



NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Standards Announcement

Initial Ballot Windows Open

July 2–13, 2010

Project 2010-12: Order 693 Directives

Initial ballot windows for the proposed standards from the Order 693 Directives are now open **until 8 p.m. Eastern on July 13, 2010.**

Instructions

Members of the ballot pool associated with this project will receive a separate e-mail with a link to the set of ballots and specific instructions for using the new balloting approach. Changes related to each paragraph from Order 693 are being balloted separately and the ballots are significantly different in appearance compared to previous ballots.

Next Steps

Voting results will be posted and announced after the ballot window closes.

Project Background

On March 18, 2010, FERC issued several orders and notices of proposed rulemakings pertaining to standards development activities and processes, suggesting a lack of progress in responding to directives from Order 693 as well in the timeliness of standards development in general. At the May 2010 NERC Board meeting, Gerry Cauley, NERC's President, also expressed these concerns, indicating that the resolution to these concerns is one of NERC's top priorities in the near term. As a result, the Standards Committee has authorized deviations from the normal standards development process for this Order 693 Directives project, as well as other projects that have been through significant stakeholder review through the development process, to demonstrate that the NERC enterprise is responsive to FERC directives.

In Order No. 693, FERC issued many directives to modify NERC Reliability Standards.

Several of the directives appear to be less controversial than others. In an effort to be more responsive, the Standards Committee has approved having NERC assemble a team of experts to assist in reviewing the directives and identifying those which had a significant chance of being non-controversial; i.e., could be modified, balloted, and filed in a very short amount of time.

NERC and its team of experts have identified 34 directives related to 13 standards that seem to be relatively noncontroversial. Working with input from various parts of the industry, a set of proposed changes to meet the directives has been developed. In order to expedite this project, the Standards Committee has approved an accelerated schedule.

The Standards Committee approved the following deviations from the standards development process:

- Post the SAR and proposed revisions for a formal shortened comment period (June 18–July 13, 2010)
- Form the ballot pool during the first 15 days of the comment period (June 18–July 2, 2010)
- Conduct an initial 10-day ballot on a line-item basis (July 2–13, 2010)
- Require the withdrawal from balloting any item that has significant disagreement from stakeholders as evidenced in comments and ballot results
- Allow modifications between the initial and recirculation ballots based on stakeholder comments to improve the overall quality of the standard (recirculation ballot July 20–30, 2010)

The directives have been summarized in the tables in the balloting form. Each table addresses a set of directives associated with a standard. Following each table is a set of questions seeking feedback on the proposed modifications. In order to be responsive to these directives, please consider the following when voting on these standards:

- Does the change harm reliability?
- Does the change improve reliability?
- Does the change neither harm nor improve reliability, but make the standard (or the Commission's expectations regarding the standard) clearer?
- Are there modifications you can propose that would make the changes more acceptable and still be responsive to the Commission's directives?

It is the goal of this project to focus on items that appear to be widely supported. If you can identify changes that will assist in the acceptance of these changes, please feel free to suggest them.

Project page: http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2010-12_Order-693_Directives.html

Standards Development Process

The [Reliability Standards Development Procedure](#) contains all the procedures governing the standards development process. The success of the NERC standards development process depends on stakeholder participation. We extend our thanks to all those who participate.

For more information or assistance, please contact Lauren Koller at Lauren.Koller@nerc.net