

Announcement

NERC Board Focuses on Improving Efforts; Approves Four Standards

August 10, 2011

VANCOUVER – The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) had its quarterly Board of Trustees meeting on August 4 in Vancouver. Gerry Cauley, president and chief executive officer of NERC, welcomed NERC Board of Trustees; Federal Energy Regulatory Commission staff; and industry stakeholders.

Entering its fifth year as the electric reliability organization, NERC continues to strive for excellence by evolving and adapting to better meet the mission of ensuring the reliability of the bulk power system.

“A mature organization is constantly using the experience it gains to develop better procedures and make course corrections as needed,” Cauley said. “We have strong standards and processes in place, and we will use our gained knowledge to make them even stronger.”

To continue toward reliability excellence, NERC committed to reviewing its Compliance Application Notice program. NERC staff will review and revise existing CANs to ensure they provide clear, concise guidance for auditors to use consistently across the Regions. A process guide document also is being developed to provide more transparency to the effort. The board will review the CAN process again in November.

Also discussed was progress on the bulk electric system definition. The board directed the Standards Committee and the standard drafting team to consider feedback received during meeting while drafting the BES standard, and to submit a draft of the proposed standard and technical justification to the board by September 9.

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NERC introduced a new [compliance enforcement](#) initiative that differentiates issues of noncompliance based on the level of potential risk to the reliability of the bulk power system. The new enforcement initiative is designed to refocus efforts on reliability excellence, eliminate undue regulatory burdens, streamline paperwork requirements, increase caseload processing, and encourage continued timely and thorough self-reporting and mitigation.

The board approved four standards - *Project 2006-02 Assess Transmission Future Needs and Develop Transmission Plans* (TPL-001-2) and *Project 2006-06 Reliability Coordination* (IRO-002-3, IRO-005-4 and IRO-014-2); as well as the Planning Committee's strategic plan and revised charter, which better aligns activities with NERC's enterprise strategic plan.

Also approved were the *Generating Availability Data System: Mandatory Reporting of Conventional Generation Performance Data* report; the Regional Delegation Agreement metrics and the *2011 Risk Assessment of Reliability Performance* report.

The next board meeting is November 3 in Atlanta.

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The North American Electric Reliability Corporation's mission is to ensure the reliability of the North American bulk power system. NERC is the electric reliability organization (ERO) certified by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish and enforce reliability standards for the bulk-power system. NERC has equivalent relationships with provincial and federal authorities in Canada. NERC develops and enforces reliability standards; assesses adequacy annually via a 10-year forecast, and summer and winter forecasts; monitors the bulk power system; and educates, trains and certifies industry personnel. Learn more at www.nerc.com