

# Standards, Compliance, and Enforcement Bulletin

February 22–27, 2022

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### ACTIVE STANDARDS POSTINGS

#### Current and Upcoming Ballots (ballot periods close at 8:00 p.m. Eastern)

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
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#### Join Ballot Pools

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
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#### Posted for Comment

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
<a href="#">Project 2022-02 – Modifications to TPL-001-5.1 and MOD-032-1</a>   Standard Authorization Requests	<a href="#">Comment Period</a>	02/01/22	03/02/22

<a href="#">Project 2022-01 – Reporting ACE Definition and Associated Terms</a>   Standard Authorization Request	<a href="#">Comment Period</a>	02/09/22	03/10/22
<a href="#">Regional Reliability Standard (WECC)</a>   FAC-501-WECC-3	<a href="#">Comment Period</a>	01/26/22	03/11/22
<b>NEW</b> <a href="#">Project 2016-02 Modifications to CIP Standards</a>   Virtualization – Draft 3	<a href="#">Comment Period</a>	02/18/22	04/04/22

**OTHER ACTIVE COMMENT PERIODS**

**Posted for Comment**

Posting	Action	Start Date	End Date
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**STANDARDS NEWS**

There is no additional Standards news to report for this week.

**Quick Links**

- [Register in the SBS](#)
- [Projected Standards Posting Schedule](#)
- [Project Tracking Spreadsheet](#)
- [2019–2021 Reliability Standards Development Plan](#)
- [Quality Review Application](#)
- [One-Stop Shop \(Status, Purpose, Implementation Plans, FERC Orders, RSAWs\)](#)
- [CIP Standards Efficiency Review](#)
- [Submit Questions or Feedback](#)

## GENERAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT NEWS

### **NEW Enforcement Update**

The [2021 CMEP Annual Report](#) is available to view on the Compliance & Enforcement page. This report highlights key ERO Enterprise Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) and Organization Registration and Certification Program (ORCP) activities that occurred in 2021 and provides information and statistics regarding those activities.

### **NEW NERC Adds New Self-Identified Alignment Issue**

CMEP Practice Guides address how ERO Enterprise CMEP staff execute compliance monitoring and enforcement activities. They are developed exclusively by the ERO Enterprise under its obligations for independence and objectivity. In some cases, Practice Guides may be developed following policy discussions with industry stakeholders. CMEP Practice Guides are posted on the NERC website for transparency.

NERC added a self-identified alignment issue pertaining to CMEP Practice Guide on considerations for ERO Enterprise CMEP staff on Modeling and Studies Involving Distributed Energy Resources. The ERO Enterprise Program Alignment Process is intended to enhance efforts to identify, prioritize, and resolve alignment issues across the ERO Enterprise. Using this process, NERC captures identified issues from the various resources in a [centralized repository](#). The Consistency Reporting Tool uses a third-party application, EthicsPoint, which allows stakeholders to submit consistency issues—anonously, if desired.

### Quick Links

[Compliance Monitoring & Enforcement Program One-Stop Shop](#)

[ERO Enterprise Program Alignment Process](#)

[Consistency Reporting Tool \(EthicsPoint\)](#)

[Risk-Based Registration Initiative](#)

[Reliability Standard Audit Worksheets](#)

[Enforcement & Mitigation: Enforcement Actions](#)

[Align Project](#)

## OTHER NEWS

### **NEW NERC Publishes 2021 Annual Report**

The past year at NERC was defined by transformation as highlighted in NERC's [2021 Annual Report](#). Both the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) Enterprise and the grid are undergoing changes. In 2021, the ERO Enterprise faced an ongoing pandemic, extreme weather events and security risks against the backdrop of an evolving grid. The report uses NERC's 2021 focus areas to highlight the largest efforts undertaken over the course of the year:

- Expanding Risk-Based Focus in Standards, Compliance Monitoring, and Enforcement
- Assessing and Catalyzing Steps to Mitigate Known and Emerging Risks to Reliability and Security
- Building a Strong E-ISAC-Based Security Capability

- Strengthening Engagement across the Reliability and Security Ecosystem in North America
- Capturing Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Continuous Improvement Opportunities

“These are just a few of the highlights of many, and I encourage you to read NERC’s *2021 Annual Report* with pride in what we have achieved in such a short time,” said Jim Robb, NERC’s president and CEO, in his CEO Letter. “The ERO Enterprise is strongly committed to remaining aware of the challenges that our industry faces while keeping our eye on the reliability, resilience and security of the grid — nearly 400 million North Americans are depending on us.”

### **NEW Energy Reliability Assessment Task Force Industry Workshop Resources Posted**

The [presentations](#), [speaker bios](#), and [webinar](#) recording from the Energy Reliability Assessment Task Force (ERATF) Industry Workshop have been posted. All audience questions are being compiled in a Q&A document, which will be posted on the [Energy Reliability Assessment Task Force](#) website in the coming weeks.

### **NEW Nomination Period Open for Reliability and Security Technical Committee Sector 3 Special Election**

Due to a resignation from the [Reliability and Security Technical Committee \(RSTC\)](#), a vacancy has been created in Sector 3 – Cooperative Utility. The period for nominating candidates began February 16 and ends on March 2, 2022. Sector nominees need not be NERC members in the sector for which they are nominated; however, they must be eligible to be a member in that sector. Only [NERC members](#) may elect the RSTC members in each sector. Please submit the [2021 RSTC Sector Nomination Form](#) by March 2, 2022.

### **NEW NERC Seeks Participants for New Credential Maintenance Research Project**

NERC’s Personnel Certification Governance Committee (PCGC), Credential Maintenance Working Group (CMWG), and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) are seeking participants for a research project related to the NERC Certified System Operator (NCSO) program.

The project team is seeking information and feedback on credential maintenance practices from:

- Credential holders
- Employers of credential holders
- Training content providers

Your participation will allow the project team to prioritize the needs of credential holders and employers in any proposed program changes. Information will be collected using surveys, which will take 10-15 minutes to complete. Volunteers may be selected for follow-up interviews or focus groups. Data collection will begin in mid-March with the NCSO surveys.

If you are willing to participate in the Credential Maintenance Research Project as a NERC Certified System Operator or an employer, please [click the registration link](#).

### **Project Background**

In May 2021, the PCGC invited organizations to submit bid proposals for the Credential Maintenance Research Project. After review of the vendor submittals, the contract was awarded to EPRI, and the project kicked off in September 2021.

The primary purpose of this project is to examine credential maintenance practices against literature and other credentialing bodies/institutions to determine what evidence-based changes and/or enhancements should be made to the NCSO program. This includes the existing NCSO credential maintenance continuing education hours (CEH) requirements that fully meet the requirements of [PER-003-2 – Operating Personnel Credentials](#).

The secondary purpose of this project is to determine if there is sufficient evidence to warrant consolidating the existing four NCSO credentials into one credential and, if so, recommend the appropriate maintenance requirements for the one credential based on evidence. The project is intended to promote efficiency while ensuring that NCSOs are obtaining the appropriate amount and type of CEHs to perform under normal and emergency circumstances. The project is scheduled to be completed in August 2022. For more information or assistance, please contact [Barb Nutter](#).

**STANDARDS SUBJECT TO FUTURE ENFORCEMENT**

Please refer to the [U.S. Effective Dates page](#) for the most up-to-date information on effective dates and for more detail on the below.

**U.S. Effective Dates for Reliability Standards**

U.S. Effective Date	Standard(s)
July 1, 2022	<a href="#">CIP-012-1 – Cyber Security – Communications between Control Centers</a>
	<a href="#">PRC-002-2 – Disturbance Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (100% compliance for Requirements R2–R4, R6–R11)</a>
October 1, 2022	<a href="#">CIP-005-7 – Cyber Security – Electronic Security Perimeter(s)</a>
	<a href="#">CIP-010-4 – Cyber Security – Configuration Change Management and Vulnerability Assessments</a>
	<a href="#">CIP-013-2 – Cyber Security – Supply Chain Risk Management</a>
	<a href="#">PRC-024-3 – Frequency and Voltage Protection Settings for Generating Resources</a>
January 1, 2023	<a href="#">TPL-007-4 – Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events (Requirements R3, R4, 4.1, 4.1.1–4.1.2, 4.2, 4.3, 4.3.1, R8, 8.1, 8.1.1–8.1.2, 8.2, 8.3, 8.3.1)</a>
April 1, 2023	<a href="#">EOP-011-2 – Emergency Preparedness and Operations</a>
	<a href="#">IRO-010-4 – Reliability Coordinator Data Specification and Collection</a>
	<a href="#">TOP-003-5 – Operational Reliability Data</a>
July 1, 2023	<a href="#">TPL-001-5.1 – Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements</a>   <a href="#">Implementation Plan</a>
January 1, 2024	<a href="#">CIP-004-7 – Cyber Security – Personnel &amp; Training</a>
	<a href="#">CIP-011-3 – Cyber Security - Information Protection</a>
	<a href="#">TPL-007-4 – Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events (Requirements R7, 7.1–7.3, 7.3.1–7.3.2, 7.4, 7.4.1–7.4.3, 7.5, 7.5.1., R11, 11.1–11.3, 11.3.1–11.3.2, 11.4, 11.4.1–11.4.3, 11.5, and 11.5.1)</a>

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FERC ACTION

### **NEW NERC Filings to FERC**

On February 15, 2022, NERC submitted to FERC its [quarterly budget variance compliance filing](#) under Docket No. FA11-21-000. This compliance filing is in accordance with FERC's January 16, 2013 Order, which approved a Settlement Agreement between the FERC Office of Enforcement and NERC, related to findings and recommendations arising out of its 2012 performance audit.

On February 16, 2022, NERC submitted to FERC a [petition](#) for approval, to the extent necessary, of modifications to the Compliance section of the CIP-014 Reliability Standard.

All filings to FERC for 2022 can be found [here](#).

### **NEW NERC Canadian Filings**

NERC filed the [4th Quarter 2021 Application for Approval of Reliability Standards](#) with the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. You can find the NERC Canadian Filings (Nova Scotia) on our website [here](#).

### **NEW FERC Issuances**

On February 18, 2022, FERC issued a [delegated letter order](#) approving Regional Reliability Standard PRC-006-SERC-03. You can find all FERC issuances for 2022 on our website [here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

For information about other NERC events, such as meetings and conference calls for other standing committees, subcommittees, task forces, and working groups, please refer to the [NERC calendar](#).

### Workshops and Conferences

There are no workshops or conferences currently scheduled.

### Webinars

- **NEW** FERC–NERC [Joint Review of Commissioning Programs](#) Webinar – 2:00–3:30 p.m. Eastern, March 2, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** [Utilizing Excess Capability of BPS-Connected Inverter-Based Resources for Frequency Support](#) Webinar – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, April 19, 2022 | [Register](#)

### Standing Committee Meetings and Conference Calls

- **NEW** Standards Committee Executive Committee Special Teleconference – 12:00–1:00 p.m. Eastern, February 25, 2022 | [Register](#) | [Agenda](#)
- **NEW** Reliability and Security Technical Committee Informational Session – 1:00–2:00 p.m. Eastern, March 3, 2022 | [Register](#)

### Standard Drafting Team Meetings

- **NEW** Project 2017-01 – Phase II Modifications to BAL-003 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern, February 24, 2022 | [Register](#)
- Project 2021-04 – Modifications to PRC-002-2 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, February 25, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2020-04 – Modifications to CIP-012 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, February 28, 2022 | [Register](#)
- Project 2021-05 – Modifications to PRC-023 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern, February 28, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2020-04 – Modifications to CIP-012 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 2, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2021-04 – Modifications to PRC-002-2 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 3, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2021-05 – Modifications to PRC-023 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern, March 7, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2020-04 – Modifications to CIP-012 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 9, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2021-04 – Modifications to PRC-002-2 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 11, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2021-05 – Modifications to PRC-023 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern, March 14, 2022 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2021-04 – Modifications to PRC-002-2 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, March 16, 2022 | [Register](#)



## ERO Enterprise Events

- **RELIABILITYFIRST** Technical Talk with RF – 2:00–3:30 p.m. Eastern, March 21 | [Register](#)

## ABOUT THE STANDARDS, COMPLIANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

This weekly bulletin compiles a list of standards, compliance, and enforcement projects with actionable deadlines, as well as upcoming events, recently posted resources, other NERC documents posted for comment, and other relevant news and information. Please email [Amy Klagholz](#) with feedback on this bulletin. The current bulletin and old bulletins are available under “Program News” on both the [Standards home page](#) and the [Compliance & Enforcement home page](#).

**REGISTRATION:** If you would like to receive this bulletin or be added to a NERC distribution list, you **must** first register an account in the [ERO Portal](#). Once you have registered your ERO Portal account, authenticated your credentials with DUO, and completed your profile, please submit a ticket through the [Help Desk](#) by selecting the “NERC Email Distribution List” option under the Applications menu. In the Description Box, please specify which lists you would like your email address to be added to. If you are unsure of which distribution list you would like to be added to, an excellent starting point is the “[Committee](#)” page. You can note the committee abbreviation, which represents the distribution list you would like to join, in the Description Box. If you have other NERC-related or specific Standards projects you’re interested in, you may request those as well. If you’re interested in general information, please request to be added to the NERC-info distribution list, which covers most NERC announcements. This bulletin is distributed to several lists, including the Standards distribution list (Standards-specific announcements) and the NERC-info distribution list.