

# NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

# Standing Committees Coordinating Group (SCCG) Quarterly Report

2023 Second Quarter Update

RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY



## Standing Committees Coordinating Group (SCCG)

*Co-Chairs: Todd Bennett (SC), Rich Hydzik (RSTC)*

**Purpose:** The SCCG advises the NERC standing committees, NERC staff, regulators, Regional Entities, and industry stakeholders on standing committee cross-cutting initiatives to address risks to the BPS by implementing the risk framework and addressing issues identified in the risk registry and/or NERC assessments. The SCCG's activities enhance transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness of NERC Standing Committee work, by ensuring communication and coordination on a regular basis.

### SCCG SPSEG Recommendations

- The SCCG should review the SAR Form and recommend revisions to enhance the role of this important tool in the standards process (NERC Staff Recommendation 2a).
- The SCCG should perform a regular review of new standards projects to aid in effective project prioritization (NERC Staff Recommendation 2g).
- The SCCG should work to expand participation in the Reliability Standards Quality Review (QR) process (NERC Staff Recommendation 7).

### Schedule to address SPSEG Recommendations:

- SAR Form: The SCCG has reviewed an initial draft of a revised SAR form. Comments are being collected for discussion at the June SCCG meeting. Final SCCG recommendations will be discussed at the August 15 meeting.
- Prioritization: The SCCG was presented a proposal for SAR/Standards Prioritization by NERC Staff. The SCCG will review an updated proposal at the June WebEx. The SCCG will continue the review and the prioritization process at the August 15 meeting. The RSTC is also incorporating a requirement for SAR developers from RSTC groups to propose a priority when submitting the SAR to the RSTC for endorsement.
- QR Participation: The SCCG developed a volunteer form that contained detailed volunteer information based on feedback from NERC Standards Staff. This information will be used by NERC Staff to select the best candidates to perform a QR. Each committee has sent the form to their membership with a request to volunteer for QR.

### Recent Activity

- Approved 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Collaboration Report
- Began review of Risk Framework and opportunities for improvement/clarity of SCCG Feedback loops.
- Continued discussions on addressing SPEC recommendations for SCCG.

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

- August 15, 2023 Hybrid meeting
- September 19, 2023 Hybrid Meeting (Tentative)

## Compliance and Certification Committee (CCC)

*Chair: Scott Tomaszefsky Vice-Chair: Silvia Parada Mitchell*

**Purpose:** The CCC will engage, support, and advise the NERC Board and NERC Management regarding all facets of the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program, and Organization Registration and Certification Programs and specific elements of the Reliability Standards Development Process.

### Recent Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity

- Continued support of ERO Program Alignment topics, including
  - Implementation Guidance
  - CMEP Practice Guide Reviews
- Inform risk-based standards development, shape compliance oversight
- 2022 Stakeholder Perceptions Report Finalized
- Stakeholder Perception Feedback
  - Q1: Program Alignment and Consistency Efforts
  - Q2: Risk Framework and Role of CMEP/ORCS
- Align User Group Participation

### Top Priorities for SCCG Discussion:

- Supporting Use of the Risk Framework
- Implementing BOT Standards Process Improvement directives
- Incorporating Agility into CMEP Efforts
- Optimizing CMEP and ORCP Tools
- Maximizing Value of Stakeholder Feedback for ERO Enterprise

### Upcoming Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity

- Stakeholder Perception Feedback
  - Q3 Focused Discussion – Risk Framework and Impacts Associated with CMEP and Standards
- 2023 Internal Audit Work
- Review current practices and processes related to Implementation Guidance
- Consider potential updates to registration criteria associated with IBRs
  - 2-3 CCC ORCS to support NERC/ERO discussion
- Consistency Reporting Tool Task Force established

### What information/guidance/support is needed from another committee?

- RSTC (Risk Tool Selection ((Guideline, SAR, White Papers, etc.)))
- SC (Part of Joint SC/CCC Standards Grading Task Force, Standards Development Quality Review)
- All Committees (Stakeholder Perception Feedback input)
- RISC (Feedback loops for risk reliability priorities)

## Personnel Certification Governance Committee (PCGC)

*Chair: Cory Danson Vice-Chair: Michael B. Hoke*

**Purpose:** The PCGC shall be to provide oversight to the policies and processes used to implement and maintain the integrity and independence of NERC's System Operator Certification Program.

**Top Priorities for SCCG Discussion:**

- Review CMRPTF proposal for updates to certification and credential maintenance program being presented at February meeting
- Develop work plan to incorporate changes into program

**What information/guidance/support is needed from another committee?**

- N/A

**Recent Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- N/A

**Upcoming Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- FERC & Industry acceptance on direction of program changes.

## Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC)

*Chair: Brian Slocum Vice-Chair: Adrienne Collins*

**Purpose:** The RISC is an advisory committee that triages and provides front-end, high-level leadership and accountability for nominated issues of strategic importance to bulk power system reliability.

**Top Priorities for SCCG Discussion:**  
 We will identify new risk profiles and begin prioritization this year. This will flow into the strategic planning with the RSTC work plans.

**What information/guidance/support is needed from another committee?**

- RSTC- As the priorities report is drafted, input will be needed from the RSTC.
- Feedback loops that need to commence as part of the risk framework will be triggered as needed.

**Recent Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- RISC report is in draft currently
- The RISC will meet in June to finalize a report for posting for comment

**Upcoming Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- RISC will collaborate with RSTC
- Major sections are being drafted

## Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC)

Chair: Greg Ford Vice-Chair: Rich Hydzik

**Purpose:** The RSTC strives to advance the reliability and security of the BPS by creating a forum for ideas and interests to support the ERO's mission, and leveraging such expertise to identify solutions to study, mitigate, and/or eliminate emerging risks.

**Top Priorities for SCCG Discussion:**

- Continue to monitor progress on RSTC work plan
- Prioritize and incorporate RISC Report and Cold Weather Report recommendations into RSTC work plan
- Incorporate metrics into Reliability Guidelines

**What information/guidance/support is needed from another committee?**

- **All Committees** - request input on Risk Framework feedback loops

**Recent Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- Approved: *SPIDERWG Scope Document; Reliability Guideline: BPS Perspectives on the Adoption of 1547-2018; SCWG Security Guidelines: 1)Provenance 2)Vendor Risk Management; Reliability Guidelines: Cyber Intrusion Guide for System Operators; Reliability Guideline: Gas and Electrical Operational Coordination Considerations; BCSI in the Cloud Tabletop Exercise (Technical Reference); FERC Lessons Learned paper; Electromagnetic Transient Modeling (EMT) Task Force Scope; Reliability Guideline: EMT Modeling; Endorsed two SARs from the SPIDERWG*

**Upcoming Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- Reliability/Security Guidelines (including effectiveness metrics) will be presented in June for approval.
- RSTC Work Plan: identified high priority work plan items will continue to be the focus of the RSTC to address RSTC Strategic Plan Risk Priorities.
- RSTC Leadership to participate in development of RISC Report.

## Standards Committee (SC)

*Chair: Amy Casuscelli Vice-Chair: Todd Bennett*

**Purpose:** The SC oversees the development of NERC Reliability Standards as its members review actions to ensure the standards development process is being followed.

**Top Priorities for SCCG Discussion:**

- Standards Process Improvements, recommendations for SCCG, RSTC and SC.
- SC will partner with NERC Staff and consult with the SCCG to effectively prioritize standards development projects based on reliability risk.

**What information/guidance/support is needed from another committee?**

- CCC – Participate and support the joint task force in early 2023 to evaluate the existing Standards Grading process, identify opportunities, and provide recommendations for improvement.
- PCGC – N/A
- RISC – Risk Framework: determination of risk remediation feedback to the SC and RSTC.
- RSTC – Increased awareness of SAR development process through standing agenda item on SC agenda. Awareness and status of SARs being worked at subcommittee level. FAC-008 SAR delayed pending development of technical justification.

**Recent Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- Standards Processes Manual posted for formal comment period.
- TPL-001 5.1 Footnote 13d SAR accepted and posted.
- Internal Network Security Monitoring SAR accepted and posted for comment.
- CIP-003 SAR accepted and posted for comment.

**Upcoming Risk Identification, Mitigation, Monitoring Activity**

- Cold Weather Phase 2 Initial Ballot EOP-012 posting – May 2023
- FAC-001 and FAC-002 SAR
- EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting SAR
- CIP-008 SAR Revisions
- PRC-005 upcoming posting – May 2023
- BAL-003 additional posting through June 2023