

Standards, Compliance, and Enforcement Bulletin

February 18–23, 2025

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ACTIVE STANDARDS POSTINGS

Current Ballots (ballot periods close at 8:00 p.m. Eastern)

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
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Posted for Comment

Project	Action	Start Date	End Date
Project 2024-03 – Revisions to EOP-012-2	Comment Period	1/27/25	3/12/25

OTHER ACTIVE COMMENT PERIODS

Posted for Comment

Posting	Action	Start Date	End Date
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STANDARDS NEWS

There is no additional Standards News to report this week.

Quick Links

- [Register in the SBS](#)
- [Standards Project Prioritization \(November 2023\)](#)
- [Projected Standards Posting Schedule](#)
- [Project Tracking Spreadsheet](#)
- [2023-2025 Reliability Standards Development Plan \(Filed With FERC\)](#)
- [Quality Review Application](#)
- [One-Stop Shop \(Status, Purpose, Implementation Plans, FERC Orders, RSAWs\)](#)
- [Submit Questions or Feedback](#)

GENERAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT NEWS

NEW Align Planned Maintenance

The ERO Enterprise has scheduled the Align system to be down for planned maintenance starting from February 21, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern (5:00 p.m. Pacific) through February 22, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Eastern (12:00 p.m. Pacific) (return to online status time is subject to change pending maintenance activities). This planned outage only affects Align. Information regarding this outage will also be displayed on the My Align News & Update section of Align, and the [Align and SEL web page](#). This scheduled maintenance will include system changes that will be documented in the Align Release Notes 7.1.0 and published on February 22, 2025.

Quick Links

- [Compliance Monitoring & Enforcement Program One-Stop Shop](#)
- [ERO Enterprise Program Alignment Process](#)
- [Consistency Reporting Tool \(EthicsPoint\)](#)
- [Risk-Based Registration Initiative](#)
- [Reliability Standard Audit Worksheets](#)
- [Enforcement & Mitigation: Enforcement Actions](#)
- [Align and ERO SEL](#)

NEW Proposed Implementation Guidance

The ERO Enterprise has received two new proposed Implementation Guidance documents posted on the [Compliance Guidance page](#). The proposed Implementation Guidance documents are titled:

- Implementation Guidance for CIP-012-2* (Communications Between Control Centers)
- Implementation Guidance for TPL-001-5.1 (Trip Coil Interpretation).

For more information or assistance, please contact [Sushil Subedi](#).

OTHER NEWS

REMINDER NERC Announces New Exam Delivery Vendor for System Operator Certification Program

NERC’s System Operator Certification Program is moving to Pearson VUE as the new exam delivery vendor at 12:00 p.m. Eastern on March 25, 2025. Pearson VUE offers superior customer service and substantially more exam center locations in the United States and Canada. Candidates can begin scheduling exams with Pearson VUE at **12:00 p.m. Eastern on March 25**.

[Announcement](#) | [Transition Timeline](#) | [Frequently Asked Question](#)

NEW NERC and E-ISAC Release 2024 Year-in-Review Videos Highlighting Key Reliability Achievements

NERC has released its [2024 Year-in-Review video](#), highlighting significant achievements in strengthening the reliability and security of the bulk power system. Featuring insights from NERC’s President and CEO Jim Robb and senior leadership, the video showcases progress in the five focus areas—Energy, Security, Agility, Outreach, and Sustainability—underscoring the organization’s commitment to resilience, risk mitigation, and industry collaboration.

The [E-ISAC End-of-Year Report video](#) provides an overview of the electricity security landscape in 2024 and the E-ISAC’s role in reducing physical and cyber security risk to the North American grid. During the year, working 24/7 with its more than 1,800 member and partner organizations, the E-ISAC team continued to innovate and help strengthen the electric industry against an unprecedented range of cyber and physical security threats. Despite the challenging threat landscape, there were no security impacts to the reliability of the bulk power system in 2024.

As the energy landscape continues to evolve, these videos provide a vital reflection on NERC and the E-ISAC’s efforts to address emerging risks, enhance grid resilience, and drive continuous improvement. By sharing these insights, NERC reinforces its mission to ensure a reliable and secure energy future for North America.

[Full Announcement](#)

STANDARDS SUBJECT TO FUTURE ENFORCEMENT

Please refer to the [U.S. Effective Dates page](#) for the most up-to-date information on effective dates and for more detail on the table below.

U.S. Effective Dates for Reliability Standards		
U.S. Effective Date	Standard(s)	Phased-In (Y/N)
July 1, 2025	IRO-010-5 – Reliability Coordinator Data and information Specification and Collection Implementation Plan	No

	TOP-003-6.1 – Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority Data and Information Specification and Collection Implementation Plan	
October 1, 2025	TOP-002-5 – Operations Planning Implementation Plan	No
April 1, 2026	CIP-003-9 – Cyber Security – Security Management Controls Implementation Plan	No
July 1, 2026	CIP-012-2 – Cyber Security–Communications between Control Centers Implementation Plan	No

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FERC ACTION

NEW Board Initiates Standards Modernization Task Force, Elects New Chair, Bids Farewell to Longtime Trustee

The NERC Board of Trustees began its first meeting of 2025 by establishing a standards modernization task force, approving three resolutions for outstanding service and electing a new Board chair and vice chair. Ken DeFontes, outgoing Board chair, opened the meeting by reflecting on the accomplishments during his chairmanship.

“We have accomplished so much over the past four years — I couldn’t have imagined it was even possible,” DeFontes said. “We were able to do this because of the commitment of the Board, Jim Robb, the NERC team and our stakeholders. This is one of the most special boards I’ve ever served on, and I look forward to continuing to serve.”

[Full Announcement](#)

NEW Sunshine Act Agenda Posted for Upcoming FERC Open Meeting

FERC released the Sunshine Act [open agenda](#) for its upcoming February 20, 2025 open meeting. There are two items related to NERC’s responsibilities under Section 215 of the FPA:

- E - 9 – RD25-1-000; RD25-2-000; RD25-3-000 - North American Electric Reliability Corporation
 - This item relates to most, but not all, of the proposed standards filed to address FERC Order 901 directing NERC to develop new or modified Reliability Standards addressing reliability concerns related to IBRs:
 - RD25-1-000 - proposed new term “Inverter-Based Resource”
 - RD25-2-000 - proposed Reliability Standards PRC-028-2 and PRC-002-5
 - RD25-3-000 - proposed Reliability Standard PRC-030-1.

This item does not include the proposed generator ride-through standards developed under Section 321 of the NERC Rules of Procedure, proposed PRC-029-1 and PRC-024-4, which are pending in a separate rule making proceeding.

- E – 10 – RD25-4-000 – North American Electric Reliability Corporation
 - This item relates to proposed Reliability Standard TPL-008-1, filed in response to FERC Order 896 directing NERC to submit new or revised standards that address concerns pertaining to transmission system planning for extreme heat and cold weather events.

NEW NERC Filing

On February 14, 2025, NERC submitted to FERC an [unaudited report](#) of NERC’s budget-to-actual variance information for the fourth quarter 2024. This compliance filing is in accordance with FERC’s January 16, 2013 Order, which approved a Settlement Agreement between the FERC Office of Enforcement and NERC, related to findings and recommendations arising out of its 2012 performance audit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For a full accounting of upcoming events, please refer to the [NERC Calendar](#).

Workshops and Conferences

Event	Time	Date	Location	Registration
NERC/RISC Reliability Leadership Summit	All day	February 26–27	Washington, D.C.	Registration Hotel

Webinars

Event	Time	Date	Registration
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Standing Committee Meetings and Conference Calls

Event	Time	Date	Registration
Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) Meeting	All Day	March 12–13	Registration Hotel
Standards Committee Process Subcommittee Meeting	11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Central	March 18	In-Person Virtual
Project Management and Oversight Subcommittee Meeting	2:00–4:00 p.m. Central	March 18	In-Person Virtual
Standards Committee Meeting	10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Central	March 19	In-Person Virtual
Compliance and Certification Committee Meeting Day 1	1:30–5:00 p.m. Central	April 9	In-Person Virtual

Compliance and Certification Committee Meeting Day 2	9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Central	April 10	In-Person Virtual
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ERO Enterprise Events			
Event	Time	Date	Registration
ERO Enterprise Webinar – Application of the Registration Criteria for Category 2 Generator Owner and Generator Operator Inverter-Based Resources	2:30–3:30 p.m. Eastern	March 3	Details
NEW Fall Reliability & Security Seminar	All Day	February 25-26	Details
NEW Workshop on the Application of the New IBR Practice Guide and SERC Category 2 GO/GOP Registration Process	All Day	April 2-3	Details
NEW Compliance & Registration Fundamentals for IBRs and Beyond	10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern	May 20	Details

Standard Drafting Team Meetings			
Please refer to the Standards calendar for the most up-to-date listing of upcoming meetings.			
Project	Time	Date	Registration
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	February 18	Details
Project 2024-02 – Planning Energy Assurance	All Day	February 18-20	Details
Project 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR	12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern	February 20	Details
Project 2024-01 – Rules of Procedure Definitions Alignment (Generator Owner and Generator Operator)	1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern	February 20	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	February 20	Details
Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-party Cloud Services	3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern	February 20	Details
NEW Project 2022-05 – Modifications to CIP-008 Reporting Threshold	2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern	February 24	Details
Project 2021-02 – Modifications to VAR-002-4.1	10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	February 25	Details
Project 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR	12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern	February 25	Details
NEW Project 2023-06 – CIP-014 Risk Assessment Refinement	12:30–2:30 p.m. Eastern	February 25	Details

Project 2024-01 – Rules of Procedure Definitions Alignment (Generator Owner and Generator Operator)	1:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern	February 25	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	February 25	Details
Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-party Cloud Services	3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern	February 25	Details
NEW Project 2023-06 – CIP-014 Risk Assessment Refinement	12:00–2:00 p.m. Eastern	February 26	Details
NEW Project 2023-06 – CIP-014 Risk Assessment Refinement	12:00–2:00 p.m. Eastern	February 27	Details
Project 2022-02 – Uniform Modeling Framework for IBR	12:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern	February 27	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	February 27	Details
Project 2023-09 – Risk Management for Third-party Cloud Services	3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern	February 27	Details
Project 2022 – 04 EMT Modeling	3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern	March 3	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 4	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	All Day	March 5-7	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 6	Details
NEW Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 10	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 11	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 13	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 18	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 20	Details
NEW Project 2022-05 – Modifications to CIP-008 Reporting Threshold	2:00–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 24	Details
Project 2022-04 – EMT Modeling	10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	March 24	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 25	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	March 27	Details
Project 2020-06 – Verifications of Models and Data for Generators	1:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern	April 1	Details
NEW Project 2022-04 – EMT Modeling	3:00–5:00 p.m. Eastern	April 7	Details

ABOUT THE STANDARDS, COMPLIANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

This weekly bulletin compiles a list of standards, compliance, and enforcement projects with actionable deadlines, as well as upcoming events, recently posted resources, other NERC documents posted for comment, and other relevant news and information. Please email [Maureen Murtha](mailto:Maureen.Murtha@nerc.gov) with feedback on this bulletin. The current bulletin and old bulletins are available under “Program News” on both the [Standards home page](#) and the [Compliance & Enforcement home page](#).

REGISTRATION: If you would like to receive this bulletin or be added to a NERC distribution list, you **must** first register an account in the [ERO Portal](#). Once you have registered your ERO Portal account, authenticated your credentials with DUO, and completed your profile, please submit a ticket through the [Help Desk](#) by selecting the “NERC Email Distribution List” option under the Applications menu. In the Description Box, please specify which lists you would like your email address to be added to. If you are unsure of which distribution list –you would like to be added to, an excellent starting point is the “[Committee](#)” page. You can note the committee abbreviation, which represents the distribution list you would like to join, in the Description Box. If you have other NERC-related or specific Standards projects you’re interested in, you may request those as well. If you’re interested in general information, please request to be added to the NERC-info distribution list, which covers most NERC announcements. This bulletin is distributed to several lists, including the Standards distribution list (Standards-specific announcements) and the NERC-info distribution list.