

Frequently Asked Questions – 2021 NERC Membership Renewal

Updated June 2021

1. What is the NERC membership renewal process?

Article II, Section 2 of the NERC Bylaws provides for periodic renewals of NERC membership registration. At its May 2021 meeting, the NERC Board of Trustees determined to initiate this process for 2021.

2. When will the renewal process take place?

Renewal letters will be sent to each NERC member by email beginning around July 7, 2021. Registration renewals will be due within 30 days.

3. How will I renew my membership?

Renewal will take place electronically, through the ERO Portal.

4. Why is NERC requiring me to renew my membership?

NERC last renewed its membership roster in 2018. Additionally, in April 2021, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved revisions to the [NERC Bylaws](#) that modified the membership sectors to ensure consistency with the intent of fair and balanced participation in NERC governance by stakeholders with a significant role in the reliability and security of the bulk power system. NERC expects that a number of NERC members may now qualify for different sector membership as a result of the revisions.

5. Can you explain the recent membership sector definition changes?

Sectors 1-9 and 12 (i.e., all original Sectors, excluding the Regional Entity and ISO/RTO Sectors): Under the revised definitions, entities that meet the stated criteria may be members of the sector. Not-for-profit associations that coordinate and help represent the interests of the members of the sector may also be members of the sector. Previously, consultants, vendors, agents, attorneys, and the like were permitted to join the sector. This is no longer the case.

Sector 9, Small End-Use Electricity Customer: Under the revised definition, members of this sector now include persons or entities such as associations, state consumer advocates, or other advocacy organizations that represent the collective interests of groups of electricity end users, along with not-for-profit associations that coordinate and help represent the interests of the members of the sector. Previously, individual small end-users were permitted to join the sector. This is no longer the case.

Sector 13, Associate: A new sector that was created to accommodate candidates for membership that do not meet the criteria for another sector.

Note that these changes do not affect the NERC [Registered Ballot Body](#) that votes on Reliability Standards.

6. I am a consultant/vendor that provides services to NERC members, and I previously registered for NERC membership in the sector to which I provide services. May I renew my membership in this sector?

Under the revised membership sector definitions, only entities meeting the criteria may remain in the sector. For Sectors 1-9 and 12, not-for-profit associations that coordinate and help represent the interests of the members of the sector may also be members of the sector, unless the majority of the sector members object. Consultants/vendors that do not meet the criteria for any of the Sectors 1-12 may join Sector 13, Associate.

7. I am a private individual that joined NERC in Sector 9, Small end-use electricity customer. May I remain in this sector following the renewal?

Under the revised membership sector definition for Sector 9, only persons or entities that represent the collective interests of groups of small end-use electricity customers, as well as not-for-profit associations that represent the interests of the members of Sector 9, may remain in Sector 9. Individual small end users that do not meet the revised Sector 9 criteria may join Sector 13, Associate.

8. I joined NERC earlier this year. Do I need to renew my membership?

Yes. All NERC members that applied to join NERC as a member before **July 7, 2021** must complete the renewal process.

9. When I log into the ERO Portal, I do not see a “NERC Membership” tab, or the NERC Membership screen says “There is no records to display”. What should I do?

Only the primary and alternate contacts for a NERC member entity will see the entity’s NERC membership information. If you believe the NERC membership contact information for your entity is incorrect, please submit a ticket to the ERO Portal Help Desk for assistance (<https://support.nerc.net/>).

Please note that, for many entities, the primary and alternate NERC membership contacts are different from their contacts for NERC Reliability Standards compliance purposes.

10. My company is a NERC member, and it recently merged with another company that is also a member of NERC. Should I renew the registrations for both companies?

No. After determining which NERC membership your combined company would like to keep, please deactivate (i.e. withdraw) the extra membership through the ERO Portal. If you require assistance with this process, please submit a ticket to the ERO Portal Help Desk (<https://support.nerc.net/>).

In your ticket, please include: (1) the names of the member companies; (2) the registration that should remain active and the registration that should be deactivated; and (3) primary and alternate contact information for the active membership registration.

11. What happens if I do not renew my membership by the deadline?

Members who fail to complete the registration renewal process by **September 20, 2021** will be removed from the membership roster. An entity that has been removed may rejoin the membership roster at any time by completing the online application.

12. Is this the same process as the annual Registered Ballot Body self-select attestation process?

No. The NERC membership renewal process and the annual Registered Ballot Body self-select attestation process are different processes. NERC members that are also members of the Registered Ballot Body will need to complete both processes by their respective deadlines.

13. Will I update my compliance contacts through the NERC membership renewal process?

No. This renewal process will ask you to update or confirm your primary and alternate contacts for NERC membership. If you are registered with NERC for Reliability Standards compliance purposes, your compliance contact information will not be affected by this process.

14. What happens if I lost my ERO Portal credentials, or I get a message that my password is expired or inactive?

You may reset your username or password by submitting a ticket to the ERO Portal Help Desk (<https://support.nerc.net/>).

15. My company is a member of NERC, but neither the primary nor alternate contacts are still with the company. What should I do?

Please submit a ticket through the ERO Portal Help Desk (<https://support.nerc.net/>) for further assistance. In your ticket, please include the name of the member company and primary and alternate contact information for the membership registration.

16. I have a question that was not addressed in this document. Who should I contact?

Questions regarding NERC membership may be sent to the NERC Membership Team at nercmembership@nerc.net.

For technical assistance with the ERO Portal, please submit a ticket to the ERO Portal Help Desk (<https://support.nerc.net/>).