

Proposed Implementation Plan

The Compliance and Certification Committee will be posting the Registration and Certification manual during the 4th quarter of 2005. Identified below are the key steps associated with the plan. Comments associated with these steps of the transition should be provided to the CCC at the time of the posting.

1. Develop Organization Certification Standards

The OCWG has developed the implementation plan based on the assumption that the certification standards will proceed through the standards development process and be adopted by the NERC Board of Trustees in February 2006 for implementation April 1, 2006.

2. Functional Certification Process Implemented

The certification of BA, RC, and TOP will begin upon approval and implementation of the certification standards (April 1, 2006). This is the regular certification process for certifying BA, RC, and TOP.

3. Registration

The OCWG has developed a manual registration process. It is expected that all existing entities will be registered by April 1, 2006.

4. Certification and Registration Manual

The Organization Registration and Certification Procedures Manual is being developed by the OCWG by September 2005 for initial review by the CCC in September and will be posted for industry information. The CCC will be asked to approve the Registration and Certification processes at their December 2005 meeting.

5. Industry Education – Registration and Certification

The registration and certification education phase (workshops) will occur starting in January 2006.

6. Regional Review

The Regional review will be conducted to ensure complete coverage of its footprint for BA, TOP, and RC. This review will start January 1, 2006 and be completed by the end of the March 2006.

7. Control Area Certification for New Control Areas

Entities applying for control area status after 4/1/2005 will continue until the new certification standards are approved. The regions are expected to complete such certification requests by June 30, 2006. However, entities certified using the control area certification process must still be certified using the new certification standards process by 12/31/2007. No applications will be accepted for CA certification after April 1st 2006.

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8. Existing control Area Certification Process

The procedure for certifying control areas will be retired on June 30, 2006.

9. Existing Control Areas

Existing NERC Certified Control Areas will be eligible to use a transitional process (which is spelled out in the Procedures Manual) for Functional Certification. The transitional certification process would start on April 1, 2006 and conclude on December 31, 2007.