

Standards Authorization Request Form

When completed, please email this form to:
sarcomm@nerc.com

NERC welcomes suggestions to improve the reliability of the Bulk-Power System through improved reliability standards. Please use this form to submit your request to propose a new or a revision to a NERC's Reliability Standard.

Request to propose a new or a revision to a Reliability Standard

Title of Proposed Standard:	Internal Communications Capabilities		
Date Submitted:	June 10, 2015		
SAR Requester Information			
Name:	Ryan Stewart		
Organization:	NERC		
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SAR Type (Check as many as applicable)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal of existing Standard		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revision to existing Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent Action		

SAR Information

Purpose (Describe what the standard action will achieve in support of Bulk Electric System reliability.):

The purpose of the proposed project is to address the directive from FERC Order No. 808 to modify the COM-001-2 standard or develop a new standard to address "internal communications capabilities that could involve the issuance or receipt of Operating Instructions or other communications that could have an impact on reliability." Order No. 808, at P 1. See quotes below from Order No. 808, at P 41 for more specificity within FERC's directive.

SAR Information

Industry Need (What is the industry problem this request is trying to solve?):

On April 16, 2015, FERC issued Order No. 808, Communications Reliability Standards. In this order, FERC approved COM-001-2 and also directed that NERC to either develop a new standard or make the following modification to the existing COM-001-2 standard:

[FERC] direct[s] NERC to develop modifications to COM-001-2, or to develop a new standard, to address our concerns regarding ensuring the adequacy of internal communications capability whenever internal communications could directly affect the reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System.

Order No. 808, at P 41.

FERC's directive thus encompasses a directive that the modified or new standard:

address the adequacy of internal telecommunications (or other internal communication systems) that may have an adverse effect on reliability, even within a single functional entity, including: (1) communications between geographically separate control centers within the same functional entity; and (2) communications between a control center and field personnel. These scenarios present a gap in reliability of the Bulk-Power System that NERC should address.

Id.

Brief Description (Provide a paragraph that describes the scope of this standard action.)

The proposed project will develop a new standard or modify existing requirements in COM-001-2 to address the directive from FERC Order No. 808, including its subparts. See Order No. 808, at PP 1, 41.

Detailed Description (Provide a description of the proposed project with sufficient details for the standard drafting team to execute the SAR. Also provide a justification for the development or revision of the standard, including an assessment of the reliability and market interface impacts of implementing or not implementing the standard action.)

As stated above, the purpose of the proposed project is to respond to the directive in FERC Order No. 808. The following is a description of the responses the standard drafting team (SDT) shall consider during development of the new or modified standards:

- The SDT shall address internal telecommunications or other internal communication systems "between geographically separate control centers within the same functional entity." Order No. 808, at P 41.

SAR Information

- The SDT shall address internal telecommunications or other internal communication systems “between a control center and field personnel.” *Id.*
- The SDT shall address “[t]he adequacy of internal communications capability whenever internal communications could directly affect the reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System.” *Id.*
- The SDT shall address “internal communications capabilities that could involve the issuance or receipt of Operating Instructions or other communications that could have an impact on reliability.” Order No. 808, at P 1.

Reliability Functions

The Standard will Apply to the Following Functions (Check each one that applies.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Reliability Organization	Conducts the regional activities related to planning and operations, and coordinates activities of Responsible Entities to secure the reliability of the Bulk Electric System within the region and adjacent regions.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reliability Coordinator	Responsible for the real-time operating reliability of its Reliability Coordinator Area in coordination with its neighboring Reliability Coordinator’s wide area view.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Balancing Authority	Integrates resource plans ahead of time, and maintains load-interchange-resource balance within a Balancing Authority Area and supports Interconnection frequency in real time.
<input type="checkbox"/> Interchange Authority	Ensures communication of interchange transactions for reliability evaluation purposes and coordinates implementation of valid and balanced interchange schedules between Balancing Authority Areas.
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning Coordinator	Assesses the longer-term reliability of its Planning Coordinator Area.
<input type="checkbox"/> Resource Planner	Develops a >one year plan for the resource adequacy of its specific loads within a Planning Coordinator area.
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmission Planner	Develops a >one year plan for the reliability of the interconnected Bulk Electric System within its portion of the Planning Coordinator area.

Reliability Functions	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmission Service Provider	Administers the transmission tariff and provides transmission services under applicable transmission service agreements (e.g., the pro forma tariff).
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmission Owner	Owns and maintains transmission facilities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmission Operator	Ensures the real-time operating reliability of the transmission assets within a Transmission Operator Area.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distribution Provider	Delivers electrical energy to the End-use customer.
<input type="checkbox"/> Generator Owner	Owns and maintains generation facilities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generator Operator	Operates generation unit(s) to provide real and reactive power.
<input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing-Selling Entity	Purchases or sells energy, capacity, and necessary reliability-related services as required.
<input type="checkbox"/> Market Operator	Interface point for reliability functions with commercial functions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Load-Serving Entity	Secures energy and transmission service (and reliability-related services) to serve the End-use Customer.

Reliability and Market Interface Principles	
Applicable Reliability Principles (Check all that apply).	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Interconnected bulk power systems shall be planned and operated in a coordinated manner to perform reliably under normal and abnormal conditions as defined in the NERC Standards.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. The frequency and voltage of interconnected Bulk-Power Systems shall be controlled within defined limits through the balancing of real and reactive power supply and demand.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Information necessary for the planning and operation of interconnected Bulk-Power Systems shall be made available to those entities responsible for planning and operating the systems reliably.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Plans for emergency operation and system restoration of interconnected Bulk-Power Systems shall be developed, coordinated, maintained and implemented.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. Facilities for communication, monitoring and control shall be provided, used and maintained for the reliability of interconnected Bulk-Power Systems.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6. Personnel responsible for planning and operating interconnected Bulk-Power Systems shall be trained, qualified, and have the responsibility and authority to implement actions.

Reliability and Market Interface Principles

<input type="checkbox"/>	7. The security of the interconnected Bulk-Power Systems shall be assessed, monitored and maintained on a wide area basis.
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Bulk power systems shall be protected from malicious physical or cyber attacks.
Does the proposed Standard comply with all of the following Market Interface Principles?	
1. A reliability standard shall not give any market participant an unfair competitive advantage.	Enter (yes/no) Yes
2. A reliability standard shall neither mandate nor prohibit any specific market structure.	Yes
3. A reliability standard shall not preclude market solutions to achieving compliance with that standard.	Yes
4. A reliability standard shall not require the public disclosure of commercially sensitive information. All market participants shall have equal opportunity to access commercially non-sensitive information that is required for compliance with reliability standards.	Yes

Related Standards

Standard No.	Explanation

Related SARs

SAR ID	Explanation

Related SARs	

Regional Variances	
Region	Explanation
ERCOT	None
FRCC	None
MRO	None
NPCC	None
RFC	None
SERC	None
SPP	None
WECC	None