

Standards, Compliance, and Enforcement Bulletin

December 21–27, 2020

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ACTIVE STANDARDS POSTINGS

Current and Upcoming Ballots (ballot periods close at 8:00 p.m. Eastern)

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
Project 2018-03 – Standards Efficiency Review Retirements FAC-008-5	Initial Ballot and Non-Binding Poll	01/04/21	01/13/21
Join Ballot Pools			
Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
Project 2018-03 – Standards Efficiency Review Retirements FAC-008-5	Join Ballot Pools	11/30/20	12/29/20
Posted for Comment			
Project	Action	Start Date	End Date

Project 2018-03 – Standards Efficiency Review Retirements FAC-008-5	Comment Period	11/30/20	01/13/21
NEW Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators SAR	Comment Period	12/16/20	01/14/21

OTHER ACTIVE COMMENT PERIODS

Posted for Comment			
Posting	Action	Start Date	End Date
<p>NEW Comment Period Open for Draft Reliability Guideline: The NERC Inverter-Based Resource Performance Working Group (IRPWG) developed the Performance, Modeling, and Simulations of BPS-Connected Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESSs) and Hybrid Power Plants Draft Reliability Guideline. The guideline also covers recommended modeling and study practices that should be considered by Transmission Planners and Planning Coordinators as they perform planning assessments with increasing numbers of BESSs and hybrid power plants in the interconnection study process, annual planning process, and for any specialized studies needed to ensure BPS reliability. The performance characteristics should be considered by all Generator Owners and developers seeking interconnection to the BPS, and Transmission Owners, Transmission Planner, and Planning Coordinators should consider adopting these recommendations in the interconnection requirements per NERC FAC-001 and FAC-002 standards. Prior reliability guidelines focusing on BPS-connected inverter-based resources were inclusive of BESSs and hybrids as an inverter-based technology; however, there are certain considerations and nuances to the operation of this technology that warrant additional guidance. This reliability guideline provides those clarifications and considerations that are specifically relevant to these</p>	<p>Please submit comments via email using the comment form.</p>	12/18/20	02/01/21

technologies. The Reliability and Security Technical Committee reviewed the guideline and approved a 45-day posting for industry comment.

STANDARDS NEWS

There is no additional Standards news to report for this week.

Quick Links

- [Register in the SBS](#)
- [Projected Standards Posting Schedule](#)
- [Project Tracking Spreadsheet](#)
- [2019–2021 Reliability Standards Development Plan](#)
- [Quality Review Application](#)
- [One-Stop Shop \(Status, Purpose, Implementation Plans, FERC Orders, RSAWs\)](#)
- [CIP Standards Efficiency Review](#)
- [Submit Questions or Feedback](#)

GENERAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT NEWS

NEW Compliance Guidance Update

The NERC Compliance Assurance department has posted a [Compliance Guidance Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) document](#) to the NERC Compliance Guidance web page. This document addresses the most common questions NERC receives regarding Compliance Guidance. This document is intended to address general Compliance Guidance topics and is not intended to address specific Compliance Guidance documents. This document will be updated as new questions are received.

NEW Supply Chain Small Group Advisory Sessions FAQ Updated

This [FAQ document](#) is a composition of commonly asked questions from the participants who attended the small group advisory sessions. Additional frequently asked questions has been added the document.

Quick Links

- [Compliance Monitoring & Enforcement Program One-Stop Shop](#)
- [CIP V5 Transition Program](#)
- [ERO Enterprise Program Alignment Process](#)
- [Consistency Reporting Tool \(EthicsPoint\)](#)
- [Risk-Based Registration Initiative](#)
- [Reliability Standard Audit Worksheets](#)
- [Enforcement & Mitigation: Enforcement Actions](#)
- [Align Project \(formerly CMEP Technology Project\)](#)

OTHER NEWS

NEW Evolving Resource Mix is Changing Reliability, Security and Resilience Landscape, Assessment Finds

The [2020 Long-Term Reliability Assessment](#) finds sufficient resource adequacy across most of North America and highlights reliability, security and resilience risk associated with the changing generation resource mix. In all but two areas, there is sufficient capacity to meet the electricity demand over the next 10 years. However, the addition of variable energy resources, primarily wind and solar, the continued growth of distributed energy resources (DER) and the retirement of conventional generation are fundamentally changing how the grid is planned and operated.

Even where system capacity is shown as sufficient, some areas demonstrate potential for inadequate energy to serve demand. Specifically, nearly all parts of the Western Interconnection, ERCOT, and MISO show levels of increased risk over the next five years. The 2020 LTRA highlights the need for increased attention to planning and operating the grid in a more complex environment. Please click [here](#) for the full announcement and [here](#) for the 2020 LTRA infographic.

STANDARDS SUBJECT TO FUTURE ENFORCEMENT

Please refer to the [U.S. Effective Dates page](#) for more detail on the standards listed below.

U.S. Effective Dates for Reliability Standards

U.S. Effective Date	Standard(s)
January 1, 2021	CIP-008-6 – Cyber Security – Incident Reporting and Response Planning
	PRC-002-2 – Disturbance Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (50% compliance for Requirements R2–R4, R6–R11)
	PRC-012-2 – Remedial Action Schemes
	PRC-025-2 – Generator Relay Loadability (phased-in implementation of Attachment 1: Relay Settings, Table 1 Options 5b, 14b, 15b, and 16b)
April 1, 2021	INT-006-5 – Evaluation of Interchange Transactions
	INT-009-3 – Implementation of Interchange
	IRO-002-7 – Reliability Coordination – Monitoring and Analysis
	PER-006-1 – Specific Training for Personnel
	PRC-004-6 – Protection System Misoperation Identification and Correction
	PRC-027-1 – Coordination of Protection Systems for Performance During Faults
	TOP-001-5 – Transmission Operations

July 1, 2021	TPL-007-4 – Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events (Requirements R12 and R13)
January 1, 2022	PRC-012-2 – Remedial Action Schemes (Requirement R9)
	TPL-007-4 – Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events (Requirements R6, 6.1–6.4, R10, 10.1–10.4)
July 1, 2022	CIP-012-1 – Cyber Security – Communications between Control Centers
	PRC-002-2 – Disturbance Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (100% compliance for Requirements R2–R4, R6–R11)
October 1, 2022	PRC-024-3 – Frequency and Voltage Protection Settings for Generating Resources
January 1, 2023	TPL-007-4 – Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events (Requirements R3, R4, 4.1.4.1.1–4.1.2, 4.2, 4.3, 4.3.1, R8, 8.1, 8.1.1–8.1.2, 8.2, 8.3, 8.3.1)
July 1, 2023	TPL-001-5.1 – Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements Implementation Plan
January 1, 2024	TPL-007-4 – Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events (Requirements R7, 7.1–7.3, 7.3.1–7.3.2, 7.4, 7.4.1–7.4.3, 7.5, 7.5.1, R11, 11.1–11.3, 11.3.1–11.3.2, 11.4, 11.4.1–11.4.3, 11.5, and 11.5.1)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FERC ACTION

NEW NERC Filings

On December 14, 2020, NERC submitted to FERC a [petition](#) for approval of proposed Reliability Standards CIP-013-2, CIP-005-7, and CIP-010-4 addressing Supply Chain Cyber Security Risk Management.

On December 15, 2020, NERC submitted two filings to FERC:

- NERC and WECC submitted a [joint answer](#) to the Amended Complaint and Motion to Dismiss under Docket No. EL21-13-000. This is in response to the Amended Complaint of Californians for Green Nuclear Power, Inc.
- NERC submitted an [informational compliance filing](#) as directed by FERC in its [February 20, 2020 Order](#). This filing contains a status update on two standards development projects relating to CIP Reliability Standards.

On December 18, 2020, NERC and WECC submitted to FERC [joint comments](#) on FERC’s notice of proposed rulemaking regarding proposed Reliability Standard BAL-002-WECC-3 under FERC Docket No. RM19-20-000.

NERC’s 2020 filings to FERC are available [here](#).

NEW FERC Open Meeting Action

At its monthly open meeting, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) took action on a key reliability item, directing an informational filing regarding virtualization and cloud computing services. The order addresses comments received in response to FERC's [February 20, 2020 Notice of Inquiry](#) regarding the potential benefits and risks associated with the use of virtualization and cloud computing services in association with Bulk Electric System (BES) operations. The order directs NERC to submit an informational filing that evaluates possible modifications to the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Reliability Standards to facilitate the voluntary use of cloud computing to perform BES operations by the end of 2021.

NERC previously provided comments in this proceeding in a [July 2020 filing](#). Work is currently underway, through NERC's standard development process and through ERO Enterprise outreach to industry groups, to continue to identify the potential risks and effective mitigation strategies, taking into account all relevant considerations. NERC appreciates today's action and will continue its efforts to support a strong cyber security posture among stakeholders, including evaluating methods to facilitate the voluntary use of cloud computing where feasible.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For information about other NERC events, such as meetings and conference calls for other standing committees, subcommittees, task forces, and working groups, please refer to the [NERC calendar](#).

Workshops and Conferences

There are no workshops or conferences currently scheduled.

Webinars

There are no webinars currently scheduled.

Standing Committee Meetings and Conference Calls

- Member Representatives Committee Pre-Meeting Conference Call and Informational Webinar – 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern, January 6, 2021 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Standards Committee Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, January 20, 2021 | [Register](#)

Standard Drafting Team Meetings and Conference Calls

The [Standards calendar](#) provides dial-in information for the in-person meetings below. The calendar also provides information about conference calls that drafting teams may hold in addition to in-person meetings.

There are no drafting team meetings currently scheduled.

ABOUT THE STANDARDS, COMPLIANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

This weekly bulletin compiles a list of standards, compliance, and enforcement projects with actionable deadlines, as well as upcoming events, recently posted resources, other NERC documents posted for comment, and other relevant news and information. Please email [Amy Klagholz](#) with feedback on this bulletin. The current bulletin and old bulletins are available under “Program News” on both the [Standards home page](#) and the [Compliance & Enforcement home page](#). If you would like to receive this bulletin or be added to the distribution list for a particular project, please submit a ticket through the [Help Desk](#). Select the “NERC Email Distribution List” option under the “Applications” menu. In the Description Box, please specify which lists you would like your email address to be added to or note which announcements you would like to receive. This bulletin is distributed to several lists, including the Standards distro list (Standards-specific announcements) and the NERC-info distro list (most NERC announcements).