# Standards, Compliance, and Enforcement Bulletin

September 8–14, 2025

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

## ACTIVE STANDARDS POSTINGS

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

| Project | Action | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2021-01 – System Model Validation with IBRs | Draft 2 | Additional Ballots and Non-binding Poll | 8/28/2025 | 9/10/2025 |
| 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR | Draft 2 | Additional Ballots and Non-binding Polls | 8/28/2025 | 9/10/2025 |
| 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators | Draft 2 | Additional Ballots and Non-binding Poll | 8/28/2025 | 9/10/2025 |

| Project | Action | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR | Comment Period | 8/8/2025 | 9/10/2025 |
| 2021-01 – System Model Validation with IBRs | Comment Period | 8/8/2025 | 9/10/2025 |
| 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators | Draft 2 | Comment Period | 8/14/2025 | 9/10/2025 |

**RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2025-03 – Order No. 901 Operational Studies |SAR | Comment Period | 8/26/2025 | 10/1/2025 |
| 2025-04 – Order No. 901 Planning Studies | SAR | Comment Period | 8/26/2025 | 10/1/2025 |

| Standard Drafting Team Nominations | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Project** | **Action** | **Start Date** | **End Date** |
| 2025-03 – Order No. 901 Operational Studies | Submit Nominations | 8/26/2025 | 9/15/2025 |
| 2025-04 – Order No. 901 Planning Studies | Submit Nominations | 8/26/2025 | 9/15/2025 |
| **NEW** 2022-05 – Modifications to CIP-008 Reporting Threshold | Submit Nominations | 9/4/2025 | 9/17/2025 |

| OTHER ACTIVE COMMENT PERIODS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Posted for Comment** | | | |
| **Posting** | **Action** | **Start Date** | **End Date** |
| -- | -- | -- | -- |

## STANDARDS NEWS

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

| Quick Links |
|---|
| Register in the SBS |
| Standards Project Prioritization (June 2025) |
| Projected Posting Schedule |
| Project Tracking Spreadsheet |
| 2025-2027 Reliability Standards Development Plan (Filed With FERC) |
| One-Stop Shop (Status, Purpose, Implementation Plans, FERC Orders, RSAWs) |
| Submit Questions or Feedback |

## MODERNIZATION OF STANDARDS PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES TASK FORCE (MSPPTF) NEWS

There is no MSPPTF news to report on this week.

## GENERAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT NEWS

**NEW Align Release Notes Posted**

Align Release 7.4.0 successfully deployed on September 6, 2025. This deployment included modifications to correct existing functionality or to improve user experience in the following modules: Enforcement Processing, Mitigation Management, Periodic Data Submittal, Self-Certification, Audits and Spot Checks, IRAs, and Standards. The modifications include, but limited to: corrections to the SEL path for Audit Findings and IRAs; fix to the export of Applicability Reliability Standards; new Self-Logging data fields; registered entity ability to include cause codes on the Finding form; corrections to cause code language; new emails for when Mitigation is submitted to CEA for review and when Milestone Extension Request is submitted to CEA; updates to the Mitigation Management module portlets; new field on Mitigation form to see the Finding cause; new section on the milestone form to view related Milestone Extension Requests; ability to certify completion of the Mitigation prior to CEA accepting the record; optimization to the PDS/Self-Cret issues button; update to the entity contact information on the issues objects; corrections to the SEL path link; and update to the Standards/Trend report.

The Align Release Notes 7.4.0 provide the specific changes and indicate the users affected as well as if any training materials were modified. These details are documented in the Align Release Notes 7.4.0, published on September 6, 2025, and can be found on the Align and SEL webpage under the "Release Materials" section.

**NEW** **Updated Align User Guides**

The Align User Guides for Enforcement and Mitigation modules have been updated to reflect the improved functionality deployed with Align Release 7.4.0. The User Guides for both CEA and Registered Entity user roles are updated and now published in the Align and ERO SEL Training Materials pages. The Registered Entity guides are also posted on the Align and SEL page, under the "Align and SEL Entity User Guides" section.

To review the updated user guides, please navigate to the appropriate link for CEA or Registered Entity training materials. If using the *Align and ERO SEL Training Materials* page, select the Registered Entity or CEA role and scroll to the Resources section at the bottom of the page to locate the updated User Guides. Please note, the ERO Enterprise will maintain entity user guides in the new section of the Align and SEL page while also retaining guides on the training materials' resources as well. If you have any questions, please contact AskAlign@nerc.net.

**NEW** **Compliance Guidance Update**

There is one new proposed Implementation Guidance document posted on the Compliance Guidance web page. The proposed Implementation Guidance is titled TPL-001-5.1 – Trip Circuit Monitoring (Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC/System Protection and Control Working Group (SPCWG).

**NEW** **Currently Compliant Podcast – Episode 7 Released**

NERC is pleased to announce the release of the seventh installment of its compliance podcast, "Currently Compliant." The podcast is intended to be a quick way to bring attention to frequently asked questions and provide clear insights on important compliance topics. Currently Compliant: Episode 7 focuses on the topic of Abeyance. The episode defines the concept of abeyance and clarifies how it will be used within the ERO Enterprise. The discussion addresses common questions, including the crucial role of "good faith" implementation, how abeyance periods are determined, and what entities should do if they are not audited during an abeyance period. The conversation also covers how feedback will be gathered and communicated to industry. This episode is hosted by Ryan Mauldin, Senior Engineer at NERC, and features Lonnie Ratliff, NERC's Director of Compliance Assurance. They are joined by a special guest, Erin Cullum Marcussen, Senior Manager of Compliance at Southwest Power Pool, who provides a valuable stakeholder perspective on this new process.

# 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 table below.

| U.S. Effective Dates for Reliability Standards | | |
|---|---|---|
| **U.S. Effective Date** | **Standard(s)** | **Phased-In (Y/N)** |
| **October 1, 2025** | BAL-004-WECC-4 – Automatic Time Error Correction \| Implementation Plan | No |
| | TOP-002-5 – Operations Planning \| Implementation Plan | No |
| **April 1, 2026** | CIP-003-9 – Cyber Security — Security Management Controls \| Implementation Plan | No |
| | TPL-008-1 – Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements for Extreme Temperature Events \| Implementation Plan | Yes |
| **July 1, 2026** | CIP-012-2 – Cyber Security–Communications between Control Centers \| Implementation Plan | No |
| **October 1, 2026** | TOP-003-7 – Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority Data and Information Specification and Collection \| Implementation Plan | No |
| **April 1, 2027** | BAL-007-1 – Near-term Energy Reliability Assessments \| Implementation Plan | No |
| **October 1, 2028** | CIP-015-1 –  Cyber Security – Internal Network Security Monitoring \| Implementation Plan | No |

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FERC ACTION

No additional Board or FERC action to report this week.

## UPCOMING EVENTS
For a full accounting of upcoming events, please refer to the **NERC Calendar**.

### Workshops and Conferences

| Event | Time | Date | Location | Registration |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| BES Protection System Misoperation Reduction Workshop | All Day | October 7–8 | Salt Lake City, UT (WECC Office) | Details |
| GridSecCon 2025 | All Day | October 7–10 | Las Vegas, NV | Details |
| **NEW** 2025 Electromagnetic Transient Simulation Workshop | All Day | October 7–9 | Knoxville, TN | Details |
| Monitoring and Situational Awareness Technical Conference | All Day | October 21–22 | Little Rock, AR | Details |
| BES Operating Agility Workshop | All day | October 22–23 | Little Rock, AR | Details |

### Webinars

| Event | Time | Date | Registration |
|---|---|---|---|
| Project 2022-05 – Modifications to CIP-008 | 12:30–2:00 p.m. Eastern | September 22 | Details |

### Standing Committee Meetings and Conference Calls

| Event | Time | Date | Registration |
|---|---|---|---|
| Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) Meeting | All Day | September 10–11 | Virtual \| In-Person Agenda |
| Standards Committee Meeting | 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Eastern | September 17 | Virtual \| In-Person |
| Standards Committee Meeting | 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern | October 15 | Virtual |
| RSTC Conference Call | 3:00–4:30 p.m. Eastern | October 29 | Virtual |
| Standards Committee Meeting | 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern | November 19 | Virtual |
| Standards Committee Meeting | 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Eastern | December 9 | Virtual |

### ERO Enterprise Events

| Event | Time | Date | Registration |
|---|---|---|---|
| **SERC** System Operator Conference | All Day | September 9–11 | Details |
| **SERC** System Operator Conference | All Day | October 14–16 | Details |

| Standard Drafting Team Meetings<br>Please refer to the Standards calendar for the most up-to-date listing of upcoming meetings. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Project** | **Time** | **Date** | **Registration** |
| Project 2021-03 – CIP-002 | 1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern | September 8 | Details |
| Project 2022-05 – Modifications to CIP-008 Reporting Threshold | 2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern | September 8 | Details |
| NEW Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services Drafting | 3:30–5:00 p.m. Eastern | September 9 | Details |
| NEW Project 2025-02 – Internal Network Security Monitoring Standard Revision | 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern | September 11 | Details |
| Project 2023-01 – EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting | 2:00–4:30 p.m. Eastern | September 11 | Details |
| NEW Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services Drafting | 3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern | September 11 | Details |
| Project 2017-01 – Modifications to BAL-003 Phase II | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern | September 12 | Details |
| NEW Project 2025-02 – Internal Network Security Monitoring Standard Revision | 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern | September 15 | Details |
| Project 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR | 12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern | September 15 | Details |
| Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators | 1:30–3:30 p.m. Eastern | September 15 | Details |
| Project 2022-02 Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR | 12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern | September 17 | Details |
| Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators | 1:30–3:30 p.m. Eastern | September 17 | Details |
| NEW Project 2025-02 – Internal Network Security Monitoring Standard Revision | 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern | September 18 | Details |
| NEW Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services Drafting | 3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern | September 18 | Details |
| Project 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR | 12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern | September 19 | Details |
| NEW Project 2025-02 – Internal Network Security Monitoring Standard Revision | 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern | September 22 | Details |
| Project 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR | 12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern | September 22 | Details |
| Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators | 1:30–3:30 p.m. Eastern | September 22 | Details |
| NEW Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services Drafting | 3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern | September 23 | Details |
| NEW Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators | 1:30–3:30 p.m. Eastern | September 24 | Details |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **NEW** Project 2025-02 – Internal Network Security Monitoring Standard Revision | 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern | September 25 | [Details](#) |
| Project 2023-01 – EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting | 2:00–4:30 p.m. Eastern | September 25 | [Details](#) |
| **NEW** Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services Drafting | 3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern | September 25 | [Details](#) |
| Project 2017-01 – Modifications to BAL-003 Phase II | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern | September 26 | [Details](#) |
| Project 2023-01 – EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting | 2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern | September 29 | [Details](#) |
| **NEW** Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services Drafting | 3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern | September 30 | [Details](#) |
| Project 2023-01 – EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting | 2:00–4:30 p.m. Eastern | October 9 | [Details](#) |
| Project 2023-01 – EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting | 2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern | October 13 | [Details](#) |
| Project 2023-01 – EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting | 2:00–4:30 p.m. Eastern | October 23 | [Details](#) |
| Project 2023-01 – EOP-004 IBR Event Reporting | 2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern | October 27 | [Details](#) |

## 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 Maureen Murtha 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 are interested in, you may request those as well. If you are 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.