

July 17, 2007

TO: REGISTERED BALLOT BODY

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Announcement: Comment Periods Open

The Standards Committee announces the following standards actions:

SAR for Certifying System Operators (Project 2007-04) Posted for 30-day Comment Period July 17–August 15, 2007

This SAR for [Project 2007-04 — Certifying System Operators](#) proposes modifications to address the directives from the FERC Final Rule “Mandatory Reliability Standards for the Bulk-Power System, FERC Order 693” relative to PER-003 — Operating Personnel Credentials and to incorporate the necessary content, structure, and language to bring the standard into conformance with the Reliability Standards Development Procedure and the ERO [Sanctions Guidelines](#).

Please use this [comment form](#) to submit comments on this SAR.

SAR for Violation Severity Levels (Project 2007-23) Posted for 30-day Comment Period July 17–August 15, 2007

This SAR for [Project 2007-23 — Violation Severity Levels](#) proposes defining a set of criteria for assigning Violation Severity Levels or VSLs, and replacing the existing “Levels of Non-compliance” (in the 83 standards approved by the FERC) with “VSLs.” The FERC directed NERC to replace “Levels of Non-compliance” with “Violation Severity Levels” by March 1, 2008.

Levels of non-compliance assess the reliability-related risk of violating a requirement, and are not used in the ERO’s Sanctions Guidelines. The Sanctions Guidelines use “Violation Risk Factors” to assess the reliability-related risk of violating a requirement and use “Violation Severity Levels” to identify how badly a requirement was violated — VSLs do not assess “importance” or “reliability-related risk” of violating a requirement.

Please use this [comment form](#) to submit comments on this SAR.

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

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Page Two

NERC Roster