

Standards Announcement

Project 2010-07 Definition of Bulk Electric System

Recirculation Ballot Results

[Now Available](#)

Two recirculation ballots, for the definition of Bulk Electric System (BES) and for the application form titled 'Detailed Information to Support a Request for a BES Exception,' closed on November 21, 2011. Both recirculation ballots achieved stakeholder approval.

Voting statistics for each ballot are listed below, and the [Ballot Results](#) Web page provides a link to the detailed results.

BES Definition

Quorum: 95.92%

Approval: 81.32%

Detailed Information to Support a Request for BES Exception

Quorum: 93.02%

Approval: 81.48%

Next Steps

The definition of Bulk Electric System, its associated implementation plan and the supporting application form titled 'Detailed Information to Support a BES Exception Request' will be presented to the NERC Board of Trustees for adoption and subsequently filed with regulatory authorities. A set of proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure to provide a process for determining exceptions to the definition of BES is near completion and will be presented to the NERC Board of trustees for approval at the same time as the BES definition. The regulatory deadline in FERC Orders 743 and 743A requires that the revised definition of BES and process for handling exceptions be filed by January 25, 2012.

Additional information about the project, including a Fact Sheet and additional informational documents, has been posted on the [project page](#).

Background

On November 18, 2010 FERC issued Order 743 (amended by Order 743A) and directed NERC to revise the definition of Bulk Electric System so that the definition encompasses all Elements and Facilities necessary for the reliable operation and planning of the interconnected bulk power system. Additional specificity will reduce ambiguity and establish consistency across all Regions in distinguishing between BES and non-BES Elements and Facilities.

In addition, NERC was directed to develop a process for identifying any Elements or Facilities that should be excluded from the BES. NERC addressed these directives with two activities – the definition of Bulk Electric System was revised through the standard development process and a BES Definition Exception Process has been developed as proposed modifications to the Rules of Procedure. The work of the BES Definition Exception Process has been publicly posted at:

http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Rules_of_Procedure-RF.html.

Standards Development Process

The [Standard Processes Manual](#) contains all the procedures governing the standards development process. The success of the NERC standards development process depends on stakeholder participation. We extend our thanks to all those who participate. For more information or assistance, please contact Monica Benson at monica.benson@nerc.net.

*For more information or assistance, please contact Monica Benson,
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