Unofficial Comment Form

Project 2016-02 Modifications to CIP Standards
Cyber Security – Control Center Communication Networks
**Technical Rationale and Justification for CIP-012-1**

**Do not** use this form for submitting comments. Use the [electronic form](https://sbs.nerc.net/) to submit comments on **Project 2016-02 Modifications to CIP Standards CIP-012-1 – Cyber Security – Control Center Communication Networks.** The electronic form must be submitted by **8 p.m. Eastern, Tuesday, September 12, 2017.
m. Eastern, Thursday, August 20, 2015**

Additional information is available on the [project page](http://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Pages/Project%202016-02%20Modifications%20to%20CIP%20Standards.aspx). If you have questions, contact Standards Developers, Katherine Street (404-446-69702) or Mat Bunch (404-446-9785).

## Background Information

On January 21, 2016, the Commission issued Order No. 822, approving seven CIP Reliability Standards and new or modified definitions, and directing modifications to the CIP Reliability Standards. Among others, the Commission directed NERC to “develop modifications to the CIP Reliability Standards to require responsible entities to implement controls to protect, at a minimum, communication links and sensitive bulk electric system data communicated between bulk electric system Control Centers in a manner that is appropriately tailored to address the risks posed to the bulk electric system by the assets being protected (i.e., high, medium, or low impact).” (Order 822, Paragraph 53)

The Project 2016-02 Standard Drafting Team (SDT) drafted Reliability Standard CIP-012-1 to require Responsible Entities to implement controls to protect sensitive Bulk Electric System (BES) data and communications links between BES Control Centers. Due to the sensitivity of the data being communicated between the Control Centers, as defined in the NERC Glossary of Terms Used in Reliability Standards, the standard applies to all impact levels (i.e., high, medium, or low impact).

To complement the requirements drafted in CIP-012-1, the SDT drafted and seeks comment on the Technical Rationale and Justification for CIP-012-1.

## Questions

1. The SDT developed draft Technical Rationale and Justification for CIP-012-1 to provide stakeholders and the ERO Enterprise an understanding of the technology and technical requirements in the Reliability Standard. Do you agree that the draft Technical Rationale and Justification for CIP-012-1 clearly explains the technical reasoning for the proposed standard? If you do not agree, or if you agree but have comments or suggestions for the draft document, please provide your recommendation and explanation.

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

Comments: