

# ▶ Saskatchewan – US Comparator

Standard-Making and Enforcement Functions

Prepared by: ▶ SaskPower ▶ October 11, 2019

## CURRENT RELIABILITY STANDARDS

The list of current reliability standards in Saskatchewan is located at <http://www.sera-sk.ca/standards>

## KEY ORGANIZATIONS IN SASKATCHEWAN'S ELECTRICITY SECTOR

### SASKATCHEWAN POWER CORPORATION

The Saskatchewan Power Corporation (SaskPower) is a provincially owned crown corporation and the largest electric utility in Saskatchewan. SaskPower has the legislative authority via *The Power Corporation Act* (Saskatchewan) to set reliability standards and enforce compliance for facilities that are interconnected with any transmission lines, distribution lines, generation, apparatus, equipment or facilities of SaskPower. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been established between SaskPower, Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO), and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) to ensure reliability standards are upheld in the province of Saskatchewan.

### SASKATCHEWAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY AUTHORITY

The SaskPower Board of Directors approved the creation of the Saskatchewan Electric Reliability Authority (SERA) to fulfill the Saskatchewan Authority role in the MOU. SERA is represented by a cross-functional oversight committee accountable to the SaskPower President and CEO and is comprised of SaskPower executive members appointed by the President and CEO. SERA's mandate includes the registration of entities, adoption of reliability standards, and monitoring and enforcement of the adopted reliability standards in Saskatchewan. SERA provides an annual report to the SaskPower Executive and Board of Directors on an annual basis.

### MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION

Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) is a cross-border Regional Entity that spans 16 U.S.A. States and the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. SERA has engaged MRO to assist SERA in carrying out entity registration, compliance monitoring, and enforcement in the province of Saskatchewan.

### NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) is an international organization that has been designated as the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO). SaskPower recognizes NERC as an international ERO and an Electric Reliability Standard Setting Body. NERC Board of Trustees approved reliability standards are filed with SERA in Saskatchewan for consideration for adoption.

The following table identifies the provincial organizations responsible for each of the functions that underpin the framework for monitoring and enforcing compliance with reliability standards in the province, and the U.S. organizations that support this framework. It also identifies the U.S. organizations

that are involved in standards development, monitoring and enforcing compliance with reliability standards in the U.S.

FUNCTIONS		PROVINCIAL ORGANIZATION	RELEVANT US ORGANIZATION	US COMPARATOR
STANDARDS MAKING	Standards Approval <sup>(1)</sup>	SERA	N/A	FERC
	Standards Development	SERA	MRO and NERC	MRO and NERC
	Entity Registration <sup>(2)</sup>	SERA	MRO and NERC	MRO and NERC in their respective roles
COMPLIANCE MONITORING	Compliance Monitoring and Violation Detection <sup>(3)</sup>	N/A	MRO	MRO and NERC in their respective roles, FERC
ENFORCEMENT PROCESSES	Execution of Investigations <sup>(3)</sup>	N/A	MRO	MRO and NERC in their respective roles, FERC
	Violation Determination and Sanction Imposition <sup>(3)</sup>	SERA	MRO recommends NOAVs to SERA	MRO, NERC, FERC
VIOLATION PREVENTION AND OUTREACH	Violation Prevention, Outreach, including education	N/A	MRO and NERC	MRO, NERC, FERC
APPEALS <sup>(4)</sup>	First Right of Appeal	SERA	N/A	NERC
	Second Right of Appeal	N/A	N/A	FERC
	Third Right of Appeal	N/A	N/A	US Court of Appeals
OVERSIGHT	Approval of Saskatchewan's Rules of Procedure	SERA	N/A	FERC
	Approval of Saskatchewan's Compliance Monitoring Plan <sup>(5)</sup>	SERA	N/A	NERC, FERC
	Performance Oversight of CMEP	SERA	N/A	NERC BOT CC

## TABLE DEFINITIONS

### PROVINCIAL ORGANIZATION

The Saskatchewan organization accountable and responsible for performing the function according to provincial legislation or through delegation for matters concerning Saskatchewan entities.

### RELEVANT US ORGANIZATION

The US organization that is responsible for performing the function according to an executed Memorandum of Understanding for matters concerning Saskatchewan entities.

### US COMPARATOR

The US organization that is responsible for performing the functions according to US law.

## TABLE NOTES

### (1) STANDARDS APPROVAL

SaskPower has the legislative authority via *The Power Corporation Act* (Saskatchewan) to set standards and enforce compliance for the bulk electric system in the Province of Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Electric Reliability Authority (SERA), a board comprised of SaskPower Executives, approves standards in Saskatchewan.

### (2) ENTITY REGISTRATION

MRO evaluates which entities in Saskatchewan meet the NERC registration criteria and provide entity registration recommendations to SERA. Once a registration recommendation is approved by SERA, MRO adds the entity to the NERC Compliance Registry.

### (3) COMPLIANCE MONITORING/ENFORCEMENT PROCESSES

SERA has authority for compliance monitoring and enforcement as per SaskPower's legislative authority. MRO has been delegated to perform compliance monitoring and provides findings of non-compliance to SERA for review and confirmation. Once a violation is confirmed, MRO administers the enforcement process on behalf of SERA.

### (4) APPEALS

If an entity disputes an MRO finding of non-compliance regarding a reliability standard, SERA shall review all facts presented by MRO and the entity and make a final decision on whether an Alleged Violation will become a Confirmed Violation. The SERA Decision is not subject to appeal.

(5) APPROVAL OF COMPLIANCE MONITORING PLAN

MRO provides a proposed audit schedule to SERA on an annual basis for review and approval.