

Results-Based Reliability Standard Development Guidance

- The Standard Drafting Team (SDT) should employ a defense-in-depth strategy for Reliability Standards development where each requirement in a NERC Reliability Standard has a role in preventing system failures, and that these roles are complementary and reinforcing. Reliability Standards should be viewed as a portfolio of requirements designed to achieve an overall defense-in-depth strategy and comply with the quality objectives identified in the *Acceptance Criteria of a Reliability Standard* document.
- The SDT should strive to achieve a portfolio of performance, risk, and competency-based mandatory reliability requirements that support an effective defense-in-depth strategy. Each requirement should identify a clear and measurable expected outcome, such as: a) a stated level of reliability performance, b) a reduction in a specified reliability risk, or c) a necessary competency.
 - a) **Performance-based** — defines a particular reliability objective or outcome to be achieved. In its simplest form, a results-based requirement has four components: *who, under what conditions (if any), shall perform what action, to achieve what particular result or outcome?*
 - b) **Risk-based** — preventive requirements to reduce the risks of failure to acceptable tolerance levels. A risk-based reliability requirement should be framed as: *who, under what conditions (if any), shall perform what action, to achieve what particular result or outcome that reduces a stated risk to the reliability of the bulk power system?*
 - c) **Competency-based** — defines a minimum set of capabilities an entity needs to have to demonstrate it is able to perform its designated reliability functions. A competency-based reliability requirement should be framed as: *who, under what conditions (if any), shall have what capability, to achieve what particular result or outcome to perform an action to achieve a result or outcome or to reduce a risk to the reliability of the bulk power system?*
- Each Reliability Standard should enable or support one or more of the reliability principles (see below). Each Reliability Standard should also be consistent with all of the reliability principles.
 - a) Interconnected bulk power systems shall be planned and operated in a coordinated manner to perform reliably under normal and abnormal conditions as defined in the NERC Standards.
 - b) The frequency and voltage of interconnected bulk power systems shall be controlled within defined limits through the balancing of real and reactive power supply and

demand.

- c) Information necessary for the planning and operation of interconnected bulk power systems shall be made available to those entities responsible for planning and operating the systems reliably.
- d) Plans for emergency operation and system restoration of interconnected bulk power systems shall be developed, coordinated, maintained, and implemented.
- e) Facilities for communication, monitoring, and control shall be provided, used, and maintained for the reliability of interconnected bulk power systems.
- f) Personnel responsible for planning and operating interconnected bulk power systems shall be trained, qualified, and have the responsibility and authority to implement actions.
- g) The reliability of the interconnected bulk power systems shall be assessed, monitored, and maintained on a wide-area basis.
- h) Bulk power systems shall be protected from malicious physical or cyber attacks.

Version History

Version	Date	Owner	Change Tracking
1	June 7, 2010		
1	August 29, 2014	Standards Information Staff	Updated template
1	May 31, 2023	Standards Information Staff	Updated template