UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

North American Electric Reliability Corporation) Docket No. RD20-2-000	
	ORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	r
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December 15, 2020

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North American Electric Reliability)	Docket No. RD20-2-000
Corporation)	

INFORMATIONAL FILING OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION REGARDING STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Pursuant to paragraph 5 of the Order Directing Informational Filings Regarding NERC Standard Drafting Projects, ¹ the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") hereby submits to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC" or the "Commission") an informational filing regarding two active Critical Infrastructure Protection ("CIP") standard development projects: (1) Project 2016-02 – Modifications to CIP Standards ("Project 2016-02"); and (2) Project 2019-02 – BES Cyber System Information Access Management ("Project 2019-02"). Project 2016-02 focuses on modifications to the CIP Reliability Standards to incorporate applicable protections for virtualized environments. Project 2019-02 proposes to enhance the CIP standards by providing a secure path toward the use of third-party data storage and analysis systems and by clarifying the protections expected when using cloud computing services. This informational filing provides an update to the current schedules for both projects. NERC provided the initial informational filing regarding the schedules on March 19, 2020⁴ and two additional

N. Am. Elec. Reliability Corp., "Order Directing Informational Filings Regarding NERC Standard Drafting Projects," 170 FERC ¶ 61,109 (Feb. 20, 2020) [hereinafter February 20 Order].

The Commission certified NERC as the electric reliability organization ("ERO") in accordance with Section 215 of the FPA on July 20, 2006. *N. Am. Elec. Reliability Corp.*, 116 FERC ¶ 61,062 (2006).

Unless otherwise designated, all capitalized terms shall have the meaning set forth in the *Glossary of Terms Used in NERC Reliability Standards*, https://www.nerc.com/files/Glossary_of_Terms.pdf.

NERC, Informational Filing of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Regarding Standards Development Projects, Docket No. RD20-2-000 (March 19, 2020).

quarterly informational filings with updated schedules on June 19, 2020⁵ and September 17, 2020.⁶ NERC also provided a supplemental informational filing on November 13, 2020.⁷

I. BACKGROUND

In the February 20 Order, the Commission directed NERC to submit, within 30 days of the issuance of the Order, an informational filing that includes project schedules for Projects 2016-02 and 2019-02. The Commission stated that these schedules should include the status of the projects, interim target dates, and the anticipated filing date for new or modified Reliability Standards. In addition, the Commission directed NERC to file quarterly informational status updates, beginning in June 2020, until NERC files new or modified standards with the Commission. 9

II. PROJECT SCHEDULES

The status of the projects, interim target dates, and the anticipated filing dates of the modified Reliability Standards for Projects 2016-02 and 2019-02 remain unchanged from those reported in the November Informational Filing. NERC notes that these schedules are projections and subject to change. Any changes will be reported in the next informational filing scheduled for March 2021.

III. CONCLUSION

At the time of this filing, Project 2016-02 and Project 2019-02 remain on schedule as provided herein. If any changes occur to the projects' status, target dates, or anticipated filing

NERC, Informational Filing of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Regarding Standards Development Projects, Docket No. RD20-2-000 (June 19, 2020).

NERC, Informational Filing of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Regarding Standards Development Projects, Docket No. RD20-2-000 (September 17, 2020) [hereinafter September Informational Filing].

NERC, Supplemental Informational Filing of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Regarding Standards Development Projects, Docket No. RD20-2-000 (November 13, 2020) [hereinafter November Informational Filing].

February 20 Order, *supra* note 1, at P 5.

Id.

dates, NERC will provide these changes in its quarterly informational filings submitted pursuant to the directive in the February 20 Order.

Respectfully submitted,

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December 15, 2020

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing document upon all parties listed on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in the above-referenced proceeding.

Dated at Washington, D.C. this 15th day of December, 2020.

/s/ Marisa Hecht

Marisa Hecht Counsel for North American Electric Reliability Corporation