

Standards Announcement

Project 2012-INT-02 - Interpretation of TPL-003 and TPL-004 for
System Protection and Control Subcommittee

Formal Comment Period Open: October 22 – December 5, 2012

Join Ballot Pool: October 22 – November 20, 2012

Upcoming

Initial Ballot: November 26 – December 5, 2012

[Now Available](#)

A formal comment period for the interpretation of **TPL-003-0a** – System Performance Following Loss of Two or More Bulk Electric System Elements (Category C) and **TPL-004-0** – System Performance Following Extreme Events Results in the Loss of Two or More Bulk Electric System Elements (Category D) is open through 8 p.m. Eastern on **Wednesday, December 5, 2012**.

Instructions for Joining Ballot Pool(s)

A ballot pool is being formed. Registered Ballot Body members must join the ballot pool to be eligible to vote in the balloting of the interpretations for TPL-003-0a and TPL-004-0. Registered Ballot Body members may join the ballot pool by 8 a.m. ET on November 20, 2012 at the following page: [Join Ballot Pool](#)

During the pre-ballot window, members of the ballot pool may communicate with one another by using the “ballot pool list server.” (Once the balloting begins, ballot pool members are prohibited from using the ballot pool list server.) The ballot pool list server for this ballot pool is:

bp-2012-INT-02_TPL3_4_in@nerc.com

Instructions for Commenting

A formal comment period is open through **8 p.m. Eastern on Wednesday, December 5, 2012**.

Please use the [electronic form](#) to submit comments. If you experience any difficulties in using the electronic form, please contact Monica Benson at monica.benson@nerc.net. An off-line, unofficial copy of the comment form is posted on the [project page](#).

Please read carefully: All stakeholders with comments (both members of the ballot pool as well as other stakeholders, including groups such as trade associations and committees) must submit

comments through the [electronic comment form](#). During the ballot window, balloters who wish to submit comments with their ballot *may no longer enter comments on the balloting screen*, but may still enter the comments through the electronic comment form. **Balloters who wish to express support for comments submitted by another entity or group will have an opportunity to enter that information and are not required to answer any other questions.**

Next Steps

An initial ballot will be conducted November 26 through 8 p.m. Friday, December 5, 2012

Background

Order No. 754, issued September 15, 2011, was the Final Rule approving the Interpretation of TPL-002-0a for PacifiCorp ([Project 2009-14](#)) regarding requirement R1.3.10. In addition to the approval, the Commission expressed a concern (Para 19 and 20) about single point of failure of protection systems and issued NERC a directive for further investigation. This request for interpretation submitted by the System Protection and Control Subcommittee (SPCS) is one of three approaches aimed to address the concern. The SPCS is seeking clarification in two areas in TPL-003-0a (Category C) and TPL-004-0 (Category D). The first regarding the comprehensive study of system performance relating to Table 1's, Category C and D contingency of a "(stuck breaker or protection system failure)." Second, to what extent does the description in the standards' Table 1, footnote (e) require an entity to model a single point of failure of a protection system component that may prevent correct operation of a protection system.

Additional information is available on the [project page](#).

Standards Development Process

The [Standards Processes Manual](#) contains all the procedures governing the standards development process. The success of the NERC standards development process depends on stakeholder participation. We extend our thanks to all those who participate.

*For more information or assistance, please contact Monica Benson,
Standards Development Administrator, at monica.benson@nerc.net or at 404-446-2560.*

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