



## **EPRI Seismic Qualification Reporting and Testing Standardization Users Group (SQURTS) Efficiency Notice**

Dear SQURTS Member,

In an effort to reduce costs imposed on the program and improve efficiency, the following guidance is shared regarding the (1) Submittal of site-specific response spectra for SQURTS testing and (2) Test Procedure Approval (TPA).

### **Submittal of site-specific response spectra for SQURTS testing**

Ideally, when submitting an item for test, the item will be tested to a generic response spectra such as the SQURTS 14g table limit RRS. Testing to generic spectra is a key tenant of SQURTS program as it (1) maximizes the number of items on the table per test, and (2) is at a higher acceleration level which would benefit a larger population of members. Site specific testing detracts from these efficiencies. The EPRI SQURTS program acknowledges the occasional need for site specific tests, but justification is

needed to be supplied by the sponsor utility when filling out the seismic test submittal. This can be input in the comments section of the submittal form.

Site specific testing justification will be reviewed by the SQRSTS Steering Committee in conjunction with Curtis Wright during the periodic scope control calls. Acceptability of site-specific testing will be determined on a case-by-case basis, and will depend on a multitude of factors such as budget, test facility workload, and perceived sample capacities, etc. The Steering committee reserves the right to disallow a site-specific test with insufficient justification or if the test becomes overly cumbersome with regard to the given test week scope and/or budget.

Regarding the ordering of site specific and generic testing, per the SQRSTS Charter:  
*... Although members are encouraged to use the generic testing procedures and seismic levels to provide benefit to all members, the Testing Member-specific RRS should be included in case the item does not successfully pass the generic levels. Site specific testing and RIM testing may be subject to approval by the Chair and/or Vice Chair.*

In summary, care should be taken by the sponsoring utility when selecting a site specific RRS for qualification under the EPRI SQRSTS program. The default Spectra should be a generic spectra (floor or ideally table limits), with a site-specific test being the exception. The utility shall provide justification and expect scrutiny from the steering committee in its efforts to control costs to the program.

#### **Test Procedure Approval (TPA) prior to SQRSTS testing.**

Recently there has been a trend where member utilities are requiring test procedure approval prior to testing activities. In some instances, this requirement has led to delays and inefficiencies regarding the SQRSTS testing process. It is understood that this step may be a code/license requirement in some jurisdictions.

In alignment with the SQRSTS charter, users should review the standard function procedure for the component they are testing and provide any additional comments PRIOR to filling out the SQRSTS submittal form. This will allow speedy progression of testing with minimal interruption.

If a test submittal invokes TPA prior to SQRSTS testing and delays are incurred due to approval issues, the test may be moved to the next available SQRSTS test week.

Note: Under extenuating circumstances, and in instances where the comments on the test procedure are justifiably related to technical correctness, exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis with approval from the steering committee.

Please direct any questions to [Travis McRitchie](mailto:travis.mcritchie@pge.com) (travis.mcritchie@pge.com) or [Jill Lucas](mailto:jlucas@epri.com) (jlucas@epri.com).

Sincerely,

SQRSTS Steering Committee



EPRI, 3420 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94304 USA  
[www.epri.com](http://www.epri.com) | 650-855-2121

EPRI is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit, scientific research organization that does not sell personal information, but is committed to best privacy practices.

[EPRI Privacy Statement](#) | [EPRI Terms of Use](#) | [EPRI Cookie Policy](#)

[Hubspot Privacy Policy](#) | [Hubspot Cookie Policy](#) | [Hubspot Legal, including Terms](#)

By registering for an EPRI event, you will be asked to read and agree to the [Event Participation Consent](#).

Update your [email preferences](#) to choose the types of emails you receive.

[Unsubscribe](#) from all future emails.

EPRI, 3420 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94304, USA, 650-855-2121  
[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)