

Section 500 Proposed Revisions

March 12, 2020

SECTION 500 — ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION

501. Scope of the Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs

The purpose of the Organization Registration Program is to clearly identify those entities that are responsible for compliance with the FERC approved Reliability Standards. Organizations that are registered are included on the NERC Compliance Registry (NCR) and are responsible for knowing the content of and for complying with all applicable Reliability Standards. Registered Entities are not and do not become Members of NERC or a Regional Entity, by virtue of being listed on the NCR. Membership in NERC is governed by Article II of NERC's Bylaws; membership in a Regional Entity or regional reliability organization is governed by that entity's bylaws or rules.

The purpose of the Organization Certification Program is to ensure that the new entity (i.e., applicant to be an RC, BA, or TOP that is not already performing the function for which it is applying to be certified as) has the tools, processes, training, and procedures to demonstrate their ability to meet the Requirements/sub-Requirements of all of the Reliability Standards applicable to the function(s) for which it is applying thereby demonstrating the ability to become certified and then operational.

Organization Registration and Organization Certification may be delegated to Regional Entities in accordance with the procedures in this Section 500; the NERC *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*, which is incorporated into these Rules of Procedure as **Appendix 5A**; and, approved Regional Entity delegation agreements or other applicable agreements.

1. **NERC Compliance Registry** — NERC shall establish and maintain the NCR of the Bulk Power System owners, operators, and users that are subject to approved Reliability Standards.
 - 1.1 (a) The NCR shall set forth the identity and functions performed for each organization responsible for meeting Requirements/sub-Requirements of the Reliability Standards. Bulk Power System owners, operators, and users (i) shall provide to NERC and the applicable Regional Entity information necessary to complete the Registration, and (ii) shall provide NERC and the applicable Regional Entity with timely updates to information concerning the Registered Entity's ownership, operations, contact information, and other information that may affect the Registered Entity's Registration status or other information recorded in the Compliance Registry.
 - (b) ~~Entities A generation or transmission cooperative, a joint action agency or another organization~~ may address registration obligations for applicable function types using as a Joint Registration Organization (JRO), in lieu of each of the JRO's ~~parties' members or related~~ entities being registered individually for one or more functions. Refer to Section 507.

(c) ~~E~~**Multiple** entities may each register using a Coordinated Functional Registration (CFR) for one or more Reliability Standard(s) and/or for one or more Requirements/sub-Requirements within particular Reliability Standard(s) applicable to a specific function pursuant to a written agreement for the division of compliance responsibility. Refer to Section 508.

- 1.2 In the development of the NCR, NERC and the Regional Entities shall determine which organizations should be placed on the NCR based on the criteria provided in the NERC *Statement of Compliance Registry Criteria* which is incorporated into these Rules of Procedure as **Appendix 5B**.
- 1.3 NERC and the Regional Entities shall use the following rules for establishing and maintaining the NCR based on the Registration criteria as set forth in **Appendix 5B** *Statement of Compliance Registry Criteria*:
 - 1.3.1 NERC shall notify each organization that it is on the NCR. The Registered Entity is responsible for compliance with all the Reliability Standards applicable to the functions for which it is registered from the time it receives the Registration notification from NERC.
 - 1.3.2 Any organization receiving such a notice may challenge its placement on the NCR according to the process in **Appendix 5A** *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*, Section V.
 - 1.3.3 The Compliance Committee of the Board of Trustees shall promptly issue a written decision on the challenge, including the reasons for the decision.
 - 1.3.4 The decision of the Compliance Committee of the Board of Trustees shall be final unless, within 21 days of the date of the Compliance Committee of the Board of Trustees decision, the organization appeals the decision to the Applicable Governmental Authority.
 - 1.3.5 Each Registered Entity identified on the NCR shall notify its corresponding Regional Entity(s) of any corrections, revisions, deletions, changes in ownership, corporate structure, or similar matters that affect the Registered Entity's responsibilities with respect to the Reliability Standards. Failure to notify will not relieve the Registered Entity from any responsibility to comply with the Reliability Standards or shield it from any Penalties or sanctions associated with failing to comply with the Reliability Standards applicable to its associated Registration.

- 1.4 For all geographical or electrical areas of the Bulk Power System, the Registration process shall ensure that (1) no areas are lacking any entities to perform the duties and tasks identified in and required by the Reliability Standards to the fullest extent practical, and (2) there is no unnecessary duplication of such coverage or of required oversight of such coverage. In particular the process shall:
 - 1.4.1 Ensure that all areas are under the oversight of one and only one Reliability Coordinator.
 - 1.4.2 Ensure that all Balancing Authorities and Transmission Operator entities² are under the responsibility of one and only one Reliability Coordinator.
 - 1.4.3 Ensure that all transmission Facilities of the Bulk Power System are the responsibility and under the control of one and only one Transmission Planner, Planning Authority, and Transmission Operator.
 - 1.4.4 Ensure that all Loads and generators are under the responsibility and control of one and only one Balancing Authority.
- 1.5 NERC shall maintain the NCR of organizations responsible for meeting the Requirements/sub-Requirements of the Reliability Standards currently in effect on its website and shall update the NCR monthly.
- 1.6 With respect to: (i) entities to be registered for the first time; (ii) currently-registered entities or (iii) previously-registered entities, for which registration status changes are sought, including availability and composition of a sub-set list of applicable Reliability Standards (which specifies the Reliability Standards and may specify Requirements/sub-Requirements), the registration process steps in Section III of **Appendix 5A** apply.
- 1.7 NERC shall establish a NERC-led, centralized review panel, comprised of a NERC lead with Regional Entity participants, in accordance with **Appendix 5A**, *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*, Section III(-D) and **Appendix 5B**, *Statement of Compliance Registry Criteria*.

2. **Entity Certification** — NERC shall provide for Certification of all entities with primary reliability responsibilities requiring Certification. ~~This includes those~~

² Some organizations perform the listed functions (e.g., Balancing Authority, Transmission Operator) over areas that transcend the Footprints of more than one Reliability Coordinator. Such organizations will have multiple Registrations, with each such Registration corresponding to that portion of the organization's overall area that is within the Footprint of a particular Reliability Coordinator.

~~entities that satisfy the criteria established in the NERC provisional Certification process.~~ The NERC programs shall:

- 2.1 Evaluate ~~the entity's tools, personnel, facilities, and process used to and certify the competency of entities performing the duties and tasks identified in and required by the Reliability Standards~~reliability functions. The entities ~~presently expected to be certified~~currently requiring Certification include Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Operators, and Balancing Authorities.
- 2.2 ~~C~~Evaluate and certify each applicant's ability to perform the function for a specified Area~~meet the requirements for Certification~~.
- 2.3 Maintain process documentation.
- 2.4 Maintain records of currently certified entities.
- 2.5 Issue a Certification document to the applicant that successfully demonstrates its competency to perform the evaluated functions.

3. Delegation and Oversight

- 3.1 NERC may delegate responsibilities for Organization Registration and Organization Certification to Regional Entities in accordance with requirements established by NERC. Delegation will be via the delegation agreement between NERC and the Regional Entity or other applicable agreement. The Regional Entity shall administer Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs in accordance with such delegations to meet NERC's programs goals and requirements subject to NERC oversight.
- 3.2 NERC shall develop and maintain a plan to ensure the continuity of Organization Registration and Organization Certification within the geographic or electrical boundaries of a Regional Entity in the event that no entity is functioning as a Regional Entity for that Region, or the Regional Entity withdraws as a Regional Entity, or does not operate its Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs in accordance with delegation agreements.
- 3.3 NERC shall develop and maintain a program to monitor and oversee the NERC Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs activities that are delegated to each Regional Entity through a delegation agreement or other applicable agreement.
 - 3.3.1 This program shall monitor whether the Regional Entity carries out those delegated activities in accordance with NERC requirements, and whether there is consistency, fairness of administration, and comparability.

3.3.2 Monitoring and oversight shall be accomplished through direct participation in the Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs with periodic reviews of documents and records of both programs.

502. Organization Registration and Organization Certification Program Requirements

1. NERC shall maintain the Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs.
 - 1.1 The roles and authority of Regional Entities in the programs are delegated from NERC pursuant to the Rules of Procedure through regional delegation agreements or other applicable agreements.
 - 1.2 Processes for the programs shall be administered by NERC and the Regional Entities. Materials that each Regional Entity uses are subject to review and approval by NERC.
 - 1.3 The appeals process for the Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs are identified in **Appendix 5A** *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*, Sections **VI** and **VII**, respectively.
 - 1.4 The Certification Team membership is identified in **Appendix 5A** *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*, Section IV ~~.8.d~~.
2. To ensure consistency and fairness of the Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs, NERC shall develop procedures to be used by all Regional Entities and NERC in accordance with the following criteria:
 - 2.1 NERC and the Regional Entities shall have data management processes and procedures that provide for confidentiality, integrity, and retention of data and information collected.
 - 2.2 Documentation used to substantiate the conclusions of the Regional Entity/ NERC related to Registration and/or Certification must be retained by the Regional Entity for (6) six years, unless a different retention period is otherwise identified, for the purposes of future audits of these programs.
 - 2.3 To maintain the integrity of the NERC Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs, NERC, Regional Entities, Certification Team members, program audit team members (Section 506), and committee members shall maintain the confidentiality of information provided by an applicant or entities.
 - 2.2.1 NERC and the Regional Entities shall have appropriate codes of conduct and confidentiality agreements for staff, Certification

- Team, Certification related committees, and Certification program audit team members.
- 2.2.2 NERC, Regional Entities, Certification Team members, program audit team members and committee members shall maintain the confidentiality of any Registration or Certification-related discussions or documents designated as confidential (see Section 1500 for types of Confidential Information).
- 2.2.3 NERC, Regional Entities, Certification Team members, program audit team members and committee members shall treat as confidential the individual comments expressed during evaluations, program audits and report-drafting sessions.
- 2.2.4 Copies of notes, draft reports, and other interim documents developed or used during an entity Certification evaluation or program audit shall be destroyed after the public posting of a final, uncontested report.
- 2.2.5 Information deemed by an applicant, entity, a Regional Entity, or NERC as confidential, including Critical Energy Infrastructure Information, shall not be released publicly or distributed outside of a committee or team.
- 2.2.6 In the event that an individual violates any of the confidentiality rules set forth above, that individual and any member organization with which the individual is associated will be subject to immediate dismissal from the audit team and may be prohibited from future participation in Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program activities by the Regional Entity or NERC.
- 2.2.7 NERC shall develop and provide training in auditing skills to all individuals prior to their participation in Certification evaluations. Training for Certification Team leaders shall be more comprehensive than the training given to industry subject matter experts and Regional Entity members. Training for Regional Entity members may be delegated to the Regional Entity.
- 2.4 An applicant that is determined to be competent to perform a function after completing all Certification requirements shall be deemed certified by NERC to perform that function for the Area which it has demonstrated full competency.
- 2.4.1 All NERC certified entities shall be included on the NCR.

503. Regional Entity Implementation of Organization Registration and Organization Certification Program Requirements

1. **Delegation** — Recognizing the Regional Entity’s knowledge of and experience with their members, NERC may delegate responsibility for Organization Registration and Organization Certification to the Regional Entity through a delegation agreement.
2. **Registration** — The following Organization Registration activities shall be managed by the Regional Entity per the NERC *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*, which is incorporated into the Rules of Procedure as Appendix 5A *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*:
 - 2.1 Regional Entities shall verify that all Reliability Coordinators, Balancing Authorities, and Transmission Operators meet the Registration requirements of Section 501(1.4).
3. **Certification** — The following Organization Certification activities shall be managed by the Regional Entity in accordance with an approved delegation agreement or another applicable agreement:
 - 3.1 An entity seeking Certification to perform one of the functions requiring Certification shall contact the Regional Entity for the Region(s) in which it plans to operate to apply for Certification.
 - 3.2 An entity seeking Certification and other affected entities shall provide all information and data requested by NERC or the Regional Entity to conduct the Certification process.
 - 3.3 Regional Entities shall notify NERC of all Certification applicants.
 - 3.4 NERC and/or the Regional Entity shall evaluate the competency of entities requiring Certification to meet the NERC Certification requirements.
 - 3.5 NERC or the Regional Entity shall establish Certification procedures to include evaluation processes, schedules and deadlines, expectations of the applicants and all entities participating in the evaluation and Certification processes, and requirements for Certification Team members.
 - 3.5.1 The NERC / Regional Entity Certification procedures will include provisions for on-site visits to the applicant’s facilities to review the data collected through questionnaires, interviewing the operations and management personnel, inspecting the facilities and equipment (including requesting a demonstration of all tools identified in the Certification process), reviewing all necessary documents and data (including all agreements, processes, and procedures identified in the Certification process), reviewing

Certification documents and projected system operator work schedules, and reviewing any additional documentation needed to support the completed questionnaire or inquiries arising during the site visit.

- 3.5.2 The NERC/ Regional Entity Certification procedures will provide for preparation of a written report by the Certification Team, detailing any deficiencies that must be resolved prior to granting Certification, along with any other recommendations for consideration by the applicant, the Regional Entity, or NERC.

504. Appeals

1. NERC shall maintain an appeals process to resolve any disputes related to Registration or Certification activities per the *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*, which is incorporated in these Rules of Procedure as Appendix 5A.
2. The Regional Entity Certification appeals process shall culminate with the Regional Entity board or a committee established by and reporting to the Regional Entity board as the final adjudicator, provided that where applicable, Canadian provincial governmental authorities may act as the final adjudicator in their jurisdictions. NERC shall be notified of all appeals and may observe any proceedings (**Appendix 5A** *Organization Registration and Organization Certification Manual*).

505. Program Maintenance

NERC shall maintain its program materials, including such manuals or other documents as it deems necessary, of the governing policies and procedures of the Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs.

506. Independent Audit of NERC Organization Registration and Organization Certification Program

1. NERC, through the Compliance and Certification Committee, shall provide for an independent audit of its Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs at least once every three years, or more frequently, as determined by the Board. The audit shall be conducted by independent expert auditors as selected by the Board.
2. The audit shall evaluate the success, effectiveness and consistency of the NERC Organization Registration and Organization Certification Programs.
3. The final report shall be provided to the ~~posted by~~ NERC Board of Trustees or its appropriate committees, and posted for public viewing.
4. If the audit report includes recommendations to improve the program, the administrators of the program shall provide a written response to the Board within 30 days of the final report, detailing the disposition of each and every

recommendation, including an explanation of the reasons for rejecting a recommendation and an implementation plan for the recommendations accepted.

507. Provisions Relating to Joint Registration Organizations (JRO)

1. In addition to registering as the entity responsible for all functions ~~type(s)~~ that it performs itself, an entity may execute an agreement to register as a Lead Entity of a JRO on behalf of one or more parties to the agreement~~of its members or related entities~~ for one or more function types(s) for which such parties ~~members or related entities~~ would otherwise be required to register. ~~and, The Lead Entity~~ thereby, accepts on behalf of such parties ~~members or related entities~~ all compliance responsibility for ~~that~~ function types(s) covered by the JRO registration, or those functions including all reporting requirements. ~~The Lead Entity~~Any entity seeking to register as of a JRO must ~~submit~~execute a written agreement with the parties on whose behalf it registers that: (1) governs the relationship between the parties; (2) addresses the function type(s) described within Appendix 5~~its members or related entities for all Requirements/sub-Requirements for the function(s) for which the Lead eEntity is registering for and takes responsibility for, and which would otherwise be the responsibility of one or more of the other parties to the JRO agreement~~its members or related entities; (3) identifies which entity is the Lead Entity and a point of contact within the Lead Entity; and (4) a point of contact for each of the parties to the JRO.
2. For every JRO, the written agreement must be submitted to the appropriate Regional Entity for its retention. Neither NERC nor the Regional Entity shall be parties to any such agreement. ~~Neither, nor shall~~ NERC ~~nor~~ the Regional Entity shall have responsibility for reviewing or approving any such agreement, ~~other than to~~other than to verify that the agreement addresses the function type(s)~~provides for an allocation or assignment of responsibilities~~ consistent with the Lead Entity's JRO Registration.
3. The JRO Registration data must include ~~all the same~~ Registration and Certification information as a normal compliance Registration entry. The JRO is responsible for providing all of the information and data, including submitting reports, as needed by the Regional Entity to complete the Registration process and to perform assessments of compliance. All Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement related communications shall be directed to the primary compliance contact identified for the Lead Entity of the JRO for performing assessments of compliance.
4. The Regional Entity shall notify NERC ~~when it registers a Lead Entity of a of each~~ JRO that the Regional Entity accepts. The notification will identify the point of contact and the function types(s) for which the Lead Entity of the JRO is being registered ~~for~~ on behalf of the JRO parties and a point of contact for each JRO ~~parties~~its members or related entities.
5. For purposes of Compliance Audits, the Regional Entity shall keep a list of all JROs, ~~the Lead Entities, the JRO parties.~~ This document shall contain a list of each JRO's ~~members or related entities~~ and the function type(s) for which the Lead Entity of the JRO is ~~has~~ registered for each party~~that member(s) or related entity(s).~~ It is the responsibility of the Lead Entity of the JRO to provide the Regional Entity with this information as well as the applicable JRO agreement(s).
6. The Regional Entity ~~can~~ may request clarification of any list submitted to it that identifies

the ~~parties to members of~~ the JRO and ~~can~~may request such additional information as the Regional Entity deems appropriate.

- 6.7. The Regional Entity's acceptance of a Lead Entity's registration as part of a JRO shall be a representation by the Regional Entity to NERC that the Regional Entity has concluded that the registration of the Lead Entity of the JRO will meet the Registration requirements of Section 501(1.4).
- 7.8. NERC shall maintain, and post on its website, a ~~JRO registry~~ listing of all JROs, Lead Entities, JRO parties, and the function type(s) for which the Lead Entity of the JRO has registered for each party. Registrations that have been reviewed and accepted by the Regional Entity. The posting shall identify the JRO entity taking compliance responsibilities for itself and its members.
- 8.9. The Lead Entity of the JRO shall inform the Regional Entity of any changes to an existing JRO. The Regional Entity shall promptly notify NERC of each such revision.
- 9.10. Nothing in Section 507 shall preclude ~~a member of a JRO, a related entity, or any party to a JRO other entity~~ from registering on its own behalf and undertaking full compliance responsibility ~~including reporting Requirements for the Reliability Standards applicable to the function type(s) for which the Lead Entity of the JRO has registered. Such registration shall include submission of data or information that includes any documentation that the agreement supporting the JRO has been terminated as to the registering party. In addition to any notification requirements contained within the written agreement, a member or other entity is registering. A JRO party member or related entity that registers as responsible for any function type(s) for which the Lead Entity of a JRO was previously responsible Reliability Standard or Requirement/sub-Requirement of a Reliability Standard shall inform the Lead Entity of the JRO and/or other parties once of its Registration has been accepted by the Regional Entity.~~

508. Provisions Relating to Coordinated Functional Registration (CFR) Entities

1. In addition to registering as an entity responsible for all functions that it performs itself, multiple entities ~~may each register~~ using a CFR must register for the function associated with the CFR for one or more Reliability Standard(s) and/or for one or more Requirements/sub-Requirements within particular Reliability Standard(s) applicable to a specific function. The CFR submission to the Regional Entity must include a written agreement that: (1) governs itself; (2) and clearly specifies the entities' respective compliance responsibilities; (3) identifies which entity is the Lead Entity, a point of contact within the Lead Entity, and a point of contact for each of the parties to the CFR. The Registration of the CFR is the complete Registration for each entity. The Lead Entity identified for each CFR is responsible for providing the written agreement between the parties, including submitting updates for currently active CFRs to the Regional Entity related to the CFR Registration; (4) lists one or more Reliability Standard(s) and/or for one or more Requirements/sub-Requirements within particular Reliability Standard(s) applicable to a specific function type. Additionally, each entity shall take full compliance responsibility for those Reliability Standards and/or Requirements/sub-Requirements it has registered for in the CFR.
- 1.2. Neither NERC nor the Regional Entity shall be parties to any such agreement. ~~Neither nor shall~~ NERC nor the Regional Entity have responsibility for reviewing or approving any such agreement, other than to verify that the agreement provides for an allocation or

assignment of responsibilities consistent with the function type for which the parties are registered and the responsibility(ies) which are addressed through the CFR.

- ~~2.3.~~ The CFR Registration data must include all Registration and Certification information and data, as needed by the Regional Entity to complete the Registration process and to perform assessments of compliance, as it relates to the CFR. All Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement related communications shall be directed to the primary compliance contact(s) identified for each of the CFR parties. Each CFR or each individual entity within a CFR must identify a point of contact that is responsible for providing information and data, including submitting reports as needed by the Regional Entity related to the CFR Registration.
4. Each party to a CFR shall have compliance responsibility for those Reliability Standards and/or Requirements/sub-Requirements for which it has registered pursuant to the CFR.
- ~~3.5.~~ The Regional Entity shall notify NERC of each CFR that the Regional Entity accepts, and the notification shall include identification of the Lead Entity of a CFR, the function type that the CFR addresses, a point of contact for each of the CFR parties, and any updates to currently active CFRs.-
6. For purposes of Compliance Audits, the Regional Entity shall keep a list of all CFRs, the Lead Entities, the CFR parties, the function type that the CFR addresses, and the responsibilities assigned to each of the CFR parties
- ~~4.7.~~ TNERC or the Regional Entity can may request clarification of any list submitted to it that identifies the parties to compliance responsibilities of the CFR and can may request such additional information as NERC or the Regional Entity deems appropriate.
- ~~5.8.~~ The Regional Entity's acceptance of a Lead Entity's registration as part of a that CFR shall be a representation by the Regional Entity to NERC that the Regional Entity has concluded that the registration of the CFR will meets the Registration requirements of Section 501(1.4).
- ~~6.9.~~ NERC shall maintain, and post on its website, a CFR registry listing of all CFRs, the Lead Entity of CFRs, CFR parties, the function type that the CFR addresses, and the responsibilities assigned to each of the CFR parties. Registrations that have been accepted by NERC or by a Regional Entity. The posting shall clearly list all the Reliability Standards or Requirements/sub-Requirements thereof for which each entity of the CFR is responsible for under the CFR.
- ~~7.~~ The point of contact shall inform the Regional Entity of any changes to an existing CFR. The Regional Entity shall promptly notify NERC of each such revision.
- ~~8.10.~~ In the event of a violation of a Reliability Standard or of a Requirement/sub-Requirement of a Reliability Standard for which an entity of a CFR is registered, that entity shall be identified in the Notice of Alleged Violation and shall be assessed the sanction or Penalty in accordance with the NERC Sanctions Guidelines. In the event a Regional Entity is not able to determine which entity(ies) is responsible for a particular Reliability Standard, or Requirements/sub-Requirements thereof that has been violated,

~~the Regional Entity shall investigate the Any noncompliance shall be investigated in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure Section 400, Compliance Enforcement, to determine the entity(ies) to which the Regional Entity shall to issue the sanction or Penalty for the violation.~~

9.11. Nothing in Section 508 shall preclude ~~a party to an entity registered in a CFR, or any other entity~~ from registering on its own behalf and undertaking full compliance responsibility including reporting Requirements for the Reliability Standards to which a CFR is applicable~~applicable to the function(s) for which the entity is registering~~. Such registration shall include submission of data or information that includes any documentation that the agreement supporting the CFR has been terminated or revised as to the Reliability Standards for which the registering party is now taking compliance responsibility. In addition to any notification requirements contained within the written agreement, Aan entity registered in a CFR that registers as responsible for any Reliability Standard or Requirement/sub-Requirement of a Reliability Standard shall inform the Lead Entity of the CFR and/or other parties once~~point of contact of~~ its Registration has been accepted by the Regional Entity.

509. Exceptions to the Definition of the Bulk Electric System

An Element is considered to be (or not be) part of the Bulk Electric System by applying the BES Definition to the Element (including the inclusions and exclusions set forth therein). Appendix 5C sets forth the procedures by which (i) an entity may request a determination that an Element that falls within the definition of the Bulk Electric System should be exempted from being considered a part of the Bulk Electric System, or (ii) an entity may request that an Element that falls outside of the definition of the Bulk Electric System should be considered part of the Bulk Electric System.