

Standards, Compliance, and Enforcement Bulletin

December 4–10, 2023

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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
Project 2023-04 – Modifications to CIP-003 Draft 1	Initial Ballots and Non-binding Poll	11/28/23	12/07/23
Project 2020-04 – Modifications to CIP-012	Final Ballot	11/28/23	12/07/23
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators Draft 1 of IBR Definitions	Initial Ballots	12/26/23	01/09/24

Join Ballot Pools

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators Draft 1 of IBR Definitions	Join Ballot Pools	11/16/23	12/15/23

Posted for Comment

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
Project 2023-04 – Modifications to CIP-003 Draft 1	Comment Period	10/24/23	12/07/23
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators Draft 1 of IBR Definitions	Comment Period	11/16/23	01/09/24

Posted for Comment			
Posting	Action	Start Date	End Date
<p>Comment Periods Open for Supply Chain Working Group Security Guideline: The Supply Chain Working Group (SCWG), a sub-group of the RSTC, is responsible for addressing supply chain security concerns that affect the bulk power system (BPS). The SCWG recently prepared a security guideline that is now posted for industry review.</p> <p>Security Guideline: <i>Vendor Incident Response</i> The guideline was originally approved by the RSTC in 2019 and has been updated with changes to content and metrics that can be used to assess the effectiveness and the extent to which the guideline has been implemented. Vendor Incident Response (clean) Vendor Incident Response (redline)</p>	Please submit comments via email using the comment form .	09/21/23	12/05/23

STANDARDS NEWS

NEW Additional Ballots and Non-binding Poll Results for Project 2016-02 – Modifications to CIP Standards

The comment period and additional ballots for the fifth draft of the CIP Virtualization Standards concluded November 29, 2023. The voting statistics are listed below, and the details can be accessed on the [Ballot Results](#) page. The drafting team will review all responses received during the comment period and determine the next steps of the project.

Quick Links

- [Register in the SBS](#)
- [NEW Standards Project Prioritization \(November 2023\)](#)
- [Projected Standards Posting Schedule](#)
- [Project Tracking Spreadsheet](#)
- [2021–2023 Reliability Standards Development Plan](#)
- [Quality Review Application](#)
- [One-Stop Shop \(Status, Purpose, Implementation Plans, FERC Orders, RSAWs\)](#)
- [Submit Questions or Feedback](#)

	Ballot	Non-binding Poll
Standard	Quorum / Approval	Quorum / Supportive Opinions
CIP-003-10	82.94% / 93.80%	81.68% / 92.61%
CIP-004-8	83.84% / 84.73%	82.42% / 81.03%
CIP-005-8	83.84% / 72.73%	82.42% / 70.18%
CIP-007-7	83.84% / 89.32%	81.75% / 87.79%
CIP-010-5	84.18% / 74.46%	82.48% / 75.14%

NEW Additional Ballots and Non-binding Poll Results for Project 2021-07 – Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness and Coordination

Additional ballots and non-binding poll of the associated Violation Risk Factors and Violation Severity Levels for Project 2021-07 – Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination – Phase II concluded November 30, 2023 for EOP-012-2 – Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations and its Implementation Plan. The voting statistics are listed below, and the details can be accessed on the [Ballot Results](#) page. The drafting team will review all responses received during the comment period and determine the next steps of the project.

	Ballot	Non-binding Poll
Standard	Quorum / Approval	Quorum / Supportive Opinions
EOP-012-2	89.30% / 58.86%	86.83% / 56.02%
Implementation Plan	89.49% / 68.44%	N/A

GENERAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT NEWS

NEW Nomination Period Open for Compliance and Certification Committee

The Compliance and Certification Committee (CCC) is requesting nominations to fill the vacant positions listed below. Successful candidates will serve a term beginning the first day of the month following NERC Board of Trustees (Board) approval in February 2024.

Voting Positions:

- 1 – Sector 2 – State/Municipal (through 12/31/2025)
- 1 – Sector 6 – Merchant Electricity Generator (through 12/31/2024)
- 1 – Member At-large (through 12/31/2026)

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 and ERO SEL](#)

The CCC has an open nomination process. Individuals or recognized industry groups may nominate candidates for consideration. A nominee that represents a NERC member may be nominated for a sector that matches the NERC member's sector under the [NERC membership list](#) or for an opening in the at-large membership. Sector nominees that are not selected for their sector may be considered for openings in the at-large membership based on the needs of the Committee to best reflect the perspectives of the whole membership of the industry. Consistent with Article VIII, Section 4 of the NERC Bylaws, the CCC is seeking Canadian nominations for open positions in addition to other nominees eligible for those sectors. Please submit all [nomination forms](#) to ccelections@nerc.net by **December 28, 2023**.

NEW Align Release Notes Posted

During the December 2, 2023, maintenance outage, the Align system deployed modifications to correct existing functionality or to improve user experience. The modifications included: modifications to the Enforcement and Mitigation, Periodic Data Submittals, Self-Certifications, and Technical Feasibility Exceptions Request for Information functionality (updated portlets, forms, and new tabs/modules for the CEA and registered entity users); several tickets for IRA and COPs related to inactive Risk Factors, exported questionnaire reports and Compliance Oversight Plan reports; corrected an issue which caused CFR/JFRs to not show on the IRA and permissions issues which prevented IRAs from being moved to CEA Review and backwards from a Completed status; corrected issues with Audit Checklists not being editable and ICA records not showing properly on the dashboard; new Enforcement cause codes for CEA; ability for CEA to print Enforcement and Mitigation record; new validations on the mitigation; etc. The Release Notes provide details on the specific changes and indicate the users affected, as well as if any training materials need to be modified. The detailed release notes can be found on the [Align and SEL web page](#) under the Release Materials section.

OTHER NEWS

NEW NERC Releases Findings and Critical Recommendations from Inverter-Based Resource Level 2 Alert

As the penetration of inverter-based resources (IBR) connected to the bulk power system continues to rapidly increase, it is paramount that any performance deficiencies with existing and future generating resources be addressed in an effective and efficient manner. As part of its [IBR Strategy](#) to proactively identify and address IBR integration challenges and drive risk mitigation activities, NERC has analyzed multiple large-scale disturbances involving widespread loss of IBRs that have resulted in abnormal performance across several Bulk Electric System solar photovoltaic generating resources. These systemic performance issues could lead to potential widespread outages if they persist, NERC has warned.

To help mitigate this risk, NERC issued a Level 2 alert in March that provided strong recommendations for Generator Owners of all bulk power system-connected IBR facilities to improve performance of their resources and required owners of bulk power system-connected solar photovoltaic facilities to provide site-specific information via a data submission worksheet. The resulting [report](#) provides key findings and critical

recommendations based on the analysis NERC conducted using the data collected through the alert and details the extent of the potential risks posed to the bulk power system. [Full Announcement](#)

NEW Lessons Learned Posted

Two new lessons learned have been posted on the NERC website on the [Lessons Learned](#) page. The new lessons address the following topics:

- [Loss of Communication to Transmission Substations](#)
- [Wind Turbine Generation Loss due to Unexpected and Insufficient Ride-through Performance](#)

NEW White Paper Posted

The Security Integration and Technology Enablement Subcommittee (SITES), which reports to the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC), developed the newly released [BES Operations in the Cloud](#) white paper. The white paper explores use cases for cloud technology within the energy sector and analyzes barriers to adoption including security and compliance challenges. The paper aims to build a foundation of shared cloud concepts for the industry and support entities in evaluating or pursuing use of the technology for their grid operations.

NEW NERC News Posted

NERC's monthly newsletter is now available for [November](#), featuring an ERO Executive Spotlight by WECC President and CEO Melanie Frye.

NEW NERC Seeks Industry Feedback with Business Technology Survey

NERC is launching its first [Business Technology survey](#) and wants to hear from you. Feedback on your 2023 experience with NERC's Business Technology services will help improve services going forward, as part of NERC's Security and Agility work plan priorities to enhance IT system monitoring and cyber design and increase efficiency and flexibility. This survey will take approximately five minutes to complete, with the option to provide additional feedback, and will be open through **January 15, 2024**.

NERC will randomly select ten participants to receive \$100 Amazon gift cards. In order to be eligible for this drawing, you must provide your contact information. Collected contact information will only be used to facilitate the drawing, and your responses will be otherwise treated as anonymous. NERC staff and contractors are not eligible to win.

Thank you in advance for your valuable insights that will be leveraged to provide you with an enhanced Business Technology experience!

NEW At-Large Nomination Period Open for RSTC

The period for nominating At-Large candidates for the RSTC is now open. The nominating period is December 1–22, 2023. Eight At-Large seats are available with terms expiring in 2026.

As provided in the [RSTC Charter](#), selection of At-Large members will allow for better balancing of representation on the RSTC of the following:

- Regional Entity and Interconnection diversity (i.e., goal of having at least one representative from each Interconnection and Regional Entity footprint);
- Subject matter expertise (Planning, Operating, or Security);
- Organizational types (Cooperatives, Investor-Owned Utilities, Public Power, Power Marketing Agencies, etc.); and,
- North American countries, consistent with the NERC Bylaws (Canada, Mexico, and U.S.).

The RSTC Nominating Subcommittee met on November 29, 2023 and evaluated the expertise of all Sector and At-Large members to determine the additional expertise/diversity needed to balance through the At-Large nominees to meet the goals of the Charter. The additional expertise/diversity needed include:

1. At least one Canadian
2. Subject Matter Expertise: Cyber and Physical Security
3. Interconnection Diversity: Western Interconnection and Quebec Interconnection
4. Functional Entity Expertise: Reliability Coordinator, Purchasing-Selling Entity, Transmission Service Provider, Generator Owner, Generator Owner – IBR, Generator Operator – IBR
5. Sector/Organization Diversity: Sector 8 (Large end-use electricity customer), Sector 9 (Small end-use electricity customer), and Sector 12 (State Government)

Please submit all [nomination forms](#) by **December 22, 2023**.

RSTC Sector Nomination and Election Results

The RSTC held Sector Nominations from October 25–November 15, 2023 to fill sector seats that are expiring in 2024. Sectors 1-10 and 12 each had one seat open for a two-year term expiring in 2026.

The following sectors each received one nomination, therefore the nominee will fill the open seat.

- Sector 2 – David Grubbs
- Sector 4 – Robert Reinmuller
- Sector 5 – John Lemire
- Sector 7 – Jodirah Green

Sectors 1, 3, and 5 received more than one nominee. A sector election was held from November 16–27, 2023 to determine the elected representative for each of these sectors. The elected representatives are:

- Sector 1 – Vinit Gupta
- Sector 3 – Nathan Brown
- Sector 6 – Brett Kruse

Sectors 8, 9, and 12 did not receive any nominations during the nomination period. These sector seats will be converted to At-large seats and will be available for nomination during the At-large nomination period.

If you have any questions about the RSTC election process, please contact [Stephen Crutchfield](#).

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)
January 1, 2024	CIP-004-7 – Cyber Security – Personnel & Training
	CIP-011-3 – Cyber Security - Information Protection
	FAC-001-4 – Facility Interconnection Requirements Implementation Plan
	FAC-002-4 – Facility Interconnection Studies Implementation Plan
April 1, 2024	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)
	FAC-003-5 – Transmission Vegetation Management
	FAC-011-4 – System Operating Limits Methodology for the Operations Horizon
	FAC-014-3 – Establish and Communicate System Operating Limits
	IRO-008-3 – Reliability Coordinator Operational Analyses and Real-time Assessments
	PRC-002-4 – Disturbance Monitoring and Reporting Requirements
	PRC-023-5 – Transmission Relay Loadability Implementation Plan
PRC-026-2 – Relay Performance During Stable Power Swings Implementation Plan	
October 1, 2024	TOP-001-6 – Transmission Operations
	EOP-012-1 – Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations (Requirements 1–2 effective 4/1/28; Requirement 4 effective 10/1/29)
July 1, 2025	IRO-010-5 – Reliability Coordinator Data and information Specification and Collection Implementation Plan
	TOP-003-6.1 – Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority Data and Information Specification and Collection Implementation Plan
April 1, 2026	CIP-003-9 - Cyber Security — Security Management Controls

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FERC ACTION

NEW FERC Approves Standards ROP Revisions

On November 28, 2023, FERC issued an [Order](#) approving revisions to the NERC Rules of Procedure regarding Reliability Standards Development. In the order, FERC approved revisions to Section 300 and Appendix 3A, Standard Processes Manual, to be effective immediately. FERC also directed NERC to submit a compliance filing due May 28, 2025 to determine the effectiveness of the revisions.

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

- Project 2020-06 – Verification of Models and Data for Generators | Inverter-based Resource (IBR) Definitions Webinar – 1:00–2:30 p.m. Eastern, December 5, 2023 | [Join Webex](#)
- [Dynamic Modeling Recommendations](#) Webinar – 3:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern, December 11, 2023 | [Register](#)

Standing Committee Meetings and Conference Calls

- Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) Meeting – 11:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Eastern, December 6, 2023 | [Register](#) | [Agenda Package](#)
- **NEW** Compliance and Certification Committee Special Meeting – 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Eastern, December 7, 2023 | [Agenda Package and WebEx Link](#)
- RSTC Informational Session – 11:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Eastern, December 7, 2023 | [Register](#) | [Agenda Package](#)
- **NEW** Board of Trustees Virtual Meeting – 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern, December 12, 2023 | [Agenda Package and WebEx Link](#)
- Standards Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Eastern, December 13, 2023, Atlanta | [In-Person Registration](#) | [Join WebEx](#)

Standard Drafting Team Meetings

Below are the upcoming SDT meetings for the next four weeks. For a full listing of upcoming meetings, please refer to the [Standards calendar](#).

- Project 2020-02 – Modifications to PRC-024 (Generator Ride-through) Drafting Team Meeting – 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern, December 4, 2023 | [Register](#)
- Project 2021-02 – Modifications to VAR-002-4.1 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:30–3:30 p.m. Eastern, December 4, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2023-06 – CIP-014 Risk Assessment Refinement Drafting Team Meeting – 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern, December 5, 2023 | [Register](#)

- Project 2021-07 – Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, December 5, 2023 | [Register](#)
- Project 2021-08 – Modifications to FAC-008 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 12:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern, December 6, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2020-02 – Modifications to PRC-024 (Generator Ride-through) Drafting Team Meeting – 3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern, December 6, 2023 | [Register](#)
- Project 2021-07 – Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, December 7, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2023-06 – CIP-014 Risk Assessment Refinement Drafting Team Meeting – 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern, December 8, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2022-03 – Energy Assurance with Energy-Constrained Resources Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, December 8, 2023 | [Register](#)
- Project 2023-04 – Modifications to CIP-003 Standard Drafting Team Meeting – December 11–12, 2023, Atlanta | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2020-02 – Modifications to PRC-024 (Generator Ride-through) Drafting Team Meeting – 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern, December 11, 2023 | [Register](#)
- Project 2022-05 – Modifications to CIP-008 Reporting Threshold Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–2:30 p.m. Eastern, December 11, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2023-06 – CIP-014 Risk Assessment Refinement Drafting Team Meeting – 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern, December 12, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2022-03 – Energy Assurance with Energy-Constrained Resources Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 12:00–2:00 p.m. Eastern, December 14, 2023 | [Register](#)
- Project 2021-07 – Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, December 14, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2023-06 – CIP-014 Risk Assessment Refinement Drafting Team Meeting – 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern, December 15, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2020-02 – Modifications to PRC-024 (Generator Ride-through) Drafting Team Meeting – 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern, December 18, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2022-04 – EMT Modeling Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern, December 18, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2021-07 – Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, December 19, 2023 | [Register](#)

- **NEW** Project 2022-03 – Energy Assurance with Energy-Constrained Resources Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Eastern, December 21, 2023 | [Register](#)
- **NEW** Project 2021-07 – Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination Standard Drafting Team Meeting – 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern, December 21, 2023 | [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.