

Announcement

NERC Launches Interregional Transfer Capability Web Page, Other Resources to Highlight Project Progress

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – A strong, flexible transmission system capable of coping with a wide variety of conditions is key for the reliable supply and delivery of electricity. Now, through the Interregional Transfer Capability Study (ITCS), NERC will assess another piece of the highly complex electric reliability puzzle. As the independent voice for reliability, NERC has a long history of highlighting the need for more infrastructure to support the energy transition in its reliability assessments and is uniquely positioned to answer these transmission capability questions.

Planning an overall approach and evaluating resources began in June when the study was first announced, giving NERC a solid foundation to begin developing the project scope, defining objectives, finalizing the project plan and getting technical teams in place when the congressional directive was enacted. In addition to the Regional Entities, multiple stakeholders, including the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Department of Energy and industry, will contribute to the study with collaboration and coordination key to its success.

The study is unprecedented in both magnitude and scope — the ITCS will evaluate transfer capability across the major transmission interfaces throughout North America through a series of power system engineering studies. Additionally, the ITCS will provide any necessary recommendations for increases to transfer capability to maintain bulk power system reliability.

NERC is launching several initiatives today to ensure stakeholders are kept informed throughout this important, three-phase project.

ITCS Web Page: The ITCS web page allows stakeholders to easily find project updates and resource documents, including the scoping document and meeting schedule, among others. New documents and resources will be posted as completed. The web page can be found on the front page of MERC.com under the "Initiatives" tab.

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- Quarterly Updates: To further facilitate transparency and alignment among industry; stakeholders; and federal, state and provincial government partners, NERC will produce two progress reports each quarter, which will be shared and posted to the ITCS web page.
 - <u>ITCS Update</u>: This document will provide a compilation of information on progress made throughout the previous quarter.
 - ITCS Technical Update: This document, produced by the ITCS project team, will provide a more in-depth review of technical information throughout the study's progress.

"The scope and scale of this study, coupled with the aggressive timeline, necessitates a comprehensive and structured plan to ensure we deliver a thorough and impactful study," said John Moura, NERC's director of Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis and study lead. "Transmission adequacy is at the very core of the future of reliability, so it is vitally important that we keep a consistent level of transparency and information exchange throughout the study's development."

The ITCS, which was directed by Congress in its <u>Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023</u>, will analyze the amount of power that can be moved or transferred reliably from one area to another area of the interconnected transmission systems. NERC is conducting the study, which must be filed with FERC by December 2, 2024, in consultation with the six Regional Entities and each transmitting utility in neighboring transmission planning regions.

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Electricity is a key component of the fabric of modern society and NERC, as the Electric Reliability Organization, serves to strengthen that fabric. The vision for the ERO Enterprise, which is comprised of NERC and the six Regional Entities, is a highly reliable and secure North American bulk power system. Our mission is to assure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the grid.