Standards Announcement
Initial Ballot Window Open
August 19–28, 2009

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Cyber Security — Order 706B Nuclear Plant Implementation Plan
An initial ballot window for an implementation plan for Version 1 critical infrastructure protection (CIP) Reliability Standards CIP-002-1 through CIP-009-1 for Nuclear Power Plants is now open **until 8 p.m. EDT on August 28, 2009**.

Special Notes for This Project
In order to be responsive to the September 15, 2009 filing deadline and as a reflection of the significant involvement of the nuclear community in the development of this proposal, the NERC Standards Committee approved the team to shorten the comment period and hold the comment period at the same time as the pre-ballot review period, and if necessary, offer changes to the proposal based on the comments received before proceeding to ballot. The comment period and pre-ballot review ended on August 14, 2009. The drafting team modified the implementation plan based on stakeholder input; the two significant revisions are listed below:

1. Included CIP-006-1 on the list of standards potentially requiring an outage to implement

2. Adjusted the implementation timeframe for refueling outages to six months beyond the first refueling outage that is at least 18 months following the FERC effective date

Instructions
Members of the ballot pool associated with this project may log in and submit their votes from the following page: https://standards.nerc.net/CurrentBallots.aspx

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

Project Background
On January 18, 2008, FERC (or "Commission") issued Order No. 706 that approved Version 1 of the CIP Reliability Standards: CIP-002-1 through CIP-009-1. On March 19, 2009, the Commission issued clarifying Order No. 706-B that clarified "the facilities within a nuclear generation plant in the United States that are not regulated by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission are subject to compliance with the eight mandatory "CIP" Reliability Standards approved in Commission Order No. 706." However, in the ensuing discussion regarding the implementation timeframe for the nuclear power plants to comply with the CIP standards, the Commission noted in ¶59 that,

"[i]t is not appropriate to dictate the schedule contained in Table 3 of NERC's Implementation Plan, i.e., a December 2010 deadline for auditable compliance, for nuclear power plants to comply with the CIP Reliability Standards. Instead of requiring nuclear power plants to implement the CIP Reliability Standards on a fixed schedule at this time, we agree to allow more flexibility.

Rather than the Commission setting an implementation schedule, we agree with commenters that the ERO should develop an appropriate schedule after providing for stakeholder input. Accordingly, we direct the ERO to engage in a stakeholder process to develop a more appropriate timeframe for nuclear power plants' full compliance with CIP Reliability Standards. Further, we direct NERC to submit, within 180 days of the date of issuance of this order, a compliance filing that sets forth a proposed implementation schedule."

This project addresses the development of the implementation plan specific for nuclear power plants. The draft plan was drafted by members of the original Version 1 Cyber Security Drafting Team with specific outreach to nuclear power plant owners and operators to ensure their interests were fairly represented.

Project page:
http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Cyber_Security_Order706B_Nuclear_Plant_Implementation_Plan.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,
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