

Modernization of Standards Processes & Procedures

The speed at which risks to the reliability, security, and resilience of the bulk power system are emerging during the transformation to a decentralized, digitized, and decarbonized grid is outpacing industry's ability to develop, enhance, and implement Reliability Standards under the existing processes and procedures. At its February 2025 meeting, the NERC Board of Trustees passed a resolution forming an industry-led Modernization of Standards Processes and Procedures Task Force (MSPPTF) to undertake a strategic review of NERC's Reliability Standards development process. The task force will present proposed recommendations to the NERC Board in February 2026.

2025 September Update

Key Activities

In August, the MSPPTF hosted three virtual Q&A sessions to provide context to facilitate stakeholders' responses to the white paper on potential improvement opportunities for transforming how NERC develops its Reliability Standards. Each session was dedicated to one of the three process steps: standards initiation, standards development, and balloting. The recordings of each of the three webinars and a document containing stakeholders' questions and answers are posted on the MSPPTF webpage.

Nearly 100 submissions were received during the white paper comment period. The task force appreciates the thoughtful and constructive input and is working to develop draft recommendations by the end of October. While the formal comment period is closed, the MSPPTF encourages stakeholders to continue the conversation, engage with peers and reach out to MSPPTF members and NERC with any additional feedback.

Stakeholder Outreach

During the white paper comment period, MSPPTF members presented to over 2,300 attendees during five webinars hosted by Regional Entities, three Q&A sessions, and NERC Standing Committee, Member Representatives Committee, and Board of Trustees meetings.

A list of these engagements, along with associated recordings and presentation materials is located here. Additionally, MSPPTF members presented to more than 400 attendees at events hosted by trade associations and also engaged with stakeholders in one-on-one, small group, and other informal conversations. MSPPTF members value the feedback provided during these engagements and will use it to help inform the draft recommendations.

The task force will launch another round of external engagements when the draft recommendations are complete to gather feedback from stakeholders. This next round of engagement will include a mix of in-person and webinar-based meetings. In addition, task force members will continue to present to NERC Standing Committees, engage directly with their trade organizations, and hold other informal discussions. More specifics on these engagements will be shared through these monthly updates, through the MSPPTF webpage, and on social media.

Key Resources

Resources are available MSPP webpage. Questions? Email mspp@nerc.net.

Q2 2025

Q3 2025

Q4 2025

Q1 2026

- Identified areas for improvement
- Solicit stakeholder input
- Developed scope document Develop white paper of potential Solicit stakeholder input improvement opportunities
 - Solicit stakeholder input
 - Develop draft recommendations
- Finalize recommendations
- Present recommendations to NERC Board
- **Communications and Engagement**
- Individual task force engagement
- General communications to and broad engagement with industry and stakeholders
- Updates to NERC's Board, MRC, Standing Committees, and **Industry Groups**