



NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

## Standards Announcement Informal Comment Period Open Standards Committee Project Prioritization Tool and Reference Document January 21-February 10, 2011

### Now available at the following locations:

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Reliability\\_Standards\\_Under\\_Development.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Reliability_Standards_Under_Development.html)

<http://www.nerc.com/filez/sc.html>

The Standards Committee has posted a draft standard project prioritization tool and reference document (Standards Committee Process for Standard Project Identification, Prioritization, and Monitoring) proposed for use in prioritizing standard projects for an informal comment period through 8 p.m. on Thursday, **February 10, 2011**.

The project prioritization tool is an Excel spreadsheet that assigns a base weight (by summing the values in the red and orange columns) to each project based on the project's impact to reliability, and then adds more weight (by summing the values in the yellow and blue columns) to those projects that have other factors that may warrant giving that project a higher priority. The column headings (red, orange, yellow, and blue) were developed by identifying the range of factors the Standards Committee considers to determine when to start a new project.

The project prioritization tool provides the Standards Committee with the flexibility to prioritize new projects, and to adjust project priorities and completion schedules in response to changing conditions. The tool will be used to assign a priority to each standard project.

You are encouraged to read the reference document; review the project prioritization tool; and finally to review the proposed weightings for the projects identified in the tool. (The projects identified in the tool are the same projects that were approved in the Reliability Standards Development Plan.)

We are seeking comments on the reference document, the tool, and also the ratings assigned to the list of projects. If you disagree with the rating assigned to a specific project, please identify why you believe the rating is incorrect, and identify what rating you believe is more appropriate. Please be as specific as possible to help the Standards Committee in making adjustments to the ratings already assigned. For example, if you believe that the proposed project will fill a reliability gap that is not properly rated, identify the reliability gap that is addressed in the project.

*For more information or assistance, please contact Monica Benson,  
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