

December 21, 2007

TO: REGISTERED BALLOT BODY

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Announcement: Pre-ballot Windows and Ballot Pools Open

The Standards Committee announces the following standards actions:

Nine Pre-ballot Windows and Ballot Pools for Project 2007-23 — Violation Severity Levels Open December 21, 2007

[Project 2007-23 — Violation Severity Levels](#) proposes replacing the existing “Levels of Non-compliance” in the 83 standards approved by FERC with Violation Severity Levels (VSLs). In its June 7, 2007 *Order on Compliance Filing*, FERC directed NERC to replace the “Levels of Non-compliance” with VSLs by March 1, 2008. The drafting team also developed VSLs for the NERC Board-approved NUC-001-1 — Nuclear Plant Interface Coordination reliability standard.

The Standards Committee appointed the Violation Severity Level Drafting Team (VSL DT) to draft guidelines for the development of VSLs and to coordinate the development of VSLs with industry stakeholders. The VSL DT posted the draft *VSL Development Guidelines Criteria* (VSL Guidelines) and a proposed set of VSLs for the 83-FERC-approved standards and the NUC-001-1 reliability standard for comment. The VSL DT made conforming changes to the VSL Guidelines and to more than half of the VSLs, but does not have time to collect additional feedback on the acceptability of the modifications before proceeding to ballot. (Note that the VSL DT is finalizing the production of the revised VSL Guidelines and will post the revised document no later than January 4, 2008.)

There are 739 sets of VSLs (each set is associated with a requirement or sub-requirement) and these sets of VSLs have been grouped into nine “ballots.” Each ballot has its own [ballot pool](#) and its own list server as shown in the following table.

VSL Ballot Pools	Ballot Pool List Server
Balancing (BAL)	bp-VSL_BAL_in@nerc.com
Critical Infrastructure, Communications, Voltage and Reactive (CIP, COM, VAR)	bp-VSL_CIP_COM_VAR_in@nerc.com
Emergency Operations (EOP)	bp-VSL_EOP_in@nerc.com
Facilities and Modeling (FAC, MOD)	bp-VSL_FAC_MOD_in@nerc.com
Interchange, Personnel and Nuclear (INT, PER, NUC)	bp-VSL_INT_PER_NUC_in@nerc.com
Interconnected Reliability Operations (IRO)	bp-VSL_IRO_in@nerc.com
Protection and Control (PRC)	bp-VSL_PRC_in@nerc.com
Transmission Operations (TOP)	bp_VSL_TOP_in@nerc.com
Transmission Planning (TPL)	bp-VSL_TPL_in@nerc.com

REGISTERED BALLOT BODY

December 21, 2007

Page Two

During the 30-day, pre-ballot window, members of a ballot pool may communicate with one another by using their “ballot pool list server¹.” (Once the balloting begins, ballot pool members are prohibited from using the ballot pool list servers.) Any member of the Registered Ballot Body may join as many of these ballot pools as desired — a member wanting to ballot all of the VSLs must join all nine of the ballot pools. The ballot pools will remain open up until **8 a.m. (EST) Monday, January 21, 2008**.

Note that each ballot is for approval of the associated set of VSLs — there is no ballot for the VSL Guidelines Criteria Reference Document. A complete list of all the standards associated with each of the ballots is attached.

An **abbreviated initial ballot** for the VSLs will begin at **8 a.m. (EST) on Monday, January 21, 2008** and end at **8 a.m. (EST) on Monday, January 28, 2008**. The abbreviated ballot window was endorsed by the Standards Committee to support delivery of the VSLs to the FERC by March 1, 2008.

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

Maureen E. Long
Standards Process Manager

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.

List of Standards Associated with Each VSL Ballot:

Balancing Resources and Demand (BAL)

- BAL-001-0 — Real Power Balancing Control Performance
- BAL-002-0 — Disturbance Control Performance
- BAL-003-0 — Frequency Response and Bias
- BAL-004-0 — Time Error Correction
- BAL-005-0 — Automatic Generation Control
- BAL-006-1 — Inadvertent Interchange

Critical Infrastructure, Communications, Voltage and Reactive (CIP/COM/VAR)

- CIP-001-1 — Sabotage Reporting
- COM-001-1 — Telecommunications
- COM-002-2 — Communications and Coordination
- VAR-001-1 — Voltage and Reactive Control
- VAR-002-1 — Generator Operation for Maintaining Network Voltage Schedules

Emergency Operations (EOP)

- EOP-001-0 — Emergency Operations Planning
- EOP-002-2 — Capacity and Energy Emergencies
- EOP-003-1 — Load Shedding Plans
- EOP-004-1 — Disturbance Reporting
- EOP-005-1 — System Restoration Plans
- EOP-006-1 — Reliability Coordination – System Restoration
- EOP-008-0 — Plans for Loss of Control Center Functionality
- EOP-009-0 — Documentation of Blackstart Generating Unit Test Results

Facilities and Modeling (FAC/MOD)

- FAC-001-0 — Facility Connection Requirements
- FAC-002-0 — Coordination of Plans for New Facilities
- FAC-003-1 — Vegetation Management Program
- FAC-008-1 — Facility Ratings Methodology
- FAC-009-1 — Establish and Communicate Facility Ratings
- FAC-013-1 — Establish and Communicate Transfer Capabilities
- MOD-006-0 — Procedures for Use of CBM Values
- MOD-007-0 — Documentation of the Use of CBM
- MOD-010-0 — Steady-State Data for Transmission System Modeling and Simulation
- MOD-012-0 — Dynamics Data for Transmission System Modeling and Simulation
- MOD-016-1 — Documentation of Data Reporting Requirements for Actual and Forecast Demands, Net Energy for Load, and Controllable Demand-Side Management
- MOD-017-0 — Aggregated Actual and Forecast Demands and Net Energy for Load
- MOD-018-0 — Reports of Actual and Forecast Demand Data
- MOD-019-0 — Forecasts of Interruptible Demands and DCLM Data
- MOD-020-0 — Providing Interruptible Demands and DCLM Data
- MOD-021-0 — Accounting Methodology for Effects of Controllable DSM in Forecasts

Interchange, Personnel and Nuclear (INT/PER/NUC)

- INT-001-2 — Interchange Information
- INT-003-2 — Interchange Transaction Implementation
- INT-004-1 — Dynamic Interchange Transaction Modifications
- INT-005-1 — Interchange Authority Distributes Arranged Interchange
- INT-006-1 — Interchange Confirmation
- INT-008-1 — Implementation of Interchange
- INT-010-1 — Interchange Coordination Exemptions

PER-001-0 — Operating Personnel Responsibility and Authority
PER-002-0 — Operating Personnel Training
PER-003-0 — Operating Personnel Credentials
PER-004-1 — Reliability Coordination – Staffing
NUC-001-1 — Nuclear Plant Interface Coordination

Interconnected Reliability Operations (IRO)

IRO-001-1 — Reliability Coordination – Responsibilities and Authorities
IRO-002-1 — Reliability Coordination – Facilities
IRO-003-2 — Reliability Coordination – Wide-Area View
IRO-004-1 — Reliability Coordination – Operations Planning
IRO-005-1 — Reliability Coordination – Current-Day Operations
IRO-006-3 — Reliability Coordination – Transmission Loading Relief
IRO-014-1 — Procedures, Processes, Plans to Support Coordination between Reliability Coordinators
IRO-015-1 — Notifications and Information Exchange Between Reliability Coordinators
IRO-016-1 — Coordination of Real-time Activities between Reliability Coordinators

Protection and Control (PRC)

PRC-001-1 — System Protection Coordination
PRC-004-1 — Analysis and Mitigation of Trans and Generation Protection Sys Misoperations
PRC-005-1 — Transmission and Generation Protection System Maintenance and Testing
PRC-007-0 — Assuring Consistency with Regional UFLS Program Requirements
PRC-008-0 — Underfrequency Load Shedding Equipment Maintenance Programs
PRC-009-0 — UFLS Performance Following an Underfrequency Event
PRC-010-0 — Assessment of the Design and Effectiveness of UVLS Program
PRC-011-0 — UVLS System Maintenance and Testing
PRC-015-0 — Special Protection System Data and Documentation
PRC-016-0 — Special Protection System Misoperations
PRC-017-0 — Special Protection System Maintenance and Testing
PRC-018-1 — Disturbance Monitoring Equipment Installation and Data Reporting
PRC-021-1 — Under-Voltage Load Shedding Program Data
PRC-022-1 — Under-Voltage Load Shedding Program Performance

Transmission Operations (TOP)

TOP-001-1 — Reliability Responsibilities and Authorities
TOP-002-2 — Normal Operations Planning
TOP-003-0 — Planned Outage Coordination
TOP-004-1 — Transmission Operations
TOP-005-1 — Operational Reliability Information
TOP-006-1 — Monitoring System Conditions
TOP-007-0 — Reporting SOL and IROL Violations
TOP-008-1 — Response to Transmission Limit Violations

Transmission Planning (TPL)

TPL-001-0 — System Performance under Normal Conditions
TPL-002-0 — System Performance Following Loss of a Single BES Element
TPL-003-0 — System Performance Following Loss of Two or More BES Elements
TPL-004-0 — System Performance Following Extreme BES Events