

Consistent with its <u>Inverter-Based Resource Strategy</u>, NERC is dedicated to identifying and addressing challenges associated with inverter-based resources (IBR) as their penetration continues to increase. In addition, FERC issued two orders with directives to NERC regarding IBRs: (1) an <u>order</u> directing NERC to identify and register owners and operators of currently unregistered bulk power system-connected IBRs; and (2) <u>Order No. 901</u> directing the development of Reliability Standards addressing multiple aspects of IBR planning. Working closely with industry and stakeholders, NERC is executing a <u>FERC-approved IBR Registration work plan</u> and an <u>Order No. 901 Work Plan</u> to achieve these directives within the prescribed timeframes.

2024 Fourth Quarter Update

Fourth quarter activity focused on continued outreach to registration candidates and creating resources to aid their entry into the ERO Enterprise.

Key Activities

Legal

On November 4, 2024, NERC filed with FERC a set of proposed Reliability Standards and associated definitions responsive to FERC Order No. 901. These filings included the: petition for approval of definition of IBR, petition for approval of PRC-030-1, petition for approval of PRC-028-1 and PRC-002-5, and petition for approval of PRC-029-1 and PRC-024-4. The proposed Reliability Standards address Order No. 901 directives related to disturbance monitoring data sharing, IBR performance requirements, and post-event performance validation for registered IBRs, and represent the completion of work under Milestone 2 of NERC's Order No. 901 work plan.

On November 7, 2024, NERC filed a <u>registration work</u> <u>plan progress update</u> with FERC.

Registration

ERO Enterprise Registration staff are completing the validation of the responses received from the July 8, 2024 Request for Information to all registered Balancing

Authorities and Transmission Owners to identify owners and operations for Category 2 IRBs. A second phase of the identification and validation process was started in December via information requests to candidate Category 2 Generator Owners and Generator Operators seeking specific facility and entity data for assessment and to prepare qualifying entities for Registration. This process will continue into early 2025. To assist the Regional Entity assessment process, an ERO Enterprise Practice Guide on the application of the new Category 2 Registration Criteria is under development and is anticipated to be published in Q1 2025.

Standards

NERC continues to develop new and modified Reliability Standards related to the IBR Registration Initiative as well as FERC Order No 901. NERC staff maintains an up-to-date project list on the <u>Standards Under Development</u> page, which includes indicators for projects that are associated with IBR, Distributed Energy Resources (DER), and Order 901.

Want More?
Visit the IBR Registration
Initiative Quick Reference Guide



NERC's Order No. 901 work includes three standards projects, each of which had their own pre-existing scope of work. NERC recommended assignment of the Milestone 3 Standard Authorization Requests to these existing teams, with the relevant subject matter expertise, and standards already under revisions, to allow for a more expedited process. Each drafting team will develop Implementation Plans similar to those produced for Milestone 2 projects, specifically accounting for non-BES IBR (Category 2 generation). Industry is encouraged to continue to follow how these projects will address IBR and these new registrations.

Stakeholder Outreach and E-ISAC Engagements

The ERO Enterprise also hosted the first of two IBR Registration Initiative informational webinars on

November 13 and posted the <u>slide presentation</u> and <u>recording</u>. NERC continues to target appropriate stakeholder engagement opportunities.

The E-ISAC wrapped up 2024 IBR engagements with panelist participation at GameChange Solar, SolarConnections conference in New York City in December, highlighting how solar asset owners can efficiently strengthen their cyber security posture through E-ISAC programming, information sharing, and industry engagement. The E-ISAC also participated in the November ERO Enterprise webinar and looks forward to additional engagements with the renewable energy sector to continue contributing industry insights and opportunities to collaborate.

Resources

NERC developed several new resources in the fourth quarter, including an <u>IBR video</u>, a <u>101 resource document</u>, and an <u>open letter to new registrants</u> providing key background and numerous educational resources.

NERC also maintains several resources to ensure industry and stakeholders are kept informed throughout this critical, three-phase project, including the IBR Registration Initiative Quick Reference Guide (housed under the Initiatives tab on NERC's website), project milestones, updated FAQs and guides for new entities, and quarterly updates. As needs are identified, additional fact sheets and educational materials will be produced to integrate new entrants into the broader ERO Enterprise model.

Please visit the <u>NERC</u> and the <u>E-ISAC</u> websites to learn more about their critical reliability and security work. Additionally, the Regional Entities also have IBR Registration Initiative information available:

- NPCC
- MRO
- Reliability First
- SERC
- <u>Texas RE</u>
- WECC

IBR Registration Milestones

Phase 1: May 2023-May 2024

- Complete Rules of Procedure revisions and approvals
- Commence Category 2 GO and GOP candidate outreach and education (e.g., through trade organizations)

Phase 2: May 2024-May 2025

- Complete identification of Category 2 GO and GOP candidates
- Continue Category 2 GO and GOP candidate outreach and education (e.g., quarterly updates, webinars, workshops, etc.)

Phase 3: May 2025-May 2026

- Complete registration of Category 2 GO and GOP candidates thereafter subject to applicable NERC Reliability Standards
- Conduct specific Category 2 GO and GOP outreach and education (e.g., quarterly updates, webinars, workshops, etc.)