

# 2023-2025 Standards Committee Strategic Work Plan

## Introduction

The Standards Committee (SC) Strategic Work Plan (Plan) focuses SC actions on overseeing Standards development activities including:

- Addressing emerging risks using input from various sources, including the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) and the Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC)
- Prioritizing standards development activities
- Supporting process improvements to enhance agility and effectiveness
- Addressing Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) directives

## Emerging Risks

Through input by a NERC technical committee, the RISC or a governmental authority (such as FERC), the SC authorizes the development new or revised Standards to mitigate emergent risks, as appropriate.

## Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles

### Vision

A comprehensive body of results-based Reliability Standards focused on minimizing risk to the North American bulk power system (BPS).

### Mission

The SC is a ballot body elected stakeholder Committee serving and reporting directly to the NERC Board of Trustees (Board). The SC partners with NERC staff to manage and oversee development of a comprehensive set of results-based Reliability Standards prioritized and focused on risk to the bulk power system while maintaining attributes of due process, openness, and balance of interests.

### Guiding Principles

- Promote and implement a collaborative working environment with other NERC Standing Committees, NERC Standards staff, stakeholders, and standard drafting teams.
- Execute the Standards development process in an open and inclusive manner for effective and efficient use of NERC and industry resources.
- Promote and take a leadership role on consensus-building activities.

## Work Plan

Consistent with the 2023-2025 Reliability Standards Development Plan (RSDP), this Plan recognizes the transition of the Standard development process to primarily address a small number of FERC directives,

emerging risks, and process improvements. The details of the goals and objectives for 2023-2025 appear in the RSDP.

### **Focus Area: Process Improvement**

To promote continuous improvement existing processes must be periodically reviewed. In support of the vision, mission and guiding principles above, the SC will undertake certain actions.

#### **Implement Board Recommended Enhancements to the Reliability Standards Development Process from the Stakeholder Engagement Group**

- The SC Chair and Vice Chair will lead an initiative to implement the Board of Trustee recommendations specific to the SC to enhance the standards development process. Implementation of these recommendations will require SC Coordination with NERC Staff, other standing committees, and the Standing Committee Coordinating Group (SCCG).

#### **Standards Grading**

- The SC and the Compliance and Certification Committee will convene a joint task force in early 2023 to evaluate the existing Standards Grading process, identify opportunities, and provide recommendations for improvement. This review will occur in lieu of the annual Standards Grading exercise.

### **Focus Area: Risk Mitigation**

To develop a comprehensive body of risk and results-based Reliability Standards the SC will focus on the activities below:

#### **Standards Development Prioritization**

- In support of the recommendations of the Stakeholder Engagement Group, the SC will partner with NERC Staff and consult with the SCCG to effectively prioritize standards development projects based on reliability risk.

#### **Risk Framework**

- Continue to execute and build on the role of the SC in the NERC Risk Mitigation Framework, which includes active participation in the SCCG identified opportunities for feedback loops.

### **Focus Area: Standards Quality**

The Reliability Standards should be clearly written, effective in mitigating risk to the BPS, and not unnecessarily administratively burdensome. To ensure the highest quality body of Standards, the SC will focus on the following:

#### **FERC Directives**

- As detailed in the 2023-2025 Reliability Standards Development Plan there are two outstanding FERC directives being resolved through the Development process. The SC will continue to monitor progress and support final resolution of these directives, as well as any future work related to directives.

### **Periodic Reviews**

- The Project Management and Oversight Subcommittee (PMOS) and NERC staff will identify and schedule Periodic Reviews for SC endorsement. The PMOS will use the most recent Standards Grading results to prioritize/schedule by the end of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2023.

### **Transition of Guidelines and Technical Basis to Technical Rationale**

- The SC will continue to review Guidelines and Technical Basis documents for transition to Technical Rationale documents while moving compliance examples to Implementation Guidance.