

# Implementation Plan for the Revised Definition of “Remedial Action Scheme”

## Project 2010-05.2 – Special Protection Systems

### Background

The existing NERC Glossary of Terms definition for “Special Protection System” (“SPS”) or “Remedial Action Scheme” (“RAS”) lacks the specificity necessary to consistently identify what equipment or protection schemes qualify as SPS or RAS across the eight NERC Regions. The existing definition also does not clearly stipulate the characteristics of a SPS or RAS. The actions listed in the definition of SPS, which are incorporated by cross reference (NERC Glossary of Terms) into the definition of RAS, are ambiguous and may unintentionally include equipment whose purpose is not expressly related to preserving System reliability in response to predetermined System conditions. Employing a single term, i.e., RAS, and clarifying its definition will lead to more consistent application of the NERC Reliability Standards related to RAS.

The proposed definition of RAS must be broad to include the variety of System conditions monitored and corrective actions taken by RAS. This “broadness,” however, necessitates an exclusion list because without the exclusions, equipment and schemes that should not be considered RAS could be subject to the requirements of the RAS-related Reliability Standards. The exclusion list assures that commonly applied protection and control systems are not unintentionally included as RAS.

The Project 2010-05.2 SPS SDT is coordinating the development of the RAS definition with the development of PRC-010-1 by the SDT for Project 2008-02 – Undervoltage Load Shedding. The UVLS SDT is introducing a new NERC Glossary term, UVLS Program, to clearly establish applicability of PRC-010-1. The proposed term UVLS Program is defined as: “An automatic load shedding program consisting of distributed relays and controls used to mitigate undervoltage conditions leading to voltage instability, voltage collapse, or Cascading impacting the Bulk Electric System (BES). Centrally controlled undervoltage-based load shedding is not included.”

Note that the proposed definition excludes centrally controlled undervoltage-based load shedding. The UVLS SDT maintains that the design and characteristics of centrally controlled undervoltage-based load shedding are commensurate with RAS (wherein load shedding is the remedial action) and, as such, should be subject to RAS-related Reliability Standards. The Project 2010-05.2 SPS SDT agrees with this assessment and revised the definition of RAS to clarify that it is inclusive of centrally controlled undervoltage-based load shedding. Collectively, the two definitions will promote consistency in the identification of centrally controlled undervoltage-based load shedding as RAS. The coordination of these revisions is required to maintain coverage of those systems and prevent a reliability gap. As a result of these revisions, all NERC Reliability Standards that include the term RAS will be applicable to centrally

controlled undervoltage-based load shedding upon the effective dates of the revised definitions of RAS and UVLS Program.

## Requested Approvals

Definition of “**Remedial Action Scheme**” and the standards listed below

The following standards are proposed for approval to align the use of RAS. This list is intended to reflect Reliability Standards currently in effect at the time of Project development. In certain cases, a standard listed below for approval may already be retired pursuant to an implementation plan of a successor version by the time the definition of “Remedial Action Scheme” becomes effective in a particular jurisdiction. In these cases, the standard below will not become effective.

The standard numbers below currently include an (X) to indicate the version numbering will be updated. Some standards are open in current projects and others are pending with governmental authorities. As a result, NERC will assign the appropriate version number prior to BOT adoption.

CIP-002-3(X)	IRO-005-3.1a(X)	PRC-017-0(X)
CIP-002-3b(X)	IRO-014-1(X)	PRC-020-1(X)
CIP-002-5.1(X)	MOD-029-1a(X)	PRC-021-1(X)
CIP-003-5(X)	MOD-030-2(X)	PRC-023-2(X)
CIP-004-5.1(X)	NUC-001-2.1(X)	PRC-023-3(X)
CIP-005-5(X)	PRC-001-1.1(X)	PRC-024-1(X)
CIP-006-5(X)	PRC-004-WECC-1(X)	PRC-025-1(X)
CIP-007-5(X)	PRC-005-2(X)	TOP-005-2a(X)
CIP-008-5(X)	PRC-005-3(X)	TPL-001-0.1(X)
CIP-009-5(X)	PRC-006-1(X)	TPL-001-4(X)
CIP-010-1(X)	PRC-012-0(X)	TPL-002-0b(X)
CIP-011-1(X)	PRC-013-0(X)	TPL-003-0b(X)
EOP-004-2(X)	PRC-014-0(X)	TPL-004-0a(X)
FAC-010-2.1(X)	PRC-015-0(X)	
FAC-011-2(X)	PRC-016-0.1(X)	

## Requested Retirements

Definition of “**Special Protection System**” and the standards listed below

CIP-002-3	CIP-007-5	FAC-011-2
CIP-002-3b	CIP-008-5	IRO-005-3.1a
CIP-002-5.1	CIP-009-5	IRO-014-1
CIP-003-5	CIP-010-1	MOD-029-1a
CIP-004-5.1	CIP-011-1	MOD-030-02
CIP-005-5	EOP-004-2	NUC-001-2.1
CIP-006-5	FAC-010-2.1	PRC-001-1.1

PRC-004-WECC-1	PRC-016-0.1	TOP-005-2a
PRC-005-2	PRC-017-0	TPL-001-0.1
PRC-005-3	PRC-020-1	TPL-001-4
PRC-006-1	PRC-021-1	TPL-002-0b
PRC-012-0	PRC-023-2	TPL-003-0b
PRC-013-0	PRC-023-3	TPL-004-0a
PRC-014-0	PRC-024-1	
PRC-015-0	PRC-025-1	

### General Considerations

The entity shall modify its processes as necessary to account for the revised definition. The revised definition of RAS clarifies that it is inclusive of centrally controlled undervoltage-based load shedding. Entities may have additional changes to the classification of certain schemes to align them with the revised definition. This Implementation Plan provides additional time for entities with newly-identified RAS to become compliant with the Reliability Standards during the transition to the revised definition.

### Prerequisite Approvals

NERC Reliability Standard PRC-010-1 – Undervoltage Load Shedding  
Definition of “Undervoltage Load Shedding Program (UVLS Program)” in Project 2008-02 Undervoltage Load Shedding

### Revisions to the NERC Glossary of Terms

The drafting team proposes the following revised definition:

#### Remedial Action Scheme (RAS)

A scheme designed to detect predetermined System conditions and automatically take corrective actions that may include, but are not limited to, curtailing or tripping generation or other sources, curtailing or tripping load, or reconfiguring a System(s). RAS accomplish one or more of the following objectives:

- Meet requirements identified in the NERC Reliability Standards;
- Maintain System stability;
- Maintain acceptable System voltages;
- Maintain acceptable power flows;
- Limit the impact of Cascading; or
- Address other Bulk Electric System (BES) reliability concerns.

These schemes are not Protection Systems; however, they may share components with Protection Systems.

The following do not individually constitute a RAS:

- a. Out-of-step tripping and power swing blocking
- b. Automatic underfrequency load shedding (UFLS) programs
- c. Undervoltage Load Shedding Programs (UVLS Programs)

- d. Autoreclosing schemes
- e. Schemes applied on an Element for non-Fault conditions, such as, but not limited to, generator loss-of-field, transformer top-oil temperature, high voltage, or overload to protect the Element against damage by removing it from service
- f. Controllers that switch or regulate series or shunt reactive devices, flexible alternating current transmission system (FACTS) devices, phase-shifting transformers, variable-frequency transformers, tap-changing transformers, or generation excitation, and that are located at and monitor quantities solely at the same station as the Element being switched or regulated
- g. FACTS controllers that remotely switch static shunt reactive devices located at other stations to regulate the output of a single FACTS device
- h. Schemes or controllers that remotely switch shunt reactors and shunt capacitors for voltage regulation that would otherwise be manually switched
- i. Schemes that automatically de-energize a line for a non-Fault operation when one end of the line is open
- j. Schemes that provide anti-islanding protection (e.g., protect load from effects of being isolated with generation that may not be capable of maintaining acceptable frequency and voltage)
- k. Automatic sequences that proceed when manually initiated solely by an operator
- l. Modulation of HVdc or FACTS via supplementary controls such as angle damping or frequency damping applied to damp local or inter-area oscillations
- m. Sub-synchronous resonance (SSR) protection schemes that directly detect sub-synchronous quantities (e.g., currents or torsional oscillations)

### **Conforming Changes to Other Standards**

The existing Reliability Standards proposed for retirement contain references to SPS or RAS or both. The revised Reliability Standards will reflect the use of the single term RAS. The revised Reliability Standards noted above for approval are included in a separate document *Revised Reliability Standards for the Revised Definition of "Remedial Action Scheme."*

### **Effective Date for Revised Reliability Standards and Definition**

The revised Reliability Standards and the revised definition of "Remedial Action Scheme" shall become effective on the first day of the first calendar quarter that is twelve (12) months after the date that the standards and definition are approved by an applicable governmental authority or as otherwise provided for in a jurisdiction where approval by an applicable governmental authority is required for a standard to go into effect. Where approval by an applicable governmental authority is not required, the standard and the definition shall become effective on the first day of the first calendar quarter that is twelve (12) months after the date the standards and definition are adopted by the NERC Board of Trustees or as otherwise provided for in that jurisdiction.

**Implementation Plan for Newly-Identified RAS**

Entities with newly-identified RAS resulting from the application of the definition must be fully compliant with all Reliability Standards applicable to the revised definition of “Remedial Action Scheme” twenty-four (24) months from the Effective Date of the revised definition of “Remedial Action Scheme.” This additional time applies only to existing schemes that must transition to RAS due to the revised definition. The additional time does not apply to future RAS that may be created following implementation of the revised definition.

**Retirement of Existing Standards and Definitions**

The requested Reliability Standards for retirement, the current definition of “Special Protection System,” and the current definition of “Remedial Action Scheme” shall be retired at midnight of the day immediately prior to the Effective Date of the revised definition of “Remedial Action Scheme” in the particular jurisdiction in which the revised definition is becoming effective.