

February 17, 2021

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Ms. Christine E. Long  
Registrar & Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Re: *North American Electric Reliability Corporation*

Dear Ms. Long:

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) hereby submits Notice of Withdrawal of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation for Proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6. NERC requests, to the extent necessary, a waiver of any applicable filing requirements with respect to this filing.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions concerning this filing.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lauren Perotti

Lauren Perotti  
*Senior Counsel for the North American Electric  
Reliability Corporation*

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**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD  
OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

**NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC )  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION )**

**NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF THE  
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION  
FOR PROPOSED RELIABILITY STANDARD CIP-002-6**

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) hereby submits this notice of withdrawal for proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6.

**I. Background**

On June 22, 2020, NERC submitted a petition for approval of proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6.<sup>1</sup> In the petition, NERC also sought the retirement of currently effective Reliability Standard CIP-002-5.1a.

**II. Support for Withdrawal**

At its February 4, 2021 meeting, the NERC Board of Trustees approved a resolution to withdraw proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6.<sup>2</sup> NERC therefore asks to withdraw NERC’s June 22, 2020 petition seeking approval of proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6 and the retirement of currently effective Reliability Standard CIP-002-5.1a. In light of recent cybersecurity events and the evolving threat landscape, NERC asserts that additional caution is warranted regarding any criteria that may permit more entities to categorize Bulk Electric System (“BES”) Cyber Systems as low impact, such as the revisions proposed in CIP-002-6, and recommends

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<sup>1</sup> *Petition of NERC for Approval of Proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6* (June 12, 2020).

<sup>2</sup> *See* NERC Board of Trustees February 4, 2021 Agenda Package Item 7.b, available at [https://www.nerc.com/gov/bot/Agenda%20highlights%20and%20Mintues%202013/Board\\_Open\\_Meeting\\_Agenda-Feb-4-2021\\_PUBLIC\\_ONLY.pdf](https://www.nerc.com/gov/bot/Agenda%20highlights%20and%20Mintues%202013/Board_Open_Meeting_Agenda-Feb-4-2021_PUBLIC_ONLY.pdf).

further study. As a result, NERC withdraws proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6 until NERC has had the opportunity to reevaluate the criterion based on additional data and studies.

### **III. Conclusion**

NERC requests withdrawal of NERC's June 22, 2020 petition seeking approval of proposed Reliability Standard CIP-002-6 and retirement of Reliability Standard CIP-002-5.1a.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Marisa Hecht*

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