

Notice of Request to Waive the Standard Process

Project 2010-17 Definition of Bulk Electric System

As required by Section 16 of the NERC [Standard Processes Manual](#) (SPM), this is official notice to stakeholders that the leadership of the Definition of Bulk Electric System Standards Drafting Team and NERC Standards Staff (Requesters) are requesting that the Standards Committee consider a waiver of the Standard Processes Manual. The Requesters ask to shorten the next formal comment and ballot period, and any subsequent comment formal comment and ballot periods prior to final ballot, from 45 days to 30 days in order to meet a regulatory deadline. Pursuant to Section 16 of the SPM, the Standards Committee may reduce the duration of formal comment periods for good cause shown and to meet a regulatory deadline.

The Standards Committee will meet via teleconference to consider this waiver request no earlier than Thursday, August 1, 2013 (to comply with the five business day notice required by Section 16 of the SPM). The Standards Committee's teleconference will be noticed through an announcement and posted on the NERC website. Additional details about the waiver request are included below, and should a waiver be granted by the Standards Committee, it will be posted on the [project page](#).

Justification for Current Waiver Request

NERC is required to file with FERC no later than December 31, 2013 a revised definition of Bulk Electric System that addresses FERC directives from Orders No. 773 and 773-A.¹ The basis cited in the order for this deadline is the Standard Drafting Team's approved project schedule, which planned for additional comment periods being 30 days duration with the ballot occurring during the last 10 days.

An initial ballot of the revised definition ended on July 12, 2013 and achieved approximately 50% approval. Given the time necessary to address significant volumes of stakeholder comments, the Team's ability to adequately consider comments and develop revisions to reach stakeholder consensus through possibly multiple successive ballots will be significantly limited if the schedule is not revised to accommodate 30-day postings. Thus, without the requested waiver, there is a high degree of risk that NERC will not meet the regulatory deadline.

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.

¹ *Order Granting Extension of Time*, 143 FERC ¶ 61,231 at P. 16

*For more information or assistance, please contact Laura Hussey,
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