

Standards, Compliance, and Enforcement Bulletin

March 8–14, 2021

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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 2019-06 – Cold Weather EOP-011-2, IRO-010-4, TOP-003-5	Initial Ballots and Non-Binding Polls	03/03/21	03/12/21
Project 2016-02 – Modifications to CIP Standards Virtualization	Initial Ballots and Non-Binding Polls	03/12/21	03/22/21
Project 2015-09 – Establish and Communicate System Operating Limits FAC-014-3	Additional Ballot and Non-Binding Polls	03/26/21	04/05/21

Join Ballot Pools

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
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Posted for Comment			
Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
Project 2019-06 – Cold Weather EOP-011-2, IRO-010-4, TOP-003-5	Comment Period	01/27/21	03/12/21
Project 2016-02 – Modifications to CIP Standards Virtualization	Comment Period	01/22/21	03/22/21
NEW Project 2021-01 – Modifications to MOD-025 and PRC-019 SAR	Comment Period	03/04/21	04/02/21
Project 2015-09 – Establish and Communicate System Operating Limits FAC-014-3	Comment Period	02/19/21	04/05/21

OTHER ACTIVE COMMENT PERIODS

Posted for Comment			
Posting	Action	Start Date	End Date
Comment Period Open for Draft Reliability Guideline: Operating Reserve Management - Version 3: This reliability guideline is intended to provide recommended practices for the management of an appropriate mix of Operating Reserve as well as readiness to respond to loss of load events. It also provides guidance with respect to the management of Operating Reserve required to meet the NERC Reliability Standards. The guideline applies primarily to Balancing Authorities (BAs) or, as appropriate, contingency reserve sharing groups (RSGs), regulation RSGs, or frequency response sharing groups. For ease of reference, this guideline uses the common term “responsible entity” for these entities, and allows the readers to make the appropriate substitution applying to them when participating or not in various groups.	Please submit comments via email using the comment form .	02/01/21	03/18/21
Comment Period Open for Draft Balancing and Frequency Control Reference Document: The NERC Resources Subcommittee (RS) drafted this reference document to cover balancing and frequency control concepts, issues, and recommendations. The document is intended to explain the concepts and issues of balancing and frequency control. The goal is to provide an understanding of the	Please submit comments via email by using the comment form .	02/04/21	03/21/21

<p>fundamentals. Nothing in this document is intended to be used for compliance purposes or to establish obligations.</p>			
<p>Comment Period Open for Proposed Revisions to Section 1003 of the NERC Rules of Procedure: NERC is proposing revisions to section 1003 of its Rules of Procedure (ROP) in accordance with the directive in the FERC Order on Compliance Filings related to NERC’s Five Year Performance Assessment. Section 1003 of the ROP describes NERC’s infrastructure security program, including, among other things, its operation of the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC). Consistent with FERC’s directive, the proposed revision modifies section 1003 to require NERC to share with FERC any All-Points Bulletins. The Clean Text of Proposed Revisions to Rules of Procedure Section 1003 and Redlined Text of Proposed Revisions to Rules of Procedure Section 1003 are available for review. NERC intends to submit these changes to the NERC Board of Trustees for approval at their May 2021 meeting.</p>	<p>Please submit comments electronically to ROPcomments@nerc.net.</p>	<p>02/05/21</p>	<p>03/22/21</p>
<p>Comment Period Open for Draft Reliability Guideline: Area Control Error Diversity Interchange Process – Version 3: The objective of this reliability guideline is to distribute key best practices and information on specific issues critical to maintaining the highest levels of Bulk Electric System (BES) reliability. Reliability guidelines are not to be used to provide binding norms or create parameters by which compliance to standards is monitored or enforced. While the incorporation and use of guideline practices is strictly voluntary, the review, revision, and development of a program using these practices is highly encouraged to promote and achieve the highest levels of reliability for the BES. The NERC Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) reviewed the initial draft of the Reference Document and approved it to be posted for industry comment.</p>	<p>Please submit comments via email using the comment form.</p>	<p>02/02/21</p>	<p>03/26/21</p>

<p>Comment Period Open for WECC Reliability Standards Development Procedure: The proposed Western Electricity Coordinating Council Reliability Standards Development Procedure (WECC RSDP) is available for comment. Regional Reliability Standards development procedures, such as the WECC RSDP, define a Regional Entity’s process for development, revision, reaffirmation, and withdrawal of a Regional Reliability Standard.</p>	<p>Submit comments using the Standards Balloting and Commenting System (SBS). An unofficial Word version of the comment form is posted on the Regional Reliability Standards Under Development page.</p>	<p>04/02/21</p>
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STANDARDS NEWS

NEW Webinar Resources Posted

NERC has posted the [slide presentation](#) and [recording](#) for the February 25 Project 2019-06 – Cold Weather Industry webinar.

NERC has posted the [slide presentation](#) and [recording](#) for the March 3 Project 2016-02 – Modifications to CIP Standards Outreach webinar.

NEW Project 2019-05 Update

[Project 2019-05 – Modifications to PER-003-2](#) will revise PER-003-2 to address one credential is required, not the current four credentials. This better serves reliability by ensuring all system operators, regardless of their company’s registration or credential of choice, have the same base knowledge. In order to better inform drafting of the standard, the Personnel Certification Governance Committee, in conjunction with the Credential Maintenance Working Group, have formed a task force to investigate the potential impacts of these changes. The project is on hold until further notice.

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 ERO Enterprise Revised CIP Evidence Request Tool Version 5.0 Posted

NERC posted a revised [ERO Enterprise CIP Evidence Request Tool](#) (ERT), which is a common request for information tool for CIP Compliance monitoring engagements. The purpose of the CIP ERT is to help the ERO Enterprise with consistency and transparency in its audit approach. It will also help responsible entities (especially those that operate in multiple Regions) fulfill these requests more efficiently, by understanding what types of evidence are useful in preparation for an audit.

NEW CMEP Practice Guides Posted

Three new CMEP Practice Guides are now available on the [Compliance Guidance page](#) of NERC's website under "CMEP Practice Guides."

- [CMEP Practice Guide Virtual Systems](#) provides guidance to the ERO Enterprise CMEP staff when assessing a registered entity's applicable systems that utilize virtualization.
- [CMEP Practice Guide Virtual Storage](#) provides guidance to the ERO Enterprise CMEP staff when assessing a registered entity's applicable systems that utilize virtual storage.
- [CMEP Practice Guides Virtual Networks](#) provides guidance to the ERO Enterprise CMEP staff when assessing a registered entity's applicable systems that utilize VLANs.

CMEP Practice Guides are developed solely by the ERO Enterprise to reflect the independent, objective professional judgment of ERO Enterprise CMEP staff, and, at times, may be initiated following policy discussions with industry stakeholders. Following development, CMEP Practice Guides are posted for transparency on the NERC website. For registered entities using this guidance as a reference, some aspects of the guidance may assist CMEP staff in determining compliance and some parts may assist CMEP staff in understanding registered entity's risk mitigation activities. This understanding of risk mitigation may affect monitoring processes such as requests for information. In addition, the risk mitigation may adjust a registered entity's compliance oversight plan.

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 \(formerly CMEP Technology Project\)](#)

NEW Contact Role Functionality Enabled in CORES

The ERO Enterprise has enabled functionality in the Centralized Organization Registration ERO System (CORES) allowing Registered Entities to make changes to their Registered Entity Contact Roles (PCO, PCC, ACC, etc.) directly in CORES. Effective March 8, 2021, Contact Role functionality is available for immediate use. Some release notes are below:

- Contacts are now called Contact Roles.
- Contact Role updates are now activated.
- The number of records in the UI view is increased.
- The fields in the view are organized in a more logical order.
- UI improvements were made for creating Contact Roles.
- A deactivated Contact Role history view was added.
- Description links added for updating Profile, Application Requests, and Managing Entity Permissions.

By enabling this additional functionality, CORES will ultimately become the official system of record for registered entities to maintain their contact information. It is essential to keep current and accurate Registered Entity Contact Roles in CORES because the data will be needed in the Align tool. The Align tool will begin a phased release schedule starting on March 31, 2021. The ERO Enterprise will continue to operate in both the legacy systems (CDMS, CDAA, and the SERC Compliance & Committee Portal) and the ERO Portal with CORES until the transition to Align is completed. While there have been substantial checks made to ensure accuracy, it will be up to the registered entities to verify their current Contact Roles and update any new changes to Contact Roles, as needed in both CORES and legacy systems. To assist with updating Contact Roles, please refer to the instructions included in the [CORES User Guide](#) or watch the [CORES training videos](#) for “My Entity” Contacts. If you have any additional questions, please contact your Region or [submit a Help Desk ticket](#).

OTHER NEWS

NEW NATF and NERC to Host Webinar on Pandemic Planning and Response Activities

On March 17, the North American Transmission Forum and NERC will host a webinar about pandemic planning and response activities as well as resources available to industry. Opening remarks will be provided by Commissioner Neil Chatterjee, Federal Energy and Regulatory Committee (FERC), Tom Galloway, president and CEO of NATF, and Manny Cancel, senior vice president of NERC and CEO of the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC). The webinar will feature presentations on pandemic activities from the following organizations:

- NATF
- NERC
- E-ISAC
- Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC)
- Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
- Directorate-General for Energy (DG-ENER)

The webinar will be held from 9:00–11:00 a.m. Prior registration is not required. Registration details are available under [Upcoming Events](#). For more information or assistance, please contact [Ted Franks](#).

NEW Security Working Group Scope Approved and Posted

The Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) approved the [Security Working Group \(SWG\) scope](#) at their quarterly meeting on March 2, 2021. The SWG serves the RSTC in providing a formal input process to enhance collaboration between the ERO and industry with an ongoing working group. The SWG also supports industry efforts to mitigate emergent risks by providing technical expertise and feedback to the ERO Enterprise Compliance Assurance group in developing and enhancing security compliance-related products, including guidelines, guidance, best practices and lessons learned.

NEW NERC News Posted

NERC News, NERC's monthly newsletter, is now available for [February](#). Highlights in this edition include:

- ERO Executive Spotlight Features Jim Robb, President and CEO
- NPCC Appoints Charles Dickerson as New President and CEO
- FERC, NERC to Open Joint Inquiry into 2021 Cold Weather Grid Operations
- Regional Entity Update and Upcoming Events

STANDARDS SUBJECT TO FUTURE ENFORCEMENT

Please refer to the [U.S. Effective Dates page](#) for the most up-to-date information on effective dates and for more detail on the below.

U.S. Effective Dates for Reliability Standards

U.S. Effective Date	Standard(s)
April 1, 2021	FAC-002-3 – Facility Interconnection Studies
	INT-006-5 – Evaluation of Interchange Transactions
	INT-009-3 – Implementation of Interchange
	IRO-002-7 – Reliability Coordination – Monitoring and Analysis
	IRO-010-3 – Reliability Coordinator Data Specification and Collection
	MOD-031-3 – Demand and Energy Data
	MOD-033-2 – Steady-State and Dynamic System Model Validation
	NUC-001-4 – Nuclear Plant Interface Coordination
	PER-006-1 – Specific Training for Personnel
	PRC-004-6 – Protection System Misoperation Identification and Correction
	PRC-006-4 – Automatic Underfrequency Load Shedding
	PRC-006-5 – Automatic Underfrequency Load Shedding
	PRC-027-1 – Coordination of Protection Systems for Performance During Faults
TOP-001-5 – Transmission Operations	
TOP-003-4 – Operational Reliability Data	
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 March 1, 2021, NERC and the Regional Entities submitted to FERC [comments](#) on a notice of proposed rulemaking to revise FERC regulations regarding performance evaluation of the ERO. NERC’s 2021 filings to FERC are available [here](#).

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

- **NEW** NATF–NERC Pandemic Planning and Response Activities Webinar – 9:00–11:00 a.m. Eastern, March 17, 2021 | [Register](#) | [Agenda](#)

Standing Committee Meetings and Conference Calls

- **NEW** Compliance and Certification Committee (CCC) Meetings – March 17–18, 2021 | [Day 1 Registration](#) | [Day 2 Registration](#)
- Standards Committee Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 17, 2021 | [Register](#)

Standard Drafting Team Meetings and Conference Calls

- Project 2020-03 – Supply Chain Low Impact Revisions Drafting Team Conference Call – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 12, 2021 | [Register](#)
- Project 2020-03 – Supply Chain Low Impact Revisions Drafting Team Conference Call – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 15, 2021 | [Register](#)
- Project 2020-03 – Supply Chain Low Impact Revisions Drafting Team Conference Call – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 19, 2021 | [Register](#)
- Project 2020-03 – Supply Chain Low Impact Revisions Drafting Team Conference Call – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 23, 2021 | [Register](#)
- Project 2020-03 – Supply Chain Low Impact Revisions Drafting Team Conference Call – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 24, 2021 | [Register](#)

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](mailto:amy.klagholz@nerc.gov) 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).