

Standards Announcement

Project 2010-17 Definition of Bulk Electric System Initial Ballot Results

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Ballot Results for Definition of Bulk Electric System

The two ballots windows for Project 2010-17 Definition of Bulk Electric System (BES): the first for the definition of Bulk Electric System and associated implementation plan, and the second for the draft application form titled Detailed Information to Support an Exception Request referenced in the Rules of Procedure Exception Process closed at 8 p.m. Eastern on Monday, October 10, 2011.

Voting statistics for each ballot are listed below, and the [Ballot Results](#) Web page provides a link to the detailed results.

BES Definition	Technical Criteria to Support a BES Exception Request
Quorum: 92.97%	Quorum: 89.53%
Approval: 71.68%	Approval: 64.03%

Next Steps

The drafting team will consider all comments received, and decide whether to make additional revisions to the definition of Bulk Electric System, the associated implementation plan, and the application form titled *Detailed Information to Support an Exception Request* referenced in the Rules of Procedure Exception Process. The drafting team is working to meet the regulatory deadline established in FERC Orders 743 and 743A (filing by January 25, 2012).

The Standards Committee and NERC Board of Trustees have recommended that the drafting team address issues such as generation thresholds in a second phase of this project. This approach will ensure that the drafting team has sufficient time to adequately consider and develop a sound technical basis for an approach, and will allow the drafting team to meet the regulatory deadline in FERC Orders 743 and 743A (filing by January 25, 2012). The drafting team has posted a **draft** Supplemental Standards Authorization Request (SAR) for information purposes only; the SAR will be posted for comment at a future time. Additionally, the drafting team has posted a [Fact Sheet](#), which provides an up to date review of the project scope, project plan - phased approach, current status and upcoming events, on the [project webpage](#).

Project Background

On November 18, 2010 FERC issued [Order 743 \(amended by Order 743A\)](#) and directed NERC to revise the definition of Bulk Electric System so that the definition encompasses all Elements and Facilities necessary for the reliable operation and planning of the interconnected bulk power system. Additional specificity will reduce ambiguity and establish consistency across all Regions in distinguishing between BES and non-BES Elements and Facilities.

In addition, NERC was directed to develop a process for identifying any Elements or Facilities that should be excluded from the BES. NERC is working to address these directives with two activities – the definition of Bulk Electric System is being revised through the standard development process and a BES Definition Exception Process is being developed as proposed modifications to the Rules of Procedure. The proposed modifications have been posted for a comment period through October 27, 2011. The work of the BES Definition Exception Process has been publicly posted at: http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Rules_of_Procedure-RF.html.

Standards Development Process

The [Standard 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 at monica.benson@nerc.net.

*For more information or assistance, please contact Monica Benson,
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