

January 31, 2007

Re: Recirculation Ballot Window Opens

The Standards Committee announces the following standards action:

Recirculation Ballot Window for PRC-023-1 — Transmission Relay Loadability is Open

The [recirculation ballot](#) for the PRC-023-1 — [Transmission Relay Loadability](#) is open through 8 p.m. (EST) on Saturday, February 9, 2008.

This standard addresses the cascading transmission outages that occurred in the August 2003 blackout when backup distance and phase relays operated on high loading and low voltage without electrical faults on the protected lines. This is the so-called “zone 3 relay” issue, expanded to address other protection devices subject to unintended operation during extreme system conditions. The proposed standard establishes minimum loadability criteria for these relays to minimize the chance of unnecessary line trips during a major system disturbance.

The ballot for this standard also includes the Relay Loadability [Implementation Plan](#).

The Standards Committee encourages all members of the Ballot Pool to review the [consideration of initial ballot comments](#). The drafting team made some minor edits to the standard following the initial ballot and has posted both a clean and a [redline version](#) of the standard. Members of the ballot pool may:

- Reconsider and change their vote from the first ballot.
- Vote in the second ballot even if they did not vote on the first ballot.
- Take no action if they do not want to change their original vote.

In the recirculation ballot, votes are counted by exception only — if a Ballot Pool member does not submit a revision to that member’s original vote, the vote remains the same as in the first ballot.

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. If you have any questions, please contact me at 813-468-5998 or maureen.long@nerc.net.