



# Modernization of Standards Processes & Procedures

The speed at which risks to the reliability, security, and resilience of the bulk power system are emerging during the transformation to a decentralized, digitized, and decarbonized grid is outpacing industry's ability to develop, enhance, and implement Reliability Standards under the existing processes and procedures. At its February 2025 meeting, the NERC Board of Trustees passed a resolution forming an industry-led Modernization of Standards Processes and Procedures Task Force (MSPPTF) to undertake a strategic review of NERC's Reliability Standards development process. The task force will present proposed recommendations to the NERC Board in February 2026.

## 2025 July Update

This is the third update that summarizes ongoing activities related to the MSPP initiative.

### Background

The MSPPTF is focusing on transforming current processes and procedures to ensure that standards can be developed more efficiently and effectively to better address the complex and rapidly evolving risk landscape. It is considering the spectrum of the current standards program, including processes, balloting, drafting, and the roles of team and committee members. The MSPPTF is also reviewing prior standard improvement efforts and recent Section 321 actions for lessons learned.

### Key Activities

The MSPPTF is developing a white paper, which will be posted for public comment on July 22–August 27, on the potential improvement opportunities for transforming how NERC develops its Reliability Standards. The white paper includes potential improvement opportunities in three areas: standards initiation/standard authorization requests, standards development/drafting, and balloting. Feedback from the recent stakeholder survey has been taken into consideration when developing the potential improvement opportunities.

The taskforce will host a webinar to provide an overview of the white paper on July 21, 12:30–1:30 p.m. Eastern.

The webinar will provide a brief update on the MSPPTF's activities and contextualize the white paper before the paper is posted. Registration is available [HERE](#).

### Stakeholder Outreach

A comprehensive program to engage and provide updates to stakeholders through public announcements and various open meetings continues. Over the course of Q2 2025, task force members participated in events—such as committee meetings, trade and industry conferences, and workshops—to introduce the task force's efforts and detail its progress. Over 500 industry stakeholders engaged with the task force through these events. Task force members expect their participation in events to increase once the white paper on the potential improvement opportunities is posted. Forthcoming engagements will be posted at [MSPPTF External Engagements](#) and will be regularly updated.

### Key Resources

Several resources are available to keep industry and stakeholders informed throughout this critical project, including the [MSPPTF webpage](#) (located under the Initiatives tab on the [NERC homepage](#)), the [MSPPTF Scope](#), [MSPPTF Roster](#), and [MSPP FAQs](#).

Questions? Email [mspp@nerc.net](mailto:mspp@nerc.net).

## Q2 2025

- Developed scope document
- Identified areas for improvement
- Solicit stakeholder input

## Q3 2025

- Develop white paper of potential improvement opportunities
- Solicit stakeholder input
- Develop draft recommendations

## Q4 2025

- Solicit stakeholder input
- Finalize recommendations

## Q1 2026

- Present recommendations to NERC Board

## Communications and Engagement

- Individual task force engagement
- General communications to and broad engagement with industry and stakeholders
- Updates to NERC's Board, MRC, Standing Committees, and Industry Groups