



NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Standards Announcement

Initial Ballot Window Open

April 19–29, 2010

Now available at: <https://standards.nerc.net/CurrentBallots.aspx>

Proposed Modifications to NERC’s Standards Development Processes (Proposed Standard Processes Manual)

An initial ballot window for a new NERC Standard Processes Manual is now open **until 8 p.m. Eastern on April 29, 2010**. The proposed Standard Processes Manual is intended to replace the “Reliability Standards Development Procedure Version 7” manual in its entirety. Please see the project background below for more information.

Instructions

Members of the ballot pool associated with this project may log in and submit their votes from the following page: <https://standards.nerc.net/CurrentBallots.aspx>

Next Steps

Voting results will be posted and announced after the ballot window closes.

Project Background

During its January 2010 meeting, the NERC Standards Committee approved posting for industry comment a new NERC Standard Processes Manual (Manual). The draft Manual is the product of three parallel efforts to improve NERC’s standards development processes:

- Industry stakeholders submitted numerous comments during the development of the Three-year Performance Assessment, indicating the need for improvements to the standards processes, that would improve standards quality, reduce standards development time, reduce resource burdens on the industry to review and comment on draft standards, and improve the overall quality of NERC standards.
- The Standards Committee and its Process Subcommittee have been working on ideas to improve the effectiveness and speed of standards development while respecting NERC and American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards development principles.
- NERC’s Ad Hoc Group for Results-based Reliability Standards submitted a preliminary report to the NERC Board of Trustees in November 2009 that highlighted the need to provide guidance to standards drafting teams and better “quality” control over the development of reliability standards.

In response to the Three-year Performance Assessment, a review by NERC staff and a member of the Standards Committee’s Process Subcommittee was conducted to compare NERC’s standards development process against ANSI’s requirements for standards accreditation, and to compare NERC’s standards development process against three other ANSI-accredited standards developers.

The work of all these efforts was merged by NERC staff and combined into a new “Standard Processes Manual” that is intended to replace the “Reliability Standards Development Procedure Version 7” manual in its

entirety. The proposed manual is intended to result in improvements to the standards processes by making more efficient use of limited resources while improving the quality of standards and maintaining ANSI accreditation of the standards process. (The Standard Committee also intends to propose additional improvements to other NERC standards development guidance documents to support the Results-Based Standards Initiative. These changes will be addressed in subsequent announcements.)

Project page: http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Standards_Processes_Manual.html

Standards Development Process

The [Reliability Standards Development Procedure](#) 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,
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