To: Todd Bennett, Chair NERC Standards Committee

From: Rich Hydzik, Chair NERC Reliability and Security Technical Committee

Re: CIP-013-2 SAR

Date: May 7, 2024

In response to your request on January 30, 2024, the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) tasked the Supply Chain Working Group (SCWG) to examine the standards authorization request (SAR) dated September 18, 2023, and as you indicated "…determine if there is another approach to addressing the issues laid out in the SAR."

The SCWG prioritized their deliberations and presented their findings to the RSTC executive committee on April 9, 2024. A copy of their presentation is attached.

In summary, the SCWG has identified three alternative options for addressing the reliability gaps in the CIP-013-2 SAR. Please note that these are not mutually exclusive:

1. Create or update CMEP processes and practice guides to map to guidelines developed by NATF, EEI, EPRI, APPA, and RSTC SCWG.

2. Industry and the ERO can adopt practices consistent with the DHS/OMB/NIST Secure Software Development Framework to provide more consistency and clarity to suppliers through a digital supplier attestation process/format.

3. Enforcement practices should encourage entities to adopt a comprehensive SCRM/3rd Party risk plan (note: this is listed as Option 4 in the presentation).

Lastly, should the Standards Committee elect to approve the SAR, the SCWG has offered the following recommendation (Option 3 in the presentation):

1. The standards drafting team should refer to guidelines developed by NATF, EEI, EPRI, APPA and RSTC SCWG as recommended language for standards enhancements.

cc: Latrice Harkness
      Dominique Love
      Alison Oswald
      Michaelson Buchanan