

July 31, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

**Re: NERC Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty
FERC Docket No. NP17-_-000**

Dear Ms. Bose,

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) hereby provides the attached Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty¹ (Spreadsheet NOP) in Attachment A,² in accordance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission or FERC) rules, regulations, and orders, as well as NERC Rules of Procedure including Appendix 4C (NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP)).³

The violations at issue in the Spreadsheet NOP are being filed with the Commission because the Regional Entities have respectively entered into settlement agreements with, or have issued Notices of Confirmed Violations (NOCVs) to, the Registered Entities identified in Attachment A and have resolved all outstanding issues arising from preliminary and non-public assessments resulting in the Regional Entities' determination and findings of the enforceable violation of the Reliability Standards identified in Attachment A. Accordingly, all of the violations, identified as NERC Violation Tracking Identification Numbers in Attachment A, are being filed in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure and the CMEP.

NERC respectfully requests that the Commission accept this Spreadsheet NOP.

¹ *Rules Concerning Certification of the Electric Reliability Organization; and Procedures for the Establishment, Approval, and Enforcement of Electric Reliability Standards* (Order No. 672), III FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,204 (2006); *Notice of New Docket Prefix "NP" for Notices of Penalty Filed by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation*, Docket No. RM05-30-000 (February 7, 2008). See also 18 C.F.R. Part 39 (2011). *Mandatory Reliability Standards for the Bulk-Power System*, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,242 (2007) (Order No. 693), *reh'g denied*, 120 FERC ¶ 61,053 (2007) (Order No. 693-A). See 18 C.F.R § 39.7(c)(2). See also *Notice of No Further Review and Guidance Order*, 132 FERC ¶ 61,182 (2010).

² Attachment A is an excel spreadsheet.

³ See 18 C.F.R § 39.7(c)(2).

NERC Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty
July 31, 2017
Page 2

Statement of Findings Underlying the Alleged Violations

The descriptions of the violations and related risk assessments are set forth in Attachment A.

This filing contains the basis for approval in accordance with Section 39.7 of the Commission's regulations, 18 C.F.R. § 39.7 (2017). Each Reliability Standard at issue in this Notice of Penalty is set forth in Attachment A.

Status of Mitigation⁴

The mitigation activities are described in Attachment A for each respective violation. Information is also provided regarding the dates of Registered Entity certification and the Regional Entity verification of such completion where applicable.

Statement Describing the Proposed Penalty, Sanction, or Enforcement Action Imposed⁵

Basis for Determination

Taking into consideration the Commission's direction in Order No. 693, the NERC Sanction Guidelines and the Commission's July 3, 2008, Guidance Order; the October 26, 2009, Guidance Order; the August 27, 2010, Guidance Order; and the March 15, 2012, Compliance Enforcement Initiative Order,⁶ the violations in the Spreadsheet were approved by NERC Enforcement staff under delegated authority from the NERC Board of Trustees Compliance Committee.

Pursuant to Order No. 693, the penalties will be effective upon expiration of the 30-day period following the filing of this Notice of Penalty with FERC, or, if FERC decides to review any specific penalty, upon final determination by FERC.

⁴ See 18 C.F.R § 39.7(d)(7).

⁵ See 18 C.F.R § 39.7(d)(4).

⁶ *North American Electric Reliability Corporation*, "Guidance Order on Reliability Notices of Penalty," 124 FERC ¶ 61,015 (2008); *North American Electric Reliability Corporation*, "Further Guidance Order on Reliability Notices of Penalty," 129 FERC ¶ 61,069 (2009); *North American Electric Reliability Corporation*, 132 FERC ¶ 61,182 (2010); *North American Electric Reliability Corporation*, "Order Accepting with Conditions the Electric Reliability Organization's Petition Requesting Approval of New Enforcement Mechanisms and Requiring Compliance Filing," 138 FERC ¶ 61,193 (2012).

NERC Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty
July 31, 2017
Page 3

Request for Confidential Treatment

NERC is submitting this information on July 31, 2017 and requests the information contained within Attachment A-3 be treated as Confidential and Critical Energy/Electric Infrastructure Information (CEII). NERC requests this designation apply to the included information for five years.⁷ A public version of this attachment is included as Attachment A-2. The requested duration is appropriate as the information includes Confidential CEII information as defined by the Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. Part 388 and orders, as well as other Confidential information as defined in the NERC ROP including the NERC CMEP Appendix 4C to the ROP. Protecting this information is necessary to ensure the safety and security of the bulk power system. This filing includes non-public information related to certain Reliability Standard noncompliance and other confidential information inextricably intertwined with CEII.⁸

In accordance with the Commission's Regulations, 18 C.F.R. §§ 388.113, NERC is providing a redacted public version of the information separately.

Attachments to be included as Part of this Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty

The attachments to be included as part of this Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty are the following documents and material:

- a) Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty, included as Attachment A; and
- b) Additions to the service list, included as Attachment B.

Notices and Communications

Notices and communications with respect to this filing may be addressed to the following as well as to the entities included in Attachment B to this Spreadsheet NOP:

⁷ See *FAST Act*, Pub. L. No. 114-94, § 61,003, 129 Stat. 1312, 1773-1779 (2015); see also 18 C.F.R. § 388.113(d)(1)(i-ii).

⁸ 18 C.F.R. § 388.113(g)(5)(ix).

<p>Sonia C. Mendonça* Vice President, Deputy General Counsel, and Director of Enforcement North American Electric Reliability Corporation 1325 G Street NW Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 400-3000 (202) 644-8099 – facsimile sonia.mendonca@nerc.net</p> <p>*Persons to be included on the Commission’s service list are indicated with an asterisk. NERC requests waiver of the Commission’s rules and regulations to permit the inclusion of more than two people on the service list.</p>	<p>Edwin G. Kichline* Senior Counsel and Director of Enforcement Oversight North American Electric Reliability Corporation 1325 G Street NW Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 400-3000 (202) 644-8099 – facsimile ed.kichline@nerc.net</p>
---	---

NERC Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty
July 31, 2017
Page 5

Conclusion

Accordingly, NERC respectfully requests that the Commission accept this Spreadsheet Notice of Penalty as compliant with its rules, regulations, and orders.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Edwin G. Kichline

Edwin G. Kichline
Senior Counsel and Director of Enforcement
Oversight
North American Electric Reliability Corporation
1325 G Street NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 400-3000
(202) 644-8099 – facsimile
ed.kichline@nerc.net

Sonia C. Mendonça
Vice President, Deputy General Counsel, and
Director of Enforcement
North American Electric Reliability Corporation
1325 G Street NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 400-3000
(202) 644-8099 – facsimile
sonia.mendonca@nerc.net

cc: Entities listed in Attachment B