



NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

## Standards Announcement

Ballot Pool and Pre-ballot Window (with Comment Period)

Project 2007-04 — Certifying System Operators

Now available at: [http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Certifying\\_SOs\\_Project\\_2007-04.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Certifying_SOs_Project_2007-04.html)

### **Project 2007-04: Certifying System Operators**

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 the Certifying System Operators 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, and is making progress in developing new standards.

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

- The proposed changes to the standard will be posted for a 45-day comment period. The ballot pool will be formed during the first 30 days of the 45-day comment period;
- The initial ballot will be conducted during the last 10 days of the 45-day comment period.

### **Ballot Pool (through September 9, 2010)**

Registered Ballot Body members may join the ballot pool **until 8 a.m. Eastern on September 9, 2010** to be eligible to vote in the upcoming ballot at the following page: <https://standards.nerc.net/BallotPool.aspx>

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-2007-04 CS0 PER-003 in@nerc.com](mailto:bp-2007-04_CS0_PER-003_in@nerc.com)

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). (As a reminder, this new approach for VRFs and VSLs is one of the updates reflected in the recently FERC-approved Reliability Standards Development Procedure – Version 7.)

### **Comment Period (through September 24, 2010)**

Please use this [electronic form](#) to submit comments. If you experience any difficulties in using the electronic form, please contact Courtney Camburn at 609-524-0624.

## **Project Background**

PER-003-0, a “Version 0” standard, requires the Reliability Coordinator, Balancing Authority, and Transmission Operator to staff its real-time operating positions with personnel that have a NERC certification credential. The standard is being revised to address the directives from FERC Order 693 and industry comments from Version 0. The standard will also be revised to conform to the latest version of the Reliability Standards Development Procedure and the ERO Sanctions Guidelines.

Further details are available on the project page:

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Certifying\\_SOs\\_Project\\_2007-04.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Certifying_SOs_Project_2007-04.html)

## **Applicability of Standards in Project**

Transmission Operator

Balancing Authority

Reliability Coordinator

## **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 Courtney Camburn at [Courtney.camburn@nerc.net](mailto:Courtney.camburn@nerc.net)*