NERC
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Implementation Plan for COM-001-2

Defined Terms in the NERC Glossary

The RC SDT proposes the following new definitions:

- **Interpersonal Communication:** Any medium that allows two or more individuals interact, consult, or exchange information.
- **Alternative Interpersonal Communication:** Any Interpersonal Communication that is able to serve as a substitute for, and does not utilize the same infrastructure (medium) as, Interpersonal Communications used for day-to-day operation.

Prerequisite Approvals

- None

Conforming Changes to Requirements in Already Approved Standards

- None

Revision Summary

- The RC SDT revised the standard and is proposing retiring three requirements (R1, R5 and R6). Changes were made to eliminate redundancies between standards (existing and proposed), to align with the ERO Rules of Procedure and to address issues in FERC Order 693.

Effective Dates

The first day of the first calendar quarter following applicable regulatory approval – or in those jurisdictions where no regulatory approval is required, the first day of the first calendar quarter following Board of Trustees adoption. ~~To be determined.~~

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116-390 Village Blvd.
Princeton, NJ 08540
609.452.8060 | www.nerc.com

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Revisions or Retirements to Already Approved Standards

The following tables identify the sections of approved standards that shall be retired or revised when this standard is implemented. If the drafting team is recommending the retirement or revision of a requirement, that text is blue.

Already Approved Standard	Proposed Replacement Requirement(s)
COM-001-1 **R1.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall provide adequate and reliable telecommunications facilities for the exchange of Interconnection and operating information: *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.1.** Internally. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.2.** Between the Reliability Coordinator and its Transmission Operators and Balancing Authorities. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.3.** With other Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Operators, and Balancing Authorities as necessary to maintain reliability. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.4.** Where applicable, these facilities shall be redundant and diversely routed. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]*	R1. Each Reliability Coordinator shall have Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information: [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]: R1.1. All Transmission Operators and Balancing Authorities within its Reliability Coordinator Area R1.2. Adjacent Reliability Coordinators within the same interconnection. R2. Each Reliability Coordinator shall designate an Alternative Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information: [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]: R2.1. All Transmission Operators and Balancing Authorities within its Reliability Coordinator Area R2.2. Adjacent Reliability Coordinators within the same interconnection. R3. Each Transmission Operator shall have Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information: [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]: R3.1. Its Reliability Coordinator R3.2. Each Balancing Authority within its Transmission Operator Area. R3.3. Each Distribution Provider within its Transmission Operator Area. R3.4. Each Generator Operator within its Transmission Operator Area. R4. Each Transmission Operator shall designate an Alternative Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information: [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]: R4.1. Its Reliability Coordinator R4.2. Each Balancing Authority within its Transmission Operator Area.
Notes: The requirements we made clearer as to which capabilities specific entities were required to have to reliability.	

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COM-001-1 **R1.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall provide adequate and reliable telecommunications facilities for the exchange of Interconnection and operating information: *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.1.** Internally. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.2.** Between the Reliability Coordinator and its Transmission Operators and Balancing Authorities. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.3.** With other Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Operators, and Balancing Authorities as necessary to maintain reliability. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]* **R1.4.** Where applicable, these facilities shall be redundant and diversely routed. *[Violation Risk Factor: High]*	R5. Each Balancing Authority shall have Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information: [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]: R5.1. Its Reliability Coordinator R5.2. Each Transmission Operator that operates Facilities within its Balancing Authority Area R5.3. Each Generator Operator that operates Facilities within its Balancing Authority Area R5.4. Each Distribution Provider within its Balancing Authority Area R6. Each Balancing Authority shall designate an Alternative Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information: [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]: R6.1. Its Reliability Coordinator R6.2. Each Transmission Operator that operates Facilities within its Balancing Authority Area) R7. Each Distribution Provider shall have Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information: [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations] 7.1 Its Transmission Operator 7.2 Its Balancing Authority. R8. Each Generator Operator shall have Interpersonal Communications capability with the following entities to exchange Interconnection and operating information [Violation Risk Factor: High][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations] 8.1 Its Balancing Authority 8.2 Its Transmission Operator.
Notes: The requirements we made clearer as to which capabilities specific entities were required to have to reliability. R8 is created to address the FERC directive to "expands the applicability to include generator operators and distribution providers and includes Requirements for their telecommunications facilities"	

Already Approved Standard	Proposed Replacement Requirement(s)
COM-001-1 **R2.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall manage, alarm, test and/or actively monitor vital telecommunications facilities. Special attention shall be given to emergency telecommunications facilities and equipment not used for routine communications. *[Violation Risk Factor: Medium]*	**COM-001-2:** **R9. Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall, on at least a monthly basis, test its Alternative Interpersonal Communications capability. If the test is unsuccessful, the entity shall initiate action to repair or designate a replacement Alternative Interpersonal Communications within 2 hours.** ***[Violation Risk Factor: Medium][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]***
Notes:	

Already Approved Standard	Proposed Replacement Requirement(s)
COM-001-1 **R3.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall provide a means to coordinate telecommunications among their respective areas. This coordination shall include the ability to investigate and recommend solutions to telecommunications problems within the area and with other areas. *[Violation Risk Factor: Lower]*	**COM-001-2** **R10. Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, Balancing Authority, Distribution Provider, and Generator Operator shall notify impacted entities within 60 minutes of the detection of a failure of its Interpersonal Communications capabilities that lasts 30 minutes or longer. *[Violation Risk Factor: Medium][Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]***

Already Approved Standard	Proposed Replacement Requirement(s)
COM-001-1 **R4.** Unless agreed to otherwise, each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall use English as the language for all communications between and among operating personnel responsible for the real-time generation control and operation of the interconnected Bulk Electric System. Transmission Operators and Balancing Authorities may use an alternate language for internal operations. *[Violation Risk Factor: Medium]*	This requirement is being vetted by the OPCPSDT in COM-003. This requirement and measure will be removed from COM-001.
Notes:	

Already Approved Standard	Proposed Replacement Requirement(s)
COM-001-1 **R5.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator, and Balancing Authority shall have written operating instructions and procedures to enable continued operation of the system during the loss of telecommunications facilities. *[Violation Risk Factor: Lower]*	**EOP-008-0** **R1.** Each Reliability Coordinator, Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority shall have a plan to continue reliability operations in the event its control center becomes inoperable. The contingency plan must meet the following requirements: **R1.1.** The contingency plan shall not rely on data or voice communication from the primary control facility to be viable. **R1.2.** The plan shall include procedures and responsibilities for providing basic tie line control and procedures and for maintaining the status of all inter-area schedules, such that there is an hourly accounting of all schedules. **R1.3.** The contingency plan must address monitoring and control of critical transmission facilities, generation control, voltage control, time and frequency control, control of critical substation devices, and logging of significant power system events. The plan shall list the critical facilities. **R1.4.** The plan shall include procedures and responsibilities for maintaining basic voice communication capabilities with other areas. **R1.5.** The plan shall include procedures and responsibilities for conducting periodic tests, at least annually, to ensure viability of the plan. **R1.6.** The plan shall include procedures and responsibilities for providing annual training to ensure that operating personnel are able to implement the contingency plans. **R1.7.** The plan shall be reviewed and updated annually. **R1.8.** Interim provisions must be included if it is expected to take more than one hour to implement the contingency plan for loss of primary control facility.
Notes: The RC SDT proposes retiring COM-001-1 R5 as it is redundant with EOP-008-0 Requirement R1.	

Already Approved Standard	Proposed Replacement Requirement(s)
COM-001-1 **R6.** Each NERCNet User Organization shall adhere to the requirements in Attachment 1-COM-001, "NERCNet Security Policy." *[Violation Risk Factor: Lower]*	**None - retire**
Notes: The RC SDT is recommending that R6 be retired. This is an ERO procedural issue and should not be in a reliability standard. It should be included in the ERO Rules of Procedure.	

Functions that Must Comply with the Requirements in the Standards

Standard	Functions that Must Comply With the Requirements							
	Reliability Coordinator	**Balancing Authority**	**Purchasing Selling Entity~~Interchange Authority~~**	**Transmission Operator**	**Transmission Service Provider~~Owner~~**	**Load Serving Entity ~~Generator Owner~~**	**Generator Operator**	**Distribution Provider**
COM-001-2 ~~Telecommuni~~ Communi-cations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X