

SIERRA NEVADA REGION

PHYSICAL AND COMPUTER SEPARATION

Information Technology

The Sierra Nevada Region's (SNR) Information Technology organization partitions information of all transmission reliability data on the computers used by the real-time transmission employees from being accessed on the computers used by SNR's merchant and other organizations.

Authentication through the firewall is required and consists of MD5 data integrity checking with a username and password (encrypting the username and password). The firewall uses Stateful Inspection to scan the communication packet and determine if the communication is allowed.

SNR's computer security policy establishes unique login accounts for every user. Access rights are determined and approved by supervisors depending on job requirements. Passwords are required by the system(s), and must be changed every 90 days. Users are also required to sign an agreement notifying them of their responsibilities in using the computer system.

Currently, SNR has implemented the ACES scheduling package. ACES is an Oracle-based database software scheduling package. ACES has the access control facilities needed to control access to SNR's transmission information. SNR's Information Technology Supervisor is the system administrator for ACES and the Dispatch Supervisor has authorization to control the types of information employees have access to on ACES. The system administrator does not allow access to any real-time transmission information by any employee who is not a transmission employee. No merchant employees have access to the ACES program.

Because of the requirements of the SNR's 2004 Power Marketing Plan, SNR is in the process of implementing OATi's webTrans reliability scheduling package. The OATi webTrans scheduling package is a SQL Server based database software. SNR's Information Technology Supervisor will remain the system administrator and the Dispatch Supervisor will retain authority to control the types of information employees have access from webTrans. No SNR merchant employees will have access to the SNR transmission reliability data.

Restricted Physical Access

The Operations group consists of Dispatch, and Operations Engineering & Planning. The Power Marketing/Merchant group consists of Power Contracts & Energy Services, Rates, and Resources, Scheduling, Power Accounting & Billing support group.

Dispatchers are located in a locked, card-key-access-only dispatch room in SNR's Sacramento Operations Center. Dispatchers have unrestricted access to this room. None of the power marketing or merchant staff has access to the locked dispatch room. The Operations Engineering & Planning staff is located in the Sacramento Operations Center, but outside of the locked dispatch room. All of the files related to the work performed by the Operations Engineering & Planning group are secured in locked files that are accessible only to the Operations Engineering & Planning staff.

The Power Marketing/Merchant group is located in the Sacramento Energy Services Center.