

**Reliability Standard Audit Worksheet[[1]](#footnote-2)**

FAC-014-3 – Establish and Communicate System Operating Limits

***This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority.***

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| **Audit ID:** | Audit ID if available; or REG-NCRnnnnn-YYYYMMDD |
| **Registered Entity:**  | Registered name of entity being audited |
| **NCR Number:**  | NCRnnnnn |
|  **Compliance Enforcement Authority:** | Region or NERC performing audit |
| **Compliance Assessment Date(s)[[2]](#footnote-3):** | Month DD, YYYY, to Month DD, YYYY |
| **Compliance Monitoring Method:**  | [On-site Audit | Off-site Audit | Spot Check] |
| **Names of Auditors:**  | Supplied by CEA |

# **Applicability of Requirements**

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|  | **BA** | **DP** | **GO** | **GOP** | **PA/PC** | **RC** | **RP** | **RSG** | **TO** | **TOP** | **TP** | **TSP** |
| **R1** |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **R2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |
| **R3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |
| **R4** |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **R5** |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **R6** |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |
| **R7** |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |
| **R8** |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |

**Legend:**

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| Text with blue background: | Fixed text – do not edit |
| Text entry area with green background: | Entity-supplied information |
| Text entry area with white background: | Auditor-supplied information |

Findings

**(This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority)**

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| **Req.** | **Finding** | **Summary and Documentation** | **Functions Monitored** |
| **R1** |  |  |  |
| **R2** |  |  |  |
| **R3** |  |  |  |
| **R4** |  |  |  |
| **R5** |  |  |  |
| **R6** |  |  |  |
| **R7** |  |  |  |
| **R8** |  |  |  |

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| **Req.** | **Areas of Concern** |
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| **Req.** | **Recommendations** |
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| **Req.** | **Positive Observations** |
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Subject Matter Experts

Identify the Subject Matter Expert(s) responsible for this Reliability Standard.

**Registered Entity Response (Required; Insert additional rows if needed):**

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| **SME Name** | **Title** | **Organization** | **Requirement(s)** |
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R1 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R1.**  Each Reliability Coordinator shall establish Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits (IROLs) for its Reliability Coordinator Area in accordance with its System Operating Limit methodology (SOL methodology).

**M1.**  Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation that demonstrates the Reliability Coordinator established IROLs in accordance with its SOL methodology.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requested[[3]](#endnote-2) :

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Entity’s System Operating Limit methodology (SOL methodology). |
| Evidence IROLs for the entity’s Reliability Coordinator Area have been established in accordance with entity’s SOL methodology. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
| **File Name** | **Document Title** | **Revision or Version** | **Document Date** | **Relevant Page(s) or Section(s)** | **Description of Applicability of Document** |
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Audit Team Evidence Reviewed (This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority):

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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R1

***This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

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|  | Verify the entity has established IROLs for its Reliability Coordinator Area in accordance with its SOL methodology. |
| **Note to Auditor:**  |

Auditor Notes:

R2 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R2.**  Each Transmission Operator shall establish System Operating Limits (SOLs) for its portion of the Reliability Coordinator Area in accordance with its Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology.

**M2.**  Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation that demonstrates the Transmission Operator established SOLs in accordance with its Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requestedi:

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Entity’s Reliability Coordinator’s System Operating Limit methodology (SOL methodology). |
| Evidence the entity established SOLs in accordance with its Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
| **File Name** | **Document Title** | **Revision or Version** | **Document Date** | **Relevant Page(s) or Section(s)** | **Description of Applicability of Document** |
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Audit Team Evidence Reviewed (This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority):

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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R2

***This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

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|  | Verify the entity has established SOLs in accordance with its Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology. |
| **Note to Auditor:**  |

Auditor Notes:

R3 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R3.**  Each Transmission Operator shall provide its SOLs to its Reliability Coordinator.

**M3.** Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation that demonstrates the Transmission Operator provided its SOLs.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requestedi:

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Entity’s Reliability Coordinator’s System Operating Limit methodology (SOL methodology). |
| Evidence SOLs were provided to the entity’s Reliability Coordinator. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R3

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|  | Verify the entity provided its SOLs to its Reliability Coordinator. |
| **Note to Auditor:**  |

Auditor Notes:

R4 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R4.**  Each Reliability Coordinator shall establish stability limits when an identified instability impacts adjacent Reliability Coordinator Areas or more than one Transmission Operator in its Reliability Coordinator Area in accordance with its SOL methodology.

**M4.**  Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation that demonstrates the Reliability Coordinator established stability limits in accordance with Requirement R4.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requestedi:

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Entity’s System Operating Limit methodology (SOL methodology). |
| Evidence entity established stability limits when an identified instability impacts adjacent Reliability Coordinator Areas or more than one Transmission Operator in its Reliability Coordinator Area in accordance with entity’s SOL methodology. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
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Audit Team Evidence Reviewed (This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority):

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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R4

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|  | Verify the entity established stability limits when an identified instability impacts adjacent Reliability Coordinator Areas or more than one Transmission Operator in its Reliability Coordinator Area in accordance with the entity’s SOL methodology. |
| **Note to Auditor:**  |

Auditor Notes:

R5 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R5.** Each Reliability Coordinator shall provide:

 **5.1.** Each Planning Coordinator and each Transmission Planner within its Reliability Coordinator Area, the SOLs for its Reliability Coordinator Area (including the subset of SOLs that are IROLs) at least once every twelve calendar months.

 **5.2.** Each impacted Planning Coordinator and each impacted Transmission Planner within its Reliability Coordinator Area, the following information for each established stability limit and each established IROL at least once every twelve calendar months:

 **5.2.1** The value of the stability limit or IROL;

 **5.2.2.** Identification of the Facilities that are critical to the derivation of the stability limit or IROL;

 **5.2.3.** The associated IROL Tv for any IROL;

 **5.2.4.** The associated critical Contingency(ies);

 **5.2.5.** A description of system conditions associated with the stability limit or IROL; and

 **5.2.6.** The type of limitation represented by the stability limit or IROL (*e.g.*, voltage collapse, angular stability).

 **5.3.** Each impacted Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area, the value of the stability limits established pursuant to Requirement R4 and each IROL established pursuant to Requirement R1, in an agreed upon time frame necessary for inclusion in the Transmission Operator's Operational Planning Analyses, Real-time monitoring, and Real-time Assessments.

 **5.4.** Each impacted Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area, the information identified in Requirement R5 Parts 5.2.2 - 5.2.6 for each established stability limit and each established IROL, and any updates to that information within an agreed upon time frame necessary for inclusion in the Transmission Operator's Operational Planning Analyses.

 **5.5.** Each requesting Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area, requested SOL information for its Reliability Coordinator Area, on a mutually agreed upon schedule.

 **5.6** Each impacted Generator Owner or Transmission Owner, within its Reliability Coordinator Area, with a list of their Facilities that have been identified as critical to the derivation of an IROL and its associated critical contingencies at least once every twelve calendar months.

**M5.**  Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation, posting to a secure website, or other electronic means, that demonstrates the Reliability Coordinator provided the information in accordance with Requirement R5.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requestedi:

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Evidence the entity provided SOLs for Reliability Coordinator Area (including the subset of SOLs that are IROLs) to each Planning Coordinator and each Transmission Planner within its Reliability Coordinator Area at least once every twelve calendar months. |
| Evidence the entity provided the information specified in Parts 5.2.1 – 5.2.6 for each established stability limit and each established IROL to each impacted Planning Coordinator and each impacted Transmission Planner within its Reliability Coordinator Area at least once every twelve calendar months. |
| Evidence the entity provided the value of the stability limits established pursuant to Requirement R4 and each IROL established pursuant to Requirement R1, in an agreed upon time frame necessary for inclusion in the Transmission Operator's Operational Planning Analyses, Real-time monitoring, and Real-time Assessments, to each impacted Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area. |
| Evidence the entity provided the information identified in Requirement R5 Parts 5.2.2 - 5.2.6 for each established stability limit or each IROL, and any updates to that information within an agreed upon time frame necessary for inclusion in the Transmission Operator's Operational Planning Analyses, to each impacted Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area. |
| Evidence the entity provided requested SOL information for its Reliability Coordinator Area, on a mutually agreed upon schedule, to each requesting Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area. |
| Evidence the entity provided affected Generator Owners or Transmission Owners a list of their Facilities that have been identified as critical to the derivation of an IROL and its associated critical contingencies at least once every twelve calendar months. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
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Audit Team Evidence Reviewed (This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority):

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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R5

***This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

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|  | (5.1) Verify the entity provided SOLs for its Reliability Coordinator Area (including the subset of SOLs that are IROLs) to each Planning Coordinator and each Transmission Planner within its Reliability Coordinator Area at least once every twelve calendar months. |
|  | (5.2) Verify the entity provided the following information for each established stability limit and each established IROL to each impacted Planning Coordinator and each impacted Transmission Planner within its Reliability Coordinator Area at least once every twelve calendar months: |
|  | (5.2.1) The value of the stability limit or IROL |
|  | (5.2.2) Identification of the Facilities that are critical to the derivation of the stability limit or IROL; |
|  | (5.2.3) The associated IROL Tv for any IROL; |
|  | (5.2.4) The associated critical Contingency(ies);  |
|  | (5.2.5) A description of system conditions associated with the stability limit or IROL; and  |
|  | (5.2.6) The type of limitation represented by the stability limit or IROL (e.g., voltage collapse, angular stability). |
|  | (5.3) Verify the entity provided the value of the stability limits established pursuant to Requirement R4 and each IROL established pursuant to Requirement R1, in an agreed upon time frame necessary for inclusion in the Transmission Operator's Operational Planning Analyses, Real-time monitoring, and Real-time Assessments, to each impacted Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area. |
|  | (5.4) Verify the entity provided the information identified in Requirement R5 Parts 5.2.2 - 5.2.6 for each established stability limit and each established IROL, and any updates to that information within an agreed upon time frame necessary for inclusion in the Transmission Operator's Operational Planning Analyses, to each impacted Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area. |
|  | (5.5) Verify the entity provided each requesting Transmission Operator within its Reliability Coordinator Area, requested SOL information for its Reliability Coordinator Area, on a mutually agreed upon schedule. |
|  | (5.6) Verify the entity provided affected Generator Owners or Transmission Owners a list of their Facilities that have been identified as critical to the derivation of an IROL and its associated critical contingencies at least once every twelve calendar months. |
| **Note to Auditor:** Some stability limits may be determined at the time of the assessment while others may be determined by a series of offline studies. For either instance, a single representative value or table of values may be communicated at the required time frame. Consider how an entity determined what contingencies are critical for an IROL. |

Auditor Notes:

R6 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R6.**  Each Planning Coordinator and each Transmission Planner shall implement a documented process to use Facility Ratings, System steady-state voltage limits and stability criteria in its Planning Assessment of Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon that are equally limiting or more limiting than the criteria for Facility Ratings, System Voltage Limits and stability described in its respective Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology.

* The Planning Coordinator may use less limiting Facility Ratings, System steady-state voltage limits and stability criteria if it provides a technical rationale to each affected Transmission Planner, Transmission Operator and Reliability Coordinator.
* **The Transmission Planner may use less limiting Facility Ratings, System steady-state voltage limits and** stability criteria if it provides a technical rationale to each affected Planning Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Reliability Coordinator.

**M6.**  Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation demonstrating the Planning Coordinator and Transmission Planner implemented its documented process in accordance with Requirement R6.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Question:** Does the entity use Facility Ratings, System steady-state voltage limits and stability criteria in its Planning Assessment of Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon that are less limiting than the criteria for Facility Ratings, System Voltage Limits and stability described in its respective Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology? [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If Yes, provide a description of how that may occur.

[Note: A separate spreadsheet or another document may be used. If so, provide the document reference below.]

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requestedi:

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Documented process and implementation results demonstrating the Planning Assessment of Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon uses applicable data that is equally limiting or more limiting than the data described in the RC SOL methodology (i.e., data pursuant to Requirement R6) |
| Evidence the entity, if a Planning Coordinator, provided a technical rationale to each affected Transmission Planner, Transmission Operator, and Reliability Coordinator. |
| Evidence the entity, if a Transmission Planner, provided a technical rationale to each affected Planning Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Reliability Coordinator. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
| **File Name** | **Document Title** | **Revision or Version** | **Document Date** | **Relevant Page(s) or Section(s)** | **Description of Applicability of Document** |
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Audit Team Evidence Reviewed (This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority):

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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R6

***This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

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|  | Verify the entity implemented a process to ensure that Facility Ratings, System steady-state voltage limits and stability criteria used in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon are equally limiting or more limiting than the criteria for Facility Ratings, System Voltage Limits and stability described in its respective Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology. |
|  | If the entity is a Planning Coordinator and uses less limiting System Facility Ratings, System steady-state voltage limits and stability criteria than the criteria for Facility Ratings, System Voltage Limits and stability described in its respective Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology, verify the entity provided a technical rationale to each affected Transmission Planner, Transmission Operator, and Reliability Coordinator. |
|  | If the entity is a Transmission Planner and uses less limiting System Facility Ratings, System steady-state voltage limits and stability criteria than the criteria for Facility Ratings, System Voltage Limits and stability described in its respective Reliability Coordinator’s SOL methodology, verify the entity provided a technical justification to each affected Planning Coordinators, Transmission Operator, and Reliability Coordinator. |
| **Note to Auditor:** Technical rationale can be specific justification for a specific Facility or broad-based justification (e.g., upgrading a Facility versus a conservative philosophy). |

Auditor Notes:

R7 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R7.**  Each Planning Coordinator and each Transmission Planner shall annually communicate the following information for Corrective Action Plans developed to address any instability identified in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon to each impacted Transmission Operator and Reliability Coordinator. This communication shall include:

 **7.1** The Corrective Action Plan developed to mitigate the identified instability, including any automatic control or operator-assisted actions (such as Remedial Action Schemes, under voltage load shedding, or any Operating Procedures);

 **7.2** The type of instability addressed by the Corrective Action Plan (e.g., steady-state and/or transient voltage instability, angular instability including generating unit loss of synchronism and/or unacceptable damping);

 **7.3** The associated stability criteria violation requiring the Corrective Action Plan (e.g., violation of transient voltage response criteria or damping rate criteria);

 **7.4** The planning event Contingency(ies) associated with the identified instability requiring the Corrective Action Plan;

 **7.5** The System conditions and Facilities associated with the identified instability requiring the Corrective Action Plan.

**M7.**  Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation demonstrating the Planning Coordinator and Transmission Planner communicated the information in accordance with Requirement R7.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Question:** Does the entity have any Corrective Action Plans to address any instability identified in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon that were required to be communicated as required? [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If Yes, provide a list of the Corrective Action Plans. If No, explain how the entity made this determination.

[Note: A separate spreadsheet or another document may be used. If so, provide the document reference below.]

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requestedi:

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Corrective Action Plans to address any instability identified in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon. |
| Evidence of communication to each impacted Reliability Coordinator and Transmission Operator included Parts 7.1 through 7.5. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
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Audit Team Evidence Reviewed (This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority):

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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R7

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|  | Verify annual communication of Corrective Action Plans to address any instability identified in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon to each impacted Reliability Coordinator and Transmission Operator. |
|  | Verify the communication of Corrective Actions Plans included: |
|  | (7.1) The Corrective Action Plan developed to mitigate the identified instability, including any automatic control or operator-assisted actions (such as Remedial Action Schemes, under voltage load shedding, or any Operating Procedures); |
|  | (7.2) The type of instability addressed by the Corrective Action Plan (e.g., steady-state and/or transient voltage instability, angular instability including generating unit loss of synchronism and/or unacceptable damping); |
|  | (7.3) The associated stability criteria violation requiring the Corrective Action Plan (e.g., violation of transient voltage response criteria or damping rate criteria); |
|  | (7.4) The planning event Contingency(ies) associated with the identified instability requiring the Corrective Action Plan; |
|  | (7.5) The System conditions and Facilities associated with the identified instability requiring the Corrective Action Plan. |
| **Note to Auditor:**  |

Auditor Notes:

R8 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**R8.**  Each Planning Coordinator and each Transmission Planner shall annually communicate to each impacted Transmission Owner and Generator Owner a list of their Facilities that comprise the planning event Contingency(ies) that would cause instability, Cascading or uncontrolled separation that adversely impacts the reliability of the BES as identified in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon.

**M8.**  Acceptable evidence may include, but is not limited to, dated electronic or hard copy documentation demonstrating the Planning Coordinator and Transmission Planner communicated the information in accordance with Requirement R8.

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Question:** Has the entity identified instability, Cascading or uncontrolled separation in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, provide a list of instances of instability, Cascading or uncontrolled separation identified in the Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon. If No, explain how the entity made this determination.

[Note: A separate spreadsheet or another document may be used. If so, provide the document reference below.]

**Registered Entity Response (Required):**

**Compliance Narrative:**

Provide a brief explanation, in your own words, of how you comply with this Requirement. References to supplied evidence, including links to the appropriate page, are recommended.

Evidence Requestedi:

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| **Provide the following evidence, or other evidence to demonstrate compliance.**  |
| Evidence the entity communicated to each impacted Transmission Owner and Generation Owner a list of their Facilities that comprise the planning event Contingency(ies) that would cause instability, Cascading or uncontrolled separation that adversely impacts the reliability of the BES as identified in its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon. |
| The entity’s most recent planning event Contingency list for its Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon where instability, Cascading or uncontrolled separation resulted. |

Registered Entity Evidence (Required):

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| **The following information is requested for each document submitted as evidence. Also, evidence submitted should be highlighted and bookmarked, as appropriate, to identify the exact location where evidence of compliance may be found.** |
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Audit Team Evidence Reviewed (This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority):

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Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to FAC-014-3, R8

***This section to be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

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|  | For all, or a sample of, annual communication from the entity to impacted Transmission Owners and Generation Owners, verify the communication included each of those owner’s Facilities that comprise the planning event Contingency(ies) that resulted in instability, Cascading or uncontrolled separation. |
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| **Note to Auditor:** Planning Coordinators are required to prepare a Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon in TPL-001. The Facilities included in the communication to an owner are only required to be those facilities that impact the owner. Note that generally there will be limited cases of instability, Cascading, or uncontrolled separation in a finalized Planning Assessment of the Near-Term Transmission Planning Horizon. As such, emphasis should be placed on how the entity would identify the planning event Contingency(ies) and the list of Facility owners if the initial response is a null set of communications. |

Auditor Notes:

Additional Information:

Reliability Standard



The full text of FAC-014-3 may be found on the NERC Web Site (www.nerc.com) under “Program Areas & Departments”, “Reliability Standards.”

In addition to the Reliability Standard, there is an applicable Implementation Plan available on the NERC Web Site (https://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Pages/Project-2015-09-Establish-and-Communicate-System-Operating-Limits.aspx)

In addition to the Reliability Standard, there is background information available on the NERC Web Site.

Capitalized terms in the Reliability Standard refer to terms in the NERC Glossary, which may be found on the NERC Web Site.

Sampling Methodology

Sampling is essential for auditing compliance with NERC Reliability Standards since it is not always possible or practical to test 100% of either the equipment, documentation, or both, associated with the full suite of enforceable standards. The Sampling Methodology Guidelines and Criteria (see NERC website), or sample guidelines, provided by the Electric Reliability Organization help to establish a minimum sample set for monitoring and enforcement uses in audits of NERC Reliability Standards.

Regulatory Language

In the United States, Reliability Standard FAC-014-3 was approved in a letter order issued by FERC on March 4, 2022 in Docket No. RD22-2-000.

Revision History for RSAW

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Date** | **Reviewers** | **Revision Description** |
| 1 | 03/27/2024 | NERC Compliance Assurance, OPCTF | New Document |
|  |  |  |  |

1. NERC developed this Reliability Standard Audit Worksheet (RSAW) language in order to facilitate NERC’s and the Regional Entities’ assessment of a registered entity’s compliance with this Reliability Standard. The NERC RSAW language is written to specific versions of each NERC Reliability Standard. Entities using this RSAW should choose the version of the RSAW applicable to the Reliability Standard being assessed. While the information included in this RSAW provides some of the methodology that NERC has elected to use to assess compliance with the requirements of the Reliability Standard, this document should not be treated as a substitute for the Reliability Standard or viewed as additional Reliability Standard requirements. In all cases, the Regional Entity should rely on the language contained in the Reliability Standard itself, and not on the language contained in this RSAW, to determine compliance with the Reliability Standard. NERC’s Reliability Standards can be found on NERC’s website. Additionally, NERC Reliability Standards are updated frequently, and this RSAW may not necessarily be updated with the same frequency. Therefore, it is imperative that entities treat this RSAW as a reference document only, and not as a substitute or replacement for the Reliability Standard. It is the responsibility of the registered entity to verify its compliance with the latest approved version of the Reliability Standards, by the applicable governmental authority, relevant to its registration status.

The RSAW may provide a non‑exclusive list, for informational purposes only, of examples of the types of evidence a registered entity may produce or may be asked to produce to demonstrate compliance with the Reliability Standard. A registered entity’s adherence to the examples contained within this RSAW does not necessarily constitute compliance with the applicable Reliability Standard, and NERC and the Regional Entity using this RSAW reserve the right to request additional evidence from the registered entity that is not included in this RSAW. This RSAW may include excerpts from FERC Orders and other regulatory references which are provided for ease of reference only, and this document does not necessarily include all applicable Order provisions. In the event of a discrepancy between FERC Orders, and the language included in this document, FERC Orders shall prevail. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Compliance Assessment Date(s): The date(s) the actual compliance assessment (on-site audit, off-site spot check, etc.) occurs. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Items in the Evidence Requested section are suggested evidence that may, but will not necessarily, demonstrate compliance. These items are not mandatory and other forms and types of evidence may be submitted at the entity’s discretion. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)