

Note: an Interpretation cannot be used to change a standard.

Request for an Interpretation of a Reliability Standard	
Date submitted:	January 30, 2009
Contact information for person requesting the interpretation:	
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Identify the standard that needs clarification:	
Standard Number:	PRC-005-1 Requirement R1
Standard Title:	Transmission and Generation Protection System Maintenance and Testing
Identify specifically what needs clarification (If a category is not applicable, please leave it blank):	
<p>Requirement Number and Text of Requirement: (The Glossary of Terms defines Protection Systems as follows: Protective relays, associated communication systems, voltage and current sensing devices, station batteries and DC control circuitry.)</p> <p>R1. Each Transmission Owner and any Distribution Provider that owns a transmission Protection System and each Generator Owner that owns a generation Protection System shall have a Protection System maintenance and testing program for Protection Systems that affect the reliability of the BES. The program shall include:</p> <p>R1.1. Maintenance and testing intervals and their basis.</p> <p>R1.2. Summary of maintenance and testing procedures.</p> <p>Clarification needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does R1 require a maintenance and testing program for the battery chargers for the “station batteries” that are considered part of the Protection System? • Does R1 require a maintenance and testing program for auxiliary relays and sensing devices? If so, what types of auxiliary relays and sensing devices? (i.e transformer sudden pressure relays) • Does R1 require maintenance and testing of transmission line re-closing relays? • Does R1 require a maintenance and testing program for the DC circuitry that is just the 	

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circuitry with relays and devices that control actions on breakers, etc., or does R1 require a program for the entire circuit from the battery charger to the relays to circuit breakers and all associated wiring?

- For R1, what are examples of "associated communications systems" that are part of "Protection Systems" that require a maintenance and testing program?

Identify the material impact associated with this interpretation:

Identify the material impact to your organization or others caused by the lack of clarity or an incorrect interpretation of this standard.

This interpretation is needed to assure that the intent of the standard is supported through effective compliance monitoring. Protection Systems are a line of defense essential to the reliability of the BES and the failure of Protection Systems can cause catastrophic events.