

**Compliance Questionnaire and**

**Reliability Standard Audit Worksheet**

**PRC-015-0 — Special Protection System Data and Documentation**

**Registered Entity:** *(Must be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority)*

**NCR Number:** *(Must be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority)*

**Applicable Function(s): TO, GO and DP**

**Auditors:**

**Disclaimer**

NERC developed this Reliability Standard Audit Worksheet (RSAW) language in order to facilitate NERC’s and the Regional Entities’ assessment of a registered entity’s compliance with this Reliability Standard. The NERC RSAW language is written to specific versions of each NERC Reliability Standard. Entities using this RSAW should choose the version of the RSAW applicable to the Reliability Standard being assessed. While the information included in this RSAW provides some of the methodology that NERC has elected to use to assess compliance with the requirements of the Reliability Standard, this document should not be treated as a substitute for the Reliability Standard or viewed as additional Reliability Standard requirements. In all cases, the Regional Entity should rely on the language contained in the Reliability Standard itself, and not on the language contained in this RSAW, to determine compliance with the Reliability Standard. NERC’s Reliability Standards can be found on NERC’s website at <http://www.nerc.com/page.php?cid=2|20>. Additionally, NERC Reliability Standards are updated frequently, and this RSAW may not necessarily be updated with the same frequency. Therefore, it is imperative that entities treat this RSAW as a reference document only, and not as a substitute or replacement for the Reliability Standard. It is the responsibility of the registered entity to verify its compliance with the latest approved version of the Reliability Standards, by the applicable governmental authority, relevant to its registration status.

The NERC RSAW language contained within this document provides a non‑exclusive list, for informational purposes only, of examples of the types of evidence a registered entity may produce or may be asked to produce to demonstrate compliance with the Reliability Standard. A registered entity’s adherence to the examples contained within this RSAW does not necessarily constitute compliance with the applicable Reliability Standard, and NERC and the Regional Entity using this RSAW reserves the right to request additional evidence from the registered entity that is not included in this RSAW. Additionally, this RSAW includes excerpts from FERC Orders and other regulatory references. The FERC Order cites are provided for ease of reference only, and this document does not necessarily include all applicable Order provisions. In the event of a discrepancy between FERC Orders, and the language included in this document, FERC Orders shall prevail.

# Subject Matter Experts

Identify your company’s subject matter expert(s) responsible for this Reliability Standard. Include the person's title, organization, and the requirement(s) for which they are responsible. Include additional sheets if necessary.

**Response: *(Registered Entity Response Required)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SME Name** | **Title** | **Organization** | **Requirement** |
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# Reliability Standard Language

**PRC‑015‑0 ‑ Special Protection System Data and Documentation**

**Purpose:**

To ensure that all Special Protection Systems (SPS) are properly designed, meet performance requirements, and are coordinated with other protection systems. To ensure that maintenance and testing programs are developed and misoperations are analyzed and corrected.

**Applicability:**

Distribution Provider that owns an SPS

Generator Owner that owns an SPS

Transmission Owner that owns an SPS

**NERC BOT Approval Date: 2/8/2005**

**FERC Approval Date: 3/16/2007**

**Reliability Standard Enforcement Date in the United States: 6/18/2007**

**Requirements:**

**R1.** The Transmission Owner, Generator Owner, and Distribution Provider that owns an SPS shall maintain a list of and provide data for existing and proposed SPSs as specified in Reliability Standard PRC‑013‑0\_R1.

**Describe, in narrative form, how you meet compliance with this requirement:**

***(Registered Entity Response Required)***

**Question**

Do you own any SPS? If so, identify each SPS you own.

**Entity** **Response: *(Registered Entity Response)***

# R1 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**Response: *(Registered Entity Response Required)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Provide the following:**  **Document Title and/or File Name, Page & Section, Date & Version** | | |
| **Title** | | **Date** | **Version** | |
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| *Audit Team: Additional Evidence Reviewed:* | |  |  | |
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***This section must be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

**Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to PRC‑015‑0 R1**

Verify the entity owns an SPS program. If yes:

**\_\_\_** Verify the entity maintains a list of existing and proposed SPSs.

**\_\_\_** Verify the entity provided data for existing and proposed SPSs as specified in Reliability Standard PRC-013-0 R1.

**Detailed Notes:**

**R2.** The Transmission Owner, Generator Owner, and Distribution Provider that owns an SPS shall have evidence it reviewed new or functionally modified SPSs in accordance with the Regional Reliability Organization’s procedures as defined in Reliability Standard PRC‑012‑0\_R1 prior to being placed in service.

**Describe, in narrative form, how you meet compliance with this requirement:**

***(Registered Entity Response Required)***

# R2 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**Response: *(Registered Entity Response Required)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Provide the following:**  **Document Title and/or File Name, Page & Section, Date & Version** | | |
| **Title** | | **Date** | **Version** | |
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| *Audit Team: Additional Evidence Reviewed:* | |  |  | |
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***This section must be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

**Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to PRC‑015‑0 R2**

**\_\_\_** Verify the entity reviewed new or functionally modified SPSs in accordance with the

RROs procedures as defined in PRC‑012‑0 R1 prior to being place in service.

**Detailed Notes:**

**R3.** The Transmission Owner, Generator Owner, and Distribution Provider that owns an SPS shall provide documentation of SPS data and the results of studies that show compliance of new or functionally modified SPSs with NERC Reliability Standards and Regional Reliability Organization criteria to affected Regional Reliability Organizations and NERC on request (within 30 calendar days).

**Describe, in narrative form, how you meet compliance with this requirement:**

***(Registered Entity Response Required)***

# R3 Supporting Evidence and Documentation

**Response: *(Registered Entity Response Required)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Provide the following:**  **Document Title and/or File Name, Page & Section, Date & Version** | | |
| **Title** | | **Date** | **Version** | |
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| *Audit Team: Additional Evidence Reviewed:* | |  |  | |
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***This section must be completed by the Compliance Enforcement Authority***

**Compliance Assessment Approach Specific to PRC‑015‑0 R3**

**\_\_\_** Verify the entity provided documentation of SPS data to the RRO and NERC within 30 days of a request.

**\_\_\_** Verify the entity provided documentation of results of the SPS studies to the RRO and NERC within 30 days of a request.

**Detailed Notes:**

# Supplemental Information

**Other –** The list of questions above is not all inclusive of evidence required to show compliance with the Reliability Standard. Provide additional information here**, as necessary that** demonstrates compliance with this Reliability Standard.

**Entity** **Response: *(Registered Entity Response)***

# Compliance Findings Summary (to be filled out by auditor)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Req.** | **C** | **PV** | **OEA** | **NA** | **Statement** |
| **1** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |  |  |  |

**Excerpts from FERC Orders -- For Reference Purposes Only**

**Updated Through March 31, 2009**

**PRC-015-0**

P1418 "Protection and Control systems (PRC) on Bulk Power System elements are an integral part of reliable grid operation. Protection systems are designed to detect and isolate faulty elements on a system, thereby limiting the severity and spread of system disturbances, and preventing possible damage to protected elements. The function, settings and limitations of a protection system are critical in establishing SOLs and IROLs. The PRC Reliability Standards apply to transmission operators, transmission owners, generator operators, generator owners, distribution providers and regional reliability organizations and cover a wide range of topics related to the protection and control of power systems."

P1529 “Proposed Reliability Standard PRC‑015‑0 requires transmission owners, generator owners and distribution providers to maintain a listing, retain evidence of review and provide documentation of existing, new or functionally modified special protection systems”

P1532 “PRC‑015‑0 requires a transmission owner, generator owner or distribution provider that owns a special protection system to maintain a list and provide data for existing and planned special protection systems as defined in PRC‑013‑0; and have evidence that the entity reviewed new or functionally modified special protection systems in accordance with the regional reliability organization procedures identified in PRC‑012‑0. As stated in the Common Issues section, a reference to an unapproved Reliability Standard may be considered in an enforcement action, but is not a reason to delay approving and enforcing this Reliability Standard. The Commission expects that the data will be sent to the Regional Entities (instead of the regional reliability organizations) after they are approved."

P1533 "For the reasons discussed in the NOPR and above, the Commission concludes that Reliability Standard PRC‑015‑0 is just, reasonable, not unduly discriminatory or preferential and in the public interest and approves it as mandatory and enforceable."

**Revision History**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Date** | **Reviewers** | **Revision Description** |
| 1 | December 2009 | RSAW Working Group | New Document. |
| 1 | December 2010 | QRSAW WG | Revised Findings Table, modified Supporting Evidence tables, and added Revision History. |
| 1 | January 2011 | Craig Struck | Reviewed for format consistency and content. |
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