

January 29, 2007

TO: REGISTERED BALLOT BODY

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Announcement
Pre-ballot Windows and Ballot Pools for Version 1 Risk Factors Open
January 29–February 13, 2007

The Standards Committee (SC) announces the following standards actions:

Pre-ballot Windows and Ballot Pools for Version 1 Violation Risk Factors Opens
January 29, 2007

Violation risk factors are proposed for use when determining a penalty or sanction for a violation of the associated requirement. The V1 Violation Risk Factors that are posted for pre-ballot review represent the weighted average of the stakeholder selections from the second posting of the [Version 1 VRF survey](#), which took place November 2, 2006 through December 1, 2006. The second survey asked stakeholders to select a violation risk factor for each requirement in each board-approved V1 standard. Please note that the violation risk factors for the balance resources and demand standards BAL-007-1 through BAL-010-1 have been removed from this pre-ballot review because the associated standards have not yet been approved by the NERC Board of Trustees.

On January 18, 2007, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued an order in response to NERC's non-governance compliance filing. In that order, FERC directed NERC to file responses, including a copy of the Version 0 and Version 1 (V1) Violation Risk Factors, within 60 days (March 19, 2007). To that end, NERC established an expedited timeline for review and balloting of the V1 Violation Risk Factors that allows stakeholders to ballot the risk factors before the risk factors are filed with FERC. This timeline allows stakeholders 15 days, rather than 30 days, to join ballot pools and conduct a pre-ballot review of the V1 Violation Risk Factors.

Expedited Timeline

- The pre-ballot window for the V1 Violation Risk Factors will be open from January 29, 2007 through February 13, 2007. **This is an expedited, 15-day, pre-ballot pool review period.** The alternative to the shortened review period omits the option for any stakeholder balloting and directs NERC to file the latest version of the V1 Violation Risk Factors with FERC no later than March 19, 2007.
- The initial ballot for the V1 Violation Risk Factors will be conducted from 8 a.m. EST on Wednesday, February 14 through 8 p.m. EST Saturday, February 24, 2007.

Ballot Pools

Each set of V1 Violation Risk Factors that is posted under this pre-ballot review period has its own [ballot pool](#) and its own list server as shown below. During the 15-day, pre-ballot window,

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members of the ballot pool may communicate with one another by using their “ballot pool list server¹.”

Version 1 Violation Risk Factor Ballot Pools (Associated Standards)	Ballot Pool List Server
Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP-002-1 through CIP-009-1)	bp-v1rf_cip
Facility Ratings (FAC-008-1 through FAC-014-1)	bp-v1RF_facility_rating
Balancing and Interchange (BAL-006-1, INT-001-2, INT-003-2, INT-004-1 through INT-010-1)	bp-v1rf_bal_interchng
Interconnection Reliability Operations (IRO-014-1 through IRO-016-1)	bp-v1rf_int_reliab_ops
Modeling (MOD-013-1, MOD-016-1, MOD-024-1, MOD-025-1)	bp-v1rf_modeling
Protection and Control (PRC-002-1, PRC-018-1, PRC-021-1, PRC-022-1)	bp-v1rf_prot_and_ctrl
Emergency Operations, Voltage Control and Transmission Operations (TOP-002-2, VAR-001-1, VAR-002-2, EOP-005-1)	bp-v1rf_eop_top_v_ctrl

These are new ballot pools. If you participated in the balloting of the Version 0 Violation Risk Factors and want to participate in the balloting for V1 Violation Risk Factors, you must join each applicable ballot pool. During the pre-ballot review period, any member of the Registered Ballot Body may join any of the above ballot pools. Once balloting begins, no changes can be made to any of the above ballot pools.

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. If you have any questions, please contact me at 813-468-5998 or maureen.long@nerc.net.

Sincerely,
Maureen E. Long

cc: Registered Ballot Body Registered Users
Standards Mailing List
NERC Roster

¹ For assistance in using a list server, contact Barbara Bogenrief at 609-452-8060.