

In late October 2012, Superstorm Sandy was the largest Atlantic Hurricane on record resulting in \$75 Billion in damages. In response to this and other storms, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) recognized the need to seamlessly share outage data and initiated a call to action. The call to action went out to utilities, software providers, industry leaders, and external associations tasked with the optimization of reporting on and responding to large scale outage events. This call to action was answered by a wide range of technology providers, both industry established and emerging startups, as well as the leaders at EPRI.

To enable improved data exchange, we must define and then implement a data standard. EPRI was one of several stakeholders that worked with the OMS IEC Working Group and the Department of Energy's Outage Data Initiative team to provide input for the development of the IEC 61968-3 standard, that is now ready for implementation.

The Outage Data Initiative (ODI) creates a standard interface to exchange outage data, whether exchanging within or between utilities or with external entities, such as state/city/county governments, first responder agencies, and disaster response/resiliency organizations. EPRI has long advocated for open, non-proprietary, standard data interfaces as a tactic to reduce utility costs and overhead expenses in maintaining custom interfaces. The motivation for this project is to introduce ODI to utilities and explore opportunities for outage related data to be leveraged by entities that coordinate with utilities for unplanned outages.

With growing recognition about improving responses to major service disruptions, this project plans to facilitate utility and stakeholder implementation and conformance of the standard, document case study results and lessons learned and lead to a vision of a publicly available nationwide outage map.

This presentation will describe how accurate and timely notifications of an electrical outage can aid Local, State and Federal emergency management agencies, improve utility response and restoration activities, and provide information to the customer about restoration times. The data model for outage reporting has been reviewed by the IEC, and a nationwide demonstration project is underway. Come find out how easy it is to share outage information with the entities that need it the most!

Presenters:

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