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Stakeholder Engagement in an Evolving Climate

Our industry and the environment in which we operate continue to be at the center of rapid change and unprecedented challenges. Not only are grid technologies, usage and topology changing, but also we are seeing the impacts of changing weather patterns across the continent. In addition, while the warmer temperatures that come with summer are exciting for outdoor recreation, they bring the operational challenges that come with balancing increasing load using an evolving resource mix. [Continued on page 2](#)



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Stakeholder Engagement (cont'd)

Last year, the West experienced an intense and prolonged heat wave affecting many areas across the Western Interconnection. Because of widespread, above-average temperatures, generation and transmission capacity strained to keep up with increased electricity demand, resulting in several Balancing Authorities (BA) declaring energy emergencies and one BA shedding firm load. As we enter what will likely be another hot, dry summer in the West, I am encouraged by the incredible commitment and preparation that our industry partners have undertaken in advance of summer 2021. Learning from past events and rapidly acting to improve are at the core of reliability and security.

I am also proud of the work the ERO Enterprise is doing to provide independent assessments of future reliability issues. NERC's recently released *2021 Summer Reliability Assessment* reports on areas of concern regarding the reliability of the North American bulk power system (BPS) for the upcoming summer season, including the possibility of western resource shortfalls. This assessment and the companion Winter Reliability Assessment and Long-Term Reliability Assessment are vital to ensuring that a wide group of stakeholders understand the potential challenges we are facing.

The strength of the ERO Enterprise model and its interdependence with stakeholders results in a comprehensive view of the risks to reliability and security. What has recently become clearer to me is the importance of broadening the conversations about critical reliability and security to include even more stakeholders. Over the past year, we at WECC have engaged in robust discussions with regulators and policymakers throughout the West to help them better understand the reliability challenges and opportunities associated with the transition from traditional baseload generation resources to more variable generation resources. This expanded dialogue helps all stakeholders in the West have a more complete view of the changes we are facing and collaborate to identify the best way to address those challenges in a coordinated way.

At the end of the day, we are all in this together and share the common objective of a highly reliable and secure BPS. Continuing the partnership and engagement with our stakeholders is the best path forward, and I am honored to be part of it. ■■■

Headlines

Lauby Speaks at FERC Technical Conference on Climate Change, Extreme Weather and Electric System Reliability

On June 1 and June 2, FERC will hold a technical conference to discuss issues surrounding the threat to electric system reliability posed by climate change and extreme weather events. **Mark Lauby**, NERC's senior vice president and chief engineer, will speak on Panel 2: Best Practices for Long-Term Planning: Assessing and Mitigating the Risk of Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events at 3:45–5:45 p.m. Eastern on June 1. This panel will explore how well existing planning processes address climate change and extreme weather events and possible improvements to planning processes.

The two-day conference is organized into five panels:

- **Panel 1:** Planning for a Future that Diverges from Historical Trends
- **Panel 2:** Best Practices for Long-Term Planning: Assessing and Mitigating the Risk of Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events
- **Panel 3:** Operating Practices for Addressing Climate Change and Extreme Weather
- **Panel 4:** Recovery and Restoration
- **Panel 5:** Coordination

The full agenda is available [here](#), and the conference is open for the public to [attend remotely](#).

Summer Assessment Warns of Potential Energy Shortfalls

NERC's [2021 Summer Reliability Assessment](#) warns that parts of North America are at elevated or high risk of energy shortfalls this summer during above normal peak temperatures.

While NERC's risk scenario analysis shows adequate resources and energy for most of North America, Texas, New England, MISO and parts of the West are at an "elevated risk" of energy emergencies. In the "high risk" category is California, which relies on large energy imports during peak demand scenarios and when solar resource output retreats in the evening hours. While more than 3 GW of additional resources are expected in California this summer compared to 2020, most will be solar photovoltaic (PV) generation.

These plants can provide energy to support peak demand; however, solar PV output falls off rapidly in late afternoon while high demand often remains. Reliance on imports during these periods is an increasing reliability risk. While actions taken by the California Public Utilities Commission, CAISO and utilities to procure additional resources will help, the Western Interconnection's increase in demand and decline in resources may reduce the amount of surplus capacity available when California is in shortfall.

"As the grid transforms and weather-dependent resources become increasingly important to maintaining the real-time supply for electricity, the bulk power system becomes more vulnerable to abnormal weather," said John Moura, director of Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis. "Above-average seasonal temperatures, such as those predicted for this summer, can contribute to high peak demand and impact the availability of generation resources and imports from neighboring areas. This means that it is especially important for the electric industry to ensure the committed resource mix can support a variety of abnormal conditions."

As identified in the assessment, abnormal conditions that lead to elevated risk include prolonged above average temperatures, low wind and solar scenarios, reduced transfers due to wildfire-related transmission outages. The assessment's other key findings include:

- Protecting our critical electrical workforce from health risks during the COVID-19 pandemic remains a priority. Protocols put in place for reducing risks to personnel in control centers and

on the front lines, including mutual assistance in hurricane-damaged areas, should be maintained as warranted by public health conditions. In 2021, there is remaining uncertainty in demand projections as governments adjust to changing public health guidelines and conditions and as the behavior of society adapts.

- Late-summer wildfire season in the western United States and Canada poses risk to BPS reliability. Government agencies warn of the potential for above-normal wildfire risk beginning in July in parts of the western United States as well as central and western Canada. Operation of the bulk power system can be impacted in areas where wildfires are active as well as areas where there is heightened risk of wildfire ignition due to weather and ground conditions.

NERC develops its independent assessments to identify potential BPS reliability risks. NERC's annual Summer Reliability Assessment provides an evaluation of resource and transmission system adequacy necessary to meet projected summer peak demands. In addition to assessing resource adequacy, the assessment monitors and identifies potential reliability issues of interest and regional topics of concern. The reliability assessment process is a coordinated reliability evaluation between the Reliability Assessment Subcommittee, the Reliability and Security Technical Committee, the Regional Entities and NERC staff. The *2021 Summer Reliability Assessment* reflects NERC's independent assessment and is intended to inform industry leaders, planners, operators and regulatory bodies so they are better prepared to take necessary actions to ensure BPS reliability. [2021 SRA Infographic](#)

ERO Enterprise Deploys Release 1 of Align and the ERO SEL in NPCC, ReliabilityFirst and SERC Regions

The ERO Enterprise is excited to announce the Release 1 launch of the Align tool and the ERO Secure Evidence Locker (SEL) for NPCC, ReliabilityFirst and SERC as of May 24, 2021. Align and the ERO SEL are designed to process and track all compliance monitoring and enforcement activities with the goal of improving security and standardizing processes across the ERO Enterprise.

NPCC, ReliabilityFirst and SERC join MRO, NERC, Texas RE and WECC, which have already begun using the Align tool and the ERO SEL. Release 1 includes self-reporting/self-logging, enforcement processing, and mitigation functionality in Align, as well as the use of the ERO SEL to collect registered entity-provided evidence as part of the ERO Enterprise's CMEP activities. Subsequent releases will introduce new functionalities to the platform throughout 2021.

"The dedication and collaboration across the Enterprise to get to this point is truly inspiring," said Jason Blake, president and CEO of SERC.

Numerous resources have been developed to assist users, including registered and Regional Entity newsletters, webinars and a frequently asked questions document, which are available on the [Align page](#). Additionally, [the NERC Training Site](#) contains all Align and ERO SEL training materials, including training videos and the Start, Stop, Continue Guide as well as Align and ERO SEL user guides.

Statement on Cybersecurity Executive Order

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation welcomes the Administration's Executive Order focused on improving the nation's cybersecurity and protecting federal government networks. NERC, its [Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center \(E-ISAC\)](#) and the electricity industry aggressively address security through mandatory cyber and physical standards and place a high priority on information sharing.

"We appreciate the increased focus on cybersecurity in the Executive Order, in particular the emphasis on improved information sharing," said Manny Cancel, NERC senior vice president and chief executive officer of the E-ISAC. "The E-ISAC relies heavily on intelligence provided by government agencies, industry partners and the insight gained through voluntary information sharing from our asset owners and operators. Cooperation and collaboration are fundamental aspects of our ability to share timely and actionable information with members and partners required to mitigate their exposure to these threats."

NERC and the E-ISAC look forward to working with our public-private partners, including the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council, to address the marked

increase in cyber and physical security threats. Together we share a commitment to reinforcing the reliability and security of the bulk power system by creating a strong, knowledge-based defense built on sharing and collaboration. [Executive Order on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity](#)

Electric-Gas Interdependencies, Potential Summer Energy Shortfalls are Focus of Board Discussions

Critical infrastructure interdependencies and potential energy shortfalls this summer were featured during NERC's quarterly Board of Trustees meeting on May 13. Participants emphasized that cyber risk and extreme weather are significant threats to reliability that demand continuous vigilance by all stakeholders.

Opening remarks were made by Nick Akins, chief executive officer (CEO) at American Electric Power; James Danly, commissioner at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); Patricia Hoffman, acting assistant secretary at the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Electricity; and David Morton, CAMPUT representative to NERC.

In his remarks, Akins stressed that maintaining system resilience must remain the central focus as the industry continues to undergo rapid transformation. Noting NERC's independent voice, he highlighted how NERC's technical assessments are more important than ever to inform industry and policymakers of the risk around the changing grid. Akins commended the importance of the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) work on security with a specific mention of GridEx, noting that testing resiliency is a critical part of industry's discipline.

Danly recognized NERC for its effective work with FERC in ensuring reliability and addressing recent security events. He focused on the importance of reliability standards, conveying that NERC's aggressive actions in ensuring properly formulated, technically accurate and effectively enforced standards are critical to assuring reliability. He noted that the evolving system makes this challenge particularly difficult and that NERC should stay proactive, evolving standards in line with changing risks.

Stressing that the future will require significant new investments in infrastructure, Hoffman focused on transmission, system upgrades and flexible resources. Noting that the Colonial pipeline attack is a call for continued vigilance on cyber security, she cited the importance of locking down access points, monitoring and forensics, supply chain protection and partnerships. Hoffman also thanked NERC for its partnership with DOE on reliability and security matters.

Morton thanked NERC for the continued partnership with Canadian regulators, congratulated NERC on the launch of Align and shared his appreciation for the collaborative work with NERC and the E-ISAC. Reflecting on the February cold weather events and Canada's experience with such extremes, he stressed the importance of these issues to CAMPUT as well as how these events can provide learning opportunities and inform mitigations, including reliability standards.

Next, NERC President and CEO Jim Robb noted the extraordinary events of the past nine months, which included major weather events, supply chain compromises and the Colonial pipeline cyber attack, showing that the reliability and security risk to the electricity system has seen a step change increase.

"The Colonial pipeline attack underscores the interconnectedness of electricity with other infrastructures and is the reason we must redouble our focus on the reliability of the pipeline system that delivers essential fuel," Robb told the virtual audience. "If this had happened to a major natural gas line serving electricity generators under extreme cold weather conditions, the results could have been catastrophic."

Robb also referenced NERC's [2017 Special Assessment: Potential Bulk Power System Impacts Due to Severe Disruptions on the Natural Gas System](#), which called for gas industry regulators to establish cyber security standards comparable to NERC Reliability Standards, saying: "It is time for policymakers to refocus on ensuring that gas infrastructure is as secure as the grid it supplies. This is not a jurisdictional play," he noted. "Rather, it underscores the need for foundational security standards

for an industry that is critical to reliability and national security."

The Board received a preview of NERC's [2021 Summer Reliability Assessment](#). Based on predictions of above-normal temperatures throughout much of North America, the assessment warns of Regions where the risk of energy shortfalls during extreme conditions are elevated or high. Texas, New England and MISO are found to have "elevated risk." Of greatest concern in the high-risk category is California, where up to 11 GW of additional transfers are expected to be needed in late afternoon to offset reduced solar output. This is in contrast to 1 GW of transfer needed on a normal peak day.

Robb noted how prescient NERC's priorities of extreme weather, concerns over energy adequacy and supply chain were last year. "We have consistently signaled the need to be cognizant of reliability issues as we navigate this transition to a cleaner energy future and the need to manage the pace of change," Robb said. "We can't take our eye off the ball as the resource situation continues to become more complicated and more dependent on other critical infrastructures and weather conditions."

The Board received several updates on ongoing activities, including the Cold Weather standards project, the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Board resolution and development of the 2021 State of Reliability report.

Howard Gugel, NERC's vice president of Engineering and Standards, provided updates on Cold Weather project activities and the CIP resolution. The Project 2019-06 – Cold Weather standards drafting team is currently drafting revisions to three reliability standards to improve generator preparedness for cold weather and enhance situational awareness in cold weather conditions, consistent with the recommendations from the [July 2019 FERC-NERC Staff Report](#), Gugel said.

The Board directed the standard revisions be completed no later than June 2021 and, to facilitate meeting the deadline, the Standards Committee authorized a waiver to reduce the length of the additional formal comment and ballot period — from 45 days to 25. The revisions to

the three standards passed the additional ballot and will be moved to a final ballot in mid-May.

Next steps include implementing any actions resulting from the FERC–NERC cold weather inquiry and looking into standards for Regional Coordinator and/or Balancing Authority seasonal emergency energy management plans, Gugel noted.

“It is important that we address these issues promptly,” Gugel said. “We have very recent experience with the impact of cold weather and cyber attacks that magnify the urgency of focusing on these very real risks to the reliable operation of the bulk power system.”

Regarding CIP resolution activity, at the February 2021 Board meeting, NERC staff recommended the withdrawal of CIP-002-6, which the Board endorsed and approved with a resolution to undertake additional actions to protect low-impact cyber systems. Among other actions, Gugel described the formation of a Low-Impact Criteria Review team to examine the degrees of risk presented by low-impact Bulk Electric System cyber systems. The team will develop a report on their findings.

John Moura, NERC’s director of Reliability Assessment and Technical Committees, provided preliminary findings from the 2021 State of Reliability, which will focus on the unprecedented conditions that challenged grid resilience in 2020. These conditions most notably included the ongoing pandemic, a historic hurricane season, extreme heat and wildfires in the West, the supply chain compromise and other cyber security attacks and vulnerabilities, among other challenges. However, there are also some positive findings, Moura said. The report finds that in addition to fewer overall events on the system, restoration time of transmission system outages after extreme weather has improved and the misoperation rate has continued to decline.

In Board action, Project 2015-09 – Establish and Communicate System Operating Limits (SOL) was adopted, which revises the requirements for determining and communicating SOL to address issues identified in Project 2015-03 – Periodic Review of SOL Standards. The revised standards and definitions will benefit reliability by

improving alignment with approved Transmission Planning (TPL) and proposed Transmission Operations (TOP) and Interconnection Reliability Operations and Coordination (IRO) Standards.

Additionally, the Board approved the initiation of the NERC membership renewal process, which will take place during July–August 2021. Under this process, all NERC members will be required to renew their membership registration according to the revised NERC Membership Sector criteria approved by FERC in April 2021.

Proposed revisions to NERC’s Rules of Procedure (ROP) were also approved during the quarterly meeting. The revisions serve to modernize the ROP, reflect current business practices and enhance a risk-based approach to monitoring and enforcing compliance. The fundamental elements of NERC’s mandatory Reliability Standards would not change, the revisions help increase efficiencies in compliance monitoring and enforcement activities across the ERO Enterprise.

Board presentations are located on the Board of Trustees [agenda page](#) on NERC’s website. The next Board meeting is August 12 via WebEx.

ERO Enterprise Issues Extension of Self-Logging Program Expansion and Deferment of On-Site Activities

In May 2020, the ERO Enterprise released guidance that provided regulatory relief related to registered entities’ COVID-19 response and temporarily expanded the Self-Logging Program. As the pandemic progressed, the ERO Enterprise extended this [guidance](#) each of the past several quarters. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the ERO Enterprise is further extending this expansion through December 31, 2021, to allow all registered entities to self-log instances of potential noncompliance with minimal or moderate risk related to their COVID-19 response.

The ERO Enterprise will also continue to defer on-site audits through December 31, 2021. As COVID-19 cases and vaccine administration evolve, this will allow registered entities to continue to focus their resources on keeping their workforces safe and the lights on. The ERO Enterprise has had success throughout 2020 and into

2021 in coordinating remote virtual audits and other activities that were originally scheduled to be on-site, which will continue. On-site CMEP work remains an important part of assessing reliability and security, and the ERO Enterprise looks forward to resuming on-site work when it is safe to do so. When that happens, the ERO Enterprise will coordinate on-site activities in a manner that prioritizes risk and safety.

While the ERO Enterprise will continue to evaluate the circumstances, given anticipated developments in COVID-19 response throughout 2021, it anticipates that this extension will be the final extension of this guidance.

[Updated Guidance](#) | [CMEP One-Stop Shop](#)

ERO Enterprise Deploys Release 1 of Align and the ERO SEL in WECC Region

The ERO Enterprise is excited to announce the Release 1 launch of Align and the ERO Secure Evidence Locker (SEL) for WECC as of May 10, 2021. Align and the ERO SEL are tools designed to process and track all compliance monitoring and enforcement activities with the goal of improving security and standardizing processes across the ERO Enterprise.

WECC is joining MRO, NERC and Texas RE, which have been using Align and the ERO SEL since March 31, 2021. This launch marks an important milestone for the Align project, and Release 1 deployment will continue across the ERO Enterprise through May 24, 2021. Release 1 includes self-reporting/self-logging, enforcement processing and mitigation functionality in Align, as well as the use of the ERO SEL to collect registered entity-provided evidence as part of the ERO Enterprise's CMEP activities. Subsequent releases will introduce new functionalities to the platform throughout 2021.

“We are excited that Align has arrived in the Western Interconnection and are certain our registered entities in the West will soon see the benefits from a consistent CMEP reporting platform along with a secure method of managing and storing evidence and data,” said Melanie M. Frye, president and CEO of WECC. “Throughout this and subsequent releases, we stand ready to perform our functions within Align and to assist entities in any way possible to help create a smooth transition.”

Numerous resources have been developed to assist users, including registered and Regional Entity newsletters, webinars and a frequently asked questions document, which are available on the [Align page](#). Additionally, [the NERC Training Site](#) contains all Align and ERO SEL training materials, including training videos and the Start, Stop, Continue Guide as well as Align and ERO SEL user guides.



Compliance

NERC Releases Second Episode of Quarterly Compliance Podcast

NERC is pleased to announce the release of the second installment of its quarterly compliance podcast, “Currently Compliant.” Hosted by ERO Enterprise subject matter experts (SMEs), “Currently Compliant” is intended to be a quick way to bring attention to frequently asked questions on which the SMEs have some clear insights to share.

[Currently Compliant: Episode 2](#) covers PRC-027-1 R2 and the related evidence and timelines as well as Supply Chain Risk Management.

The PRC-027 discussion features the following regional SMEs:

- **Mike Hughes**, Principal Technical Auditor, Operations and Planning Monitoring, ReliabilityFirst
- **Serge Beazile**, P.E. Senior Auditor, Compliance, SERC
- **Phil O'Donnell**, Senior Auditor, Operations and Planning, WECC
- **Ryan Mauldin**, Senior Engineer Compliance Assurance, NERC

The Supply Chain Risk Management Discussion, which begins around the 14-minute mark, features the following regional SMEs:

- **Shon Austin**, Principal Technical Auditor, ReliabilityFirst
- **Brian Allen**, CIP Assurance Advisor, NERC

For any questions or suggestions for future topics, please contact compliancequestions@nerc.net and put “Currently Compliant” in the subject line.

Additional Resources:

[PRC-027 Project Page](#) | The SMEs also recommend reviewing the supplemental material found in PRC-027 standard itself.

[Talk with Texas RE: PRC-027](#) | Texas RE recently did a related PRC-027-1 presentation on their “Talk with Texas RE” series, introducing the standard and including examples.

Supply Chain Small Group Advisory Sessions (SGAS) FAQ Updated

NERC posted an updated composition of [frequently asked questions](#) from the participants who attended the small group advisory sessions.

BES Artifact Submittal Exception Process Posted

On May 14, 2020, the ERO Enterprise published the [Bulk Electric System \(BES\) Artifact Submittal Exception Process](#). The process provides an alternative framework for the Compliance Enforcement Authority and a registered entity to collaborate on effective and secure evidence submittal in certain cases when a registered entity prefers to take additional measures, at its own expense, to submit certain sensitive information outside of the ERO Secure Evidence Locker (SEL). While the use of this alternative framework is limited to highly sensitive information as identified on the Cyber Security Artifact list (attached to the process as Appendix A), the ERO Enterprise anticipates that the majority of registered entities will use the ERO SEL or their own SEL. Registered entities that choose to coordinate alternate means according to this process must separately coordinate with NERC and any applicable governmental authorities to provide the evidence in a manner convenient to NERC and authorized government agencies (AGAs) should NERC or the AGA determine it needs to review evidence, as it will not be available in the ERO SEL (e.g., as part of NERC’s regular oversight of Regional Entities or in support of reviewing enforcement actions). Please submit additional questions to AskAlign@nerc.net. ■■■

Reliability Risk Management

Lesson Learned Posted

In May, NERC posted one new lesson learned on the [Lessons Learned](#) page. The [Interconnection Oscillation Disturbance](#) lesson learned addresses an issue on January 11, 2019, when an Interconnection-wide oscillation of approximately 0.25 Hz frequency propagated through the entire Eastern Interconnection. It is of primary interest to Reliability Coordinators, Balancing Authorities, Generator Owners and Generator Operators.

A successful lesson learned clearly identifies the lesson, contains sufficient information to understand the issues, visibly identifies the difference between the actual outcome and the desired outcome and includes an accurate sequence of events, when it provides clarity.

Webinar Resources Posted

NERC posted the [presentation](#) and [streaming webinar](#) from the April 28, 2021 NERC Energy Management System Performance Special Assessment webinar.

NERC also posted the [streaming webinar](#) from the May 6, 2021 Human Performance in Electric Power – Virtual Session 1. ■■■

Standards

With the implementation of the [Align Project](#) in 2021, there will be changes to the [Reliability Standards web page](#) and associated reports, including the One-Stop Shop, U.S. Effective Date Status/Functional Applicability spreadsheet and VRF and VSL matrices.

Webinar Resources Posted

NERC posted the [slide presentation](#) and [streaming webinar](#) for the May 18, 2021 Project 2020-04 – Modifications to CIP-012 webinar.

Standards Efficiency Review Final Report Posted

The [Standards Efficiency Review](#) is a multi-phase project that began in 2017 based on input from the NERC Member Representatives Committee and is a focus area for the ERO Enterprise Long-Term Strategy to capture

effectiveness, efficiency and continuous improvement opportunities. The [report](#) outlines accomplishments and recommendations from the project.

Results for Standards Committee Segment 4 Special Election

The Standards Committee (SC) nomination period for the special election for Segment 4 to fill the remainder of the 2021–2022 term closed April 20, 2021. Voters nominated Alice Wright and Karie L. Barczak to represent Segment 4. The SC held an election from April 29–May 10, 2021. After verification of votes cast, the following election results are considered final. Alice Wright received the majority vote and was elected to fill the remainder of the two-year term ending December 31, 2022.

2021 Registered Ballot Body Self-Select Attestation Process Coming Soon

[Appendix 3D Registered Ballot Body Criteria](#) of the NERC Rules of Procedure states: “Each participant, when initially registering to join the Registered Ballot Body (RBB), and annually thereafter, shall self-select to belong to one of the Segments...” Therefore, NERC Standards staff will be initiating the **2021 Annual RBB Self-Select Process** in the coming weeks.

- **June 2021** – Each RBB voting member will receive a notification with a link to the Standards Balloting and Commenting System (SBS) electronic attestation page to confirm that there have been no material changes in the last 12 months that affect the entity’s current Segment selection(s), thus the entity continues to meet the Segment qualifications (as outlined in the qualifications in Appendix 3D: RBB Criteria referenced above).
- **August 2021** – Deadline for all RBB members to self-select their segments via the SBS. **Note:** Proxy Voters **are not** required to submit an attestation.

Notifications regarding the process will be sent via SBS/RBB email, weekly Standards, Compliance, and Enforcement Bulletins, and other NERC email alerts. Specific dates to be determined. For more information or assistance, please contact [Wendy Muller](#). ■■■

Member News

GET READY: NERC Membership Renewal Coming Summer 2021

Beginning July 7, 2021, NERC will send electronic notices to all NERC members asking them to complete the membership renewal process. All members must complete this process to remain members of NERC. Members that do not complete the required renewal by the deadline will be removed from the NERC membership roster, although they may submit a request to re-join at any time.

This is the first membership renewal process since 2018. Since that time, the NERC Board of Trustees and FERC have approved revisions to the criteria for the NERC membership sectors. The revisions included:

- Specifying that, for Sectors 1–9 and 12, in addition to those entities meeting the stated criteria, 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. Previously, consultants, vendors, agents, attorneys and the like were permitted to join the sector if they provided services to or otherwise represented the interests of the Sector. This language has been removed.
- Refining the criteria for Sector 9 – Small End-Use Electricity Customer to help ensure the sector better represents the particular interests of small end-users. 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.
- The creation of a new **Sector 13 – Associate** to accommodate candidates for membership that do not meet the definition of another sector.

To get ready for the renewal process, NERC asks each of its members to:

- Review the revised NERC membership [criteria](#) to determine if their current membership assignment remains appropriate, or if they will

need to request to be reassigned to a different sector;

- Ensure their membership contact information is up to date in the [ERO Portal](#); and
- Identify the proper primary and secondary contacts for their NERC membership registration.

Note: If a NERC member has merged with, acquired, or otherwise become affiliated with another NERC member, the member should determine which of its membership registrations beyond the single membership allowed under NERC's rules will be maintained and which will need to be deactivated.

The Standards Registered Ballot Body is not affected by these sector changes or the renewal process described above.

Please refer to the [NERC Members](#) page for more information. This page will be updated in the coming weeks with training opportunities and Frequently Asked Questions. Any questions may be directed to [NERC Membership](#).

Regional Entity Events

Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO)

- [MRO CMEP Advisory Council Q2 Meeting](#), June 2
- [MRO RAC Q2 Meeting](#), June 9
- [MRO SAC Q2 Meeting](#), June 23
- [Organizational Group Oversight Committee](#), June 23
- [MRO Board of Directors Meeting](#), June 24

ReliabilityFirst (RF)

- [Operational Resilience Webinar](#), June 8
- [Technical Talk with RF](#), June 21
- [DSM Networked Risks Workshop](#), June 30

SERC Reliability Corporation

- [SERC Representation at Texas RE CIP Workshop](#), June 3
- [Align Release 1 Training: Registered Entity Overview Webinar](#), June 10

- [The Scoop on Insider Threats Webinar](#), June 15
- [SERC Board of Directors Meeting](#), June 24

Texas RE

- [CIP Workshop](#), June 3
- Talk with Texas RE: [Energy Storage](#), June 17
- Talk with Texas RE: [Self-Log Submittals](#), June 24
- Reliability 101: [History & Introduction to Texas RE](#), July 13

WECC

- Align [training](#) (multiple dates) ■■■

Upcoming Events

For a full accounting of NERC events, such as meetings and conference calls for standard drafting teams, other standing committees, subcommittees, task forces, and working groups, please refer to the [NERC calendar](#).

- Finance and Audit Committee Informational Session and Webinar – 2:00–3:30 p.m. Eastern, June 3, 2021 | [Register](#) | [Agenda Package](#)
- Reliability and Security Technical Committee Meeting – June 8–9, 2021 | [June 8 Registration](#) and [Agenda Package](#) | [June 9 Registration](#) and [Agenda Package](#)
- [Standards Committee Conference Call](#) – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, June 16, 2021 | [Register](#)
- Compliance and Certification Committee Meeting – June 9–10, 2021 | [Day 1 Registration](#) | [Day 2 Registration](#) ■■■

Filings

NERC Filings to FERC in May

May 17, 2021

[Compliance Filing in Response to January 2013 Order](#) | NERC submits an unaudited report of NERC's budget-to-actual variance information for the first quarter 2021. This compliance filing is in accordance with FERC's January 16, 2013 Order, which approved a Settlement Agreement between the FERC Office of Enforcement and NERC, related to findings and recommendations arising out of its 2012 performance audit.

May 19, 2021

[NERC Petition for Approval of Amendments to WECC Regional Reliability Standards Development Procedures](#) | NERC submits a

petition for approval of amendments to WECC Regional Reliability Standards Development Procedures.

[Compliance Filing Re: Order on Five-Year Performance Assessment](#) | NERC submits a Compliance Filing in Response to FERC's Order on Compliance Filings for The Five-Year Performance Assessment under Docket No. RR19-7. This filing submits for FERC approval changes to Section 1003 of NERC's Rules of Procedure.

NERC Canadian Filings to FERC in May

May 17, 2021

[RDA Compliance Attachments 1-8](#)

May 11, 2021

[GMD Update - Informational Filing](#) ■ ■ ■

Careers at NERC

Associate Counsel (Enforcement)

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

BPS Cyber Security Specialist

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

Bulk Power System Awareness Analyst

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

CIP Assurance Advisor

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

E-ISAC Engagement and Outreach Coordinator

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

Senior Engineer or Advisor – Performance Analysis

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

Senior Network Administrator

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

Senior Cyber Security Analyst

Location: Atlanta

[Details](#)

Salesforce Specialist

Location: Washington, D.C.

[Details](#) ■ ■ ■