

# Standards Announcement

## Project 2007-02 Operating Personnel Communications Protocols

Formal Comment Period and RSAW Posted for Industry Comments: March 7 – April 5, 2013  
Successive Ballot and Non-binding Poll: March 27 – April 5, 2013

### Now Available

A formal comment period for COM-003-1 – Operating Personnel Communication Protocols (OPCP) is open through **8 p.m. Eastern on Friday, April 5, 2013.**

A successive ballot of COM-003-1 and a non-binding poll of the associated Violation Risk Factors and Violation Severity Levels will be conducted beginning on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 through 8 p.m. Eastern on Friday, April 5, 2013.

In response to comments received during the last comment period and other input, the drafting team has adopted many of the recommendations of commenters and attendees of the “Communications in Operations Conference” of February 14-15, 2013, in Atlanta, and incorporated them into to COM-003-1, draft 5.

The OPCP Standard Drafting Team (SDT) has created four requirements for COM-003-1, draft 5. Requirements R1, R2, R3, and R4. The new R1 and R3 language calls for an applicable entity to “*develop and implement documented communication protocols that outline the communications expectations of its System Operators. The documented communication protocols will address, where applicable, the following: (protocols)*”. The new R2 and R4 language calls for an applicable entity to “*develop method(s) to assess System Operators’ communication practices and perform corrective actions necessary to meet the expectations in its documented communication protocols*”

This version was drafted in conjunction with the development of the Reliability Standard Audit Worksheet (RSAW). Changes were made to the RSAW to reflect the changes in COM-003-1, draft 5 and changes suggested by some commenters. The RSAW is posted for informal comments along with COM-003-1.

Background information for this project can be found on the [project page](#).

### **Instructions for Commenting**

Please use this [electronic form](#) to submit comments. If you experience any difficulties in using the electronic form, please contact Wendy Muller at [wendy.muller@nerc.net](mailto:wendy.muller@nerc.net). An off-line, unofficial copy of the comment form is posted on the [project page](#).

A comment period on the draft RSAW is open through **8 p.m. Eastern on Friday, April 5, 2013**. The draft RSAW is posted on the NERC Compliance RSAW page. Please submit comments on the draft RSAW using the RSAW comment form to [RSAWfeedback@nerc.net](mailto:RSAWfeedback@nerc.net).

**Next Steps**

A successive ballot of COM-003-1 and a non-binding poll of the associated VRFs and VSLs will be conducted beginning on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 through 8 p.m. Eastern on Friday, April 5, 2013.

*For more information or assistance, please contact Wendy Muller,  
Standards Development Administrator, at [wendy.muller@nerc.net](mailto:wendy.muller@nerc.net) or at 404-446-2560.*

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