



NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

## Standards Announcement

Ballot Pool Formation September 20-October 20, 2010

Formal Comment Period September 20-November 3, 2010

Project 2010-10 — FAC-013 Order 729

Now available at: [http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2010-10\\_FAC\\_Order\\_729.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2010-10_FAC_Order_729.html)

### **Project 2010-10 — FAC Order 729**

In Order 729, FERC ruled that the ATC standards developed in Project 2006-07 did not completely address the topics covered in FAC-012 and -013 and did not fully address the associated directives from Order 693.

Accordingly, FERC denied the portions of the implementation plan that would have retired these standards, and instead directed NERC to use the standards development process to make changes to the FAC standards and file those changes with FERC no later than 60 days prior to the effective date of the standards, which is April 1, 2011 (requiring the proposed changes to be filed on or before January 31, 2011).

A second draft of the proposed standard has been developed that attempts to address the applicable FERC directives (listed in the SAR) as well as to address concerns raised by the industry during the first posting.

### **Ballot Pool Open through 0900 a.m. on October 20, 2010**

Registered Ballot Body members may join the ballot pool **until 8 a.m. Eastern on October 20, 2010** to be eligible to vote in the upcoming ballot for the FAC-013-1 — Planning Transfer Capability at the following page:

<https://standards.nerc.net/BallotPool.aspx>

Members who join the ballot pool to vote on the standard will automatically be entered in a separate pool to participate in the non-binding poll of the associated violation risk factors (VRFs) and violation severity levels (VSLs).

During the pre-ballot window, members of the ballot pool may communicate with one another by using their “ballot pool list server.” (Once the balloting begins, ballot pool members are prohibited from using the ballot pool list server.) The list server for this ballot pool is: [bp-2010-10\\_FAC-013-2\\_in](#)

### **Formal 45-day Comment Period Open through November 3, 2010**

Please use this [electronic form](#) to submit comments. If you experience any difficulties in using the electronic form, please contact Monica Benson at [monica.benson@nerc.net](mailto:monica.benson@nerc.net). An off-line, unofficial copy of the comment form is posted on the project page:

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2010-10\\_FAC\\_Order\\_729.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2010-10_FAC_Order_729.html)

## **Transition from Reliability Standards Development Procedure Version 7 to Standard Processes Manual**

Under the Reliability Standards Development Procedure Version 7, consensus was built with successive formal comment periods, followed by a 30-day pre-ballot review, followed by an initial ballot, and then a recirculation ballot. The intent was to use stakeholder views submitted through the formal comment periods to achieve consensus, and then to confirm that consensus during the balloting. This process did not allow a drafting team to make any changes to a standard between ballots, which incented teams to avoid making improvements once a standard had gone through an initial ballot. If a team made a change between ballots, then the standard was required to be posted for a new comment period, followed by another pre-ballot review and a new initial ballot. Finally, if there were no more changes made to the standard, a recirculation ballot was conducted to confirm consensus.

Under the new Standard Processes Manual, consensus is achieved through parallel comment and ballot periods. Successive comment and ballot periods are conducted until there is consensus – and then a recirculation ballot is conducted to confirm that consensus. There is no 30-day pre-ballot review period, and drafting teams are encouraged to make revisions to the standard between successive ballots to improve the quality of the standard.

### **Next Steps**

During the last 10 days of the 45-day formal comment period an initial ballot and a non-binding poll of opinions on the VRFs and VSLs will both be conducted.

### **Project Background**

The purpose of this project is to address FERC directives from Order 729 related to FAC-012-1 and FAC-013-1. The drafting team for Project 2006-07 (ATC/TTC/AFC and CBM/TRM Revisions) proposed the retirement of FAC-012 and FAC-013, believing that these standards had been effectively superseded by four standards developed in the project (MOD-001, MOD-028, MOD-029, and MOD-030). In Order 729, FERC ruled that the standards developed in Project 2006-07 did not completely address the topics covered in FAC-012 and FAC-013, and did not fully address the associated directives from Order 693. Accordingly, FERC denied the portions of the implementation plan that would have retired these standards, and directed NERC to use the standards development process to make changes to the FAC standards, and file those changes with FERC no later than 60 days prior to the effective date of the standards approved in Order 729.

### **Applicability of Standard in Project**

Planning Coordinator

*For more information or assistance, please contact Monica Benson,  
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