activities of FOLD. Besides these the Steering Committee would constitute Working Groups to advise the Steering Committee on matters related to power system and electricity market operation. The Working Groups would have volunteers/nominated members from the General Body and invited experts.

The Steering Committee subsequent to its constitution may develop Conduct of Business Rules for governance of FOLD in conformity with this charter. The steering committee may also develop a suitable logo for FOLD.

7. Secretariat

The Secretarial assistance to the FOLD would be provided by the National Load Despatch Centre located in New Delhi.

8. Regular Reports to Forum of Regulators

FOLD would submit a detailed report of its activities to Forum of Regulators on half yearly basis in addition to recommendations on various issues.