

Standard Development Roadmap

This section is maintained by the drafting team during the development of the standard and will be removed when the standard becomes effective.

Development Steps Completed:

1. Request for interpretation of Requirement 1 received (February 20, 2006).
2. Personnel Subcommittee drafts interpretation (July 20, 2006).
3. SC approves posting of interpretation and formation of ballot pool (August 8, 2006)

Description of Current Draft:

The draft interpretation was developed by the Personnel Subcommittee with support from NERC’s Compliance and Standards staff and addresses Hydro One’s request for an interpretation of Requirement 1. In accordance with the Reliability Standards Development Procedure, the interpretation will be posted for a 30-day pre-ballot review (August 15–September 13, 2006) and then will be balloted.

Future Development Plan:

Anticipated Actions

Anticipated Date

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| 1. Conduct first ballot. | September 18–29, 2006 |
| 2. Consider comments submitted with first ballot; post consideration of comments. | October 11, 2006 |
| 3. Conduct second ballot. | October 16–25, 2006 |
| 4. Post interpretation for 30-day review by board. | October 1, 2006 |
| 5. Board adoption date. | November 1, 2006 |

A. Introduction

- 1. Title:** **Operating Personnel Credentials**
- 2. Number:** PER-003-1
- 3. Purpose:** Certification of operating personnel is necessary to ensure minimum competencies for operating a reliable Bulk Electric System.
- 4. Applicability**
 - 4.1.** Transmission Operators.
 - 4.2.** Balancing Authorities.
 - 4.3.** Reliability Coordinators.
- 5. Proposed Effective Date:** Date of Board of Trustees adoption of interpretation.

B. Requirements

- R1.** Each Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, and Reliability Coordinator shall staff all operating positions that meet both of the following criteria with personnel that are NERC-certified for the applicable functions:
 - R1.1.** Positions that have the primary responsibility, either directly or through communications with others, for the real-time operation of the interconnected Bulk Electric System.
 - R1.2.** Positions directly responsible for complying with NERC standards.

C. Measures

- M1.** Each Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, and Reliability Coordinator shall have NERC-certified operating personnel on shift in required positions at all times with the following exceptions:
 - M1.1** While in training, an individual without the proper NERC certification credential may not independently fill a required operating position. Trainees may perform critical tasks only under the direct, continuous supervision and observation of the NERC-certified individual filling the required position.
 - M1.2** During a real-time operating emergency, the time when control is transferred from a primary control center to a backup control center shall not be included in the calculation of non-compliance. This time shall be limited to no more than four hours.

D. Compliance

1. Compliance Monitoring Process

Periodic Review: An on-site review will be conducted every three years. Staffing schedules and certification numbers will be compared to ensure that positions that require NERC-certified operating personnel were covered as required. Certification numbers from the Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, and Reliability Coordinator will be compared with NERC records.

Exception Reporting: Any violation of the standard must be reported to the Regional Reliability Organization, who will inform the NERC Vice President-Compliance, indicating the reason for the non-compliance and the mitigation plans taken.

1.1. Compliance Monitoring Responsibility

Regional Reliability Organization.

1.2. Compliance Monitoring Period and Reset Time Frame

One calendar month without a violation.

1.3. Data Retention

Present calendar year plus previous calendar year staffing plan.

1.4. Additional Compliance Information

Not specified.

2. Levels of Non-Compliance

2.1. Level 1:The Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, or Reliability Coordinator did not meet the requirement for a total time greater than 0 hours and up to 12 hours during a one calendar month period for each required position in the staffing plan.

2.2. Level 2:The Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, or Reliability Coordinator did not meet the requirement for a total time greater than 12 hours and up to 36 hours during a one calendar month period for each required position in the staffing plan.

2.3. Level 3:The Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, or Reliability Coordinator did not meet the requirement for a total time greater than 36 hours and up to 72 hours during a one-month calendar period for each required position in the staffing plan.

2.4. Level 4:The Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, or Reliability Coordinator did not meet the requirement for a total time greater than 72 hours during a one calendar month period for each required position in the staffing plan.

E. Regional Differences

None identified.

F. Interpretations

1. Interpretation of R1 for Hydro One July 20, 2006

Version History

Version	Date	Action	Change Tracking
0	April 1, 2005	Effective Date	New

Interpretation of PER-003-0 R1 for Hydro One

In response to a request for interpretation of Reliability Standard PER-003-0 — Operating Personnel Credentials Requirement 1 from Hydro One contained in their letter dated February 20, 2006, NERC offers the following:

Hydro One made the following statements:

- Hydro One has registered with NERC as a Transmission Operator.
- Hydro one has defined responsibilities for the operation of Hydro One’s transmission system.
- Hydro One has the responsibility for physically operating transmission elements.
- Hydro One is responsible for determining and executing the necessary sequence of switching operations to implement IESO’s direction in a manner which addresses safety, asset and customer considerations.

Reliability Standard PER-003-0, Requirement 1 states:

R1. Each Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, and Reliability Coordinator shall staff all operating positions that meet both of the following criteria with personnel that are NERC certified for the applicable functions:

R1.1. Positions that have the primary responsibility, either directly or through communications with others, for the real-time operation of the interconnected Bulk Electric System.

R1.2. Positions directly responsible for complying with NERC standards.

Hydro One’s request for clarification asks which personnel need to be NERC-certified in compliance to the above standard. Hydro One stated that two levels of its supervisors, (both immediate and one level above) who oversee personnel that perform switching operations at the Hydro One Control Centre, are NERC-certified. After the review of information provided by Hydro One that outlines their control room hierarchy and chain of command, the following answers are provided.

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| Hydro One | Do personnel performing switching operations, under the supervision of certified supervisors, also require certification? |
| NERC: | Yes, if these personnel have the authority and responsibility to perform real-time independent actions that impact the reliability of the interconnected Bulk Power System. |
| Hydro One: | Are personnel performing support work, such as outage planning, to be certified? |
| NERC: | No. However, if this person is also expected to perform duties that fall under the question above, then that person will need to be certified. |