

NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Development of the Registered Ballot Body

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RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY



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Development of the Registered Ballot Body¹

Registration Procedures

The Registered Ballot Body comprises all organizations, entities, and individuals that:

1. Qualify for one of the Segments, and
2. Are registered with NERC as potential ballot participants in the voting on Reliability Standards, and
3. Are current with any designated fees.

Each participant, when initially registering to join the Registered Ballot Body, and annually thereafter,² shall self-select to belong to one of the Segments described below.

The NERC general counsel, or a designated member of its legal staff, will review all applications for joining the Registered Ballot Body, and make a determination of whether the self-selection satisfies at least one of the guidelines to belong to that Segment. The entity or individual will then be “credentialed” to participate as a voting member of that Segment. The Standards Committee will decide disputes, with an appeal to the Board of Trustees.

All registrations will be done electronically.

Segment Qualification Guidelines

1. Except as set forth below, the Segment qualification guidelines are inclusive; i. e. , any entity or individual with a legitimate interest in the reliability of the Bulk Power System that can meet any one of the guidelines for a Segment is entitled to belong to and vote in that Segment.
2. Corporations or organizations with integrated operations or with affiliates that qualify to belong to more than one Segment (e. g. , Transmission Owners and Load Serving Entities) may belong to each of the Segments in which they qualify, provided that each Segment constitutes a separate membership and is represented by a different representative. Individuals or entities that elect to participate in Segment 8 are not eligible to participate in multiple Segments.
3. Affiliated entities may collectively be registered only once within a Segment. In the event a change in corporate or organizational structure results in merged or affiliated entities having more than one membership in a particular Segment, the merged or affiliated entities shall withdraw the additional memberships before joining any new ballot pools or voting on any standards action as part of an existing ballot pool.
4. Any individual or entity, such as a consultant or vendor, providing products or services related to Bulk Power System reliability within the previous 12 months to another entity eligible to join Segments 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 shall be qualified to join any one Segment for which one of the entities receiving those products or services is qualified.
5. Corporations, organizations, entities, and individuals may participate freely in all subgroups.
6. After their initial selection, registered participants may apply to change Segments annually, on a schedule determined by the Standards Committee.

¹ The Segment qualification guidelines were proposed in the final report of the NERC Standing Committees Representation Task Force on February 7, 2002. The Board of Trustees endorsed the industry Segments and weighted Segment voting model on February 20, 2002 and may change the model from time to time.

² NERC may, after providing written notice, remove from the Registered Ballot Body a participant that does not complete the required annual self-selection process.

7. The qualification guidelines and rules for joining Segments will be reviewed periodically to ensure that the process continues to be fair, open, balanced, and inclusive. Public input will be solicited in the review of these guidelines.
8. Since all balloting of Reliability Standards will be done electronically, any registered participant may designate a proxy to vote on its behalf. There are no limits on how many proxies a person may hold. However, NERC must have in its possession, either in writing or by email, documentation that the voting right by proxy has been transferred.

Segments

Segment 1. Transmission Owners

- a. Any entity that owns or controls at least 200 circuit miles of integrated transmission facilities, or has an Open Access Transmission Tariff or equivalent on file with a regulatory authority.
- b. Transmission Owners that have placed their transmission under the operational control of an RTO or ISO.
- c. Independent transmission companies or organizations, merchant transmission developers, and transcos that are not RTOs or ISOs.
- d. Excludes RTOs and ISOs that are eligible to join to Segment 2.

Segment 2. Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) and Independent System Operators (ISOs)

- a. Any entity authorized by appropriate governmental authority to operate as an RTO or ISO.

Segment 3. Load-Serving Entities (LSEs)

- a. Entities serving end-use customers under a regulated tariff, a contract governed by a regulatory tariff, or other legal obligation to serve.
- b. A member of a generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative or a joint-action agency is permitted to designate the G&T or joint-action agency to represent it in this Segment; such designation does not preclude the G&T or joint-action agency from participation and voting in another Segment representing its direct interests.
- c. Agents or associations can represent groups of LSEs

Segment 4. Transmission Dependent Utilities (TDUs)

- a. Entities with a regulatory, contractual, or other legal obligation to serve wholesale aggregators or customers or end-use customers and that depend primarily on the transmission systems of third parties to provide this service.
- b. Agents or associations can represent groups of TDUs.

Segment 5. Electric Generators

- a. Affiliated and independent generators, including variable and other renewable resources.

- b. A corporation that sets up separate corporate entities for each one or more generating plants in which it is involved may only have one vote in this Segment regardless of how many single-plant or multiple-plant corporations the parent corporation has established or is involved in.
- c. Agents or associations can represent groups of electrical generators.

Segment 6. Electricity Brokers, Aggregators, and Marketers

- a. Entities serving end-use customers under a power marketing agreement or other authorization not classified as a regulated tariff.
- b. An entity that buys, sells, or brokers energy and related services for resale in wholesale or retail markets, whether a non-jurisdictional entity operating within its charter or an entity licensed by a jurisdictional regulator.
- c. G&T cooperatives and joint-action agencies that perform an electricity broker, aggregator, or marketer function are permitted to belong to this Segment.
- d. Agents or associations can represent groups of electricity brokers, aggregators, or marketers.
- e. This Segment also includes demand-side management providers.

Segment 7. Large Electricity End Users

- a. At least one service delivery taken at 50 kV (radial supply or facilities dedicated to serve customers) that is not purchased for resale.
- b. A single customer with an average aggregated service Load (not purchased for resale) of at least 50,000 MWh annually, excluding cogeneration or other back feed to the serving utility.
- c. Agents or associations can represent groups of large end users.

Segment 8. Small Electricity Users

- a. Service taken at below 50 kV.
- b. A single customer with an average aggregated service Load (not purchased for resale) of less than 50,000 MWh annually, excluding cogeneration or other back feed to the serving utility.
- c. Agents, state consumer advocates, or other advocate groups can represent groups of small customers.
- d. Any entity or individual currently employed by an entity that is eligible to join one or more of the other nine Segments, shall not be qualified to join Segment 8.
- e. Any individual or entity, such as a consultant, employee or vendor, providing products or services related to Bulk Power System reliability within the previous 12 months to another entity eligible to join Segments 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, including trade associations representing such Segments, shall be qualified to join any one Segment for which one of the entities receiving those products or services is qualified and shall not be eligible to join Segment 8.

Segment 9. Federal, State, and Provincial Regulatory or other Government Entities

- a. Does not include federal power management agencies or the Tennessee Valley Authority.
- b. May include public utility commissions.

Segment 10. Regional Entities

- a. Any entity that is a Regional Entity.