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Reliability Standards Home

Standards Authorization Committee (SAC)

Joint Interface Committee (JIC)

Registered Ballot Body

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NERC Standards Development Bulletin

May 2004

Accelerated Standards Transition Moves Ahead with February 2005 Target

The Standards Authorization Committee (SAC) and the Standards Transition Management Team (STMT) approved a plan to translate existing NERC operating policies, planning standards and compliance templates into a baseline (Version 0) set of reliability standards by February 2005.

The SAC has determined that the Version 0 standards can and should be developed through the existing ANSI-accredited NERC standards process. The transition plan is posted for comment until May 19 as part of a Standard Authorization Request (SAR). All interested parties are requested to comment on the plan by completing the SAR comment form by May 19.

The SAC will announce the formation of a standard drafting team on May 7. An excellent group of candidates were nominated for this team. The drafting team will be tasked with preparing an initial draft of the Version 0 standards for posting by July 2. NERC staff and consultants, as well as several Operating Committee subcommittees have already begun preparing preliminary materials to input to the drafting team to give them a running start.

The Organization Certification Task Force has begun preparing a procedure for use by the Regional Reliability Councils to designate the entities within their region that perform essential reliability functions defined in the Functional Model. The goal is to complete a functional registration by October sufficient to implement the Functional Model in the Version 0 standards.

Cyber Security Standard

On April 7, the SAC authorized the drafting of a permanent Cyber Security Standard (1300). Because this standard will require substantial work that will not be done prior to the August 13, 2004 expiration of the existing Interim Cyber Security Standard (1200), the SAC approved balloting the interim standard for a one-year extension to August 2005.

Standards and SARs Available for Comment

The status of other SARs and proposed standards are

summarized below.

Gerry Cauley , Director – Standards

Reliability Standards Under Development

100	**Coordinate Operations** **Purpose:** To ensure that the operations of each reliability authority (RA) function are coordinated such that they will not have an adverse impact on the reliability of other RAs and to preserve the reliability benefits of interconnected operations. **Status:** The drafting team is considering comments from the first posting of the proposed standard. A second draft of the standard is expected to be ready for posting on June 1.
200	**Operate Within Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits** **Purpose:** The purpose of this standard is to prevent instability, uncontrolled separation or cascading outages that adversely impact the reliability of the bulk transmission system. **Status:** The IROL drafting team will have the next draft of the proposed standard available for ballot in June. The drafting team feels they need clarification on the role of the reliability coordinator versus reliability authority before going to ballot, but will otherwise be ready to post the draft standard on June 1.
300	**Balance Resources and Demand** **Purpose:** To maintain Interconnection scheduled frequency within a predefined frequency profile under all conditions (i.e., normal and abnormal), to prevent unwarranted load shedding and to prevent frequency related cascading collapse of the interconnected grid. **Status:** The drafting team will be ready to post the next version of their standard on June 1, contingent on the results of some testing of the formulas using sample data. If the formulas do not work as expected, the posting of the standard may be postponed.
400	**Coordinate Interchange** **Purpose:** To ensure that the implementation of

	transactions between sink and source balancing authorities are coordinated by the interchange authority such that the following reliability objectives are met: ■ Each interchange schedule is checked for reliability before it is implemented. ■ The balancing authorities implement the Interchange Schedule exactly as agreed upon in the interchange confirmation process. ■ Interchange schedule information is available for reliability assessments. **Status:** Comments from posting of first draft of the standard are under review.
500	**Assess Transmission Future Needs and Develop Transmission Plans** **Purpose:** To establish a standard for assessing and planning transmission systems in North America. The transmission system must be assessed and planned to ensure that it performs its intended functions in providing reliable delivery of power for the future needs of customers. **Status:** The second version of the SAR is ready for posting.
600	**Determine Facility Ratings, Operating Limits, and Transfer Capabilities** **Purpose:** Determine facility ratings, system operating limits and transfer capabilities necessary to plan and operate the bulk electric system within predefined facility and operating limits such that cascading outages, uncontrolled system separation and voltage and transient instability are avoided. **Status:** The drafting team is ready to post the proposed standard for the pre-ballot period, pending clarification of issues regarding the role of the reliability authority versus reliability coordinator and clarification on addressing penalties and sanctions and field testing in the standard.
700	**Define (Physical) Connection Requirements** **Purpose:** To establish a standard for the proper physical connection of generation substations, transmission facilities, and load substations to the

	transmission systems to maintain reliability. **Status:** SAR approved for development. Not started yet.
800	**Design, Install and Coordinate Control and Protection Systems** **Purpose:** To establish a standard for designing, coordinating and installing and maintaining automatic control and protection systems to provide for system performance within pre-defined limits. (For the purpose of this standard, automatic control devices include such facilities as Power System Stabilizers, Static Var Compensators, HVDC Modulation, Out of Step Relaying, etc.) **Status:** SAR approved for development. Not started yet.
900	**Monitor and Analyze Disturbances, Events and Conditions** **Purpose:** To establish a standard for evaluation and reporting of disturbances, events and conditions on the bulk electric system to determine how the power system responded to the events. The analysis is needed to make adjustments and/or modifications to the power system, procedures or standards to reduce the likelihood of an impact of future similar disturbances. **Status:** SAR approved for development. Not started yet.
1000	**Prepare for and Respond to Abnormal or Emergency Conditions** **Purpose:** To establish a consistent, uniformly applied standard for the development, coordination, implementation and maintenance of emergency plans. To require that an executable plan be in place to provide guidance for appropriate operation following conditions that have disrupted normal system operation. **Status:** SAR approved for development. Not started yet.
1100	**Prepare for and Respond to Blackout or Island Conditions** **Purpose:** To establish a consistent, uniformly applied

	standard for the development, coordination, implementation and maintenance of restoration plans. To require that an executable plan be in place to provide guidance for restoration of normal system operation following a blackout or island condition. **Status:** SAR approved for development. Not started yet.
1200	**Cyber Security (Urgent Action)** **Purpose:** To reduce risks to the reliability of the bulk electric systems from any compromise of critical cyber assets. **Status:** SAC approved balloting a one-year extension of the interim standard. Ballot will be conducted in June.
1300	**Cyber Security (Permanent)** **Purpose:** To reduce risks to the reliability of the bulk electric systems from any compromise of critical cyber assets (computers, software and communication networks) that support those systems. **Note:** This standard is intended as a permanent replacement of the urgent action standard addressing the same issue. **Status:** SAC approved moving to drafting of standard. Nominations for drafting team will be requested in May. SAR drafting team will continue working in the interim.
1400	**Certification of the Balancing Authority Function** **Purpose:** To ensure that each entity that wants to be recognized as a balancing authority has the capability of performing the responsibilities assigned to the balancing authority function. **Status:** Draft standard has been posted for comment.
1500	**Certification of the Interchange Authority Function** **Purpose:** To ensure that each entity that wants to be recognized as an interchange authority has the capability of performing the responsibilities assigned to the interchange authority function.

	Status: Standard drafting underway.
1600	**Certification of the Reliability Authority Function** **Purpose:** To ensure that each entity that wants to be recognized as a reliability authority has the capability of performing the responsibilities assigned to the reliability authority function. **Status:** Standard drafting underway.
1700	**Certification of the Transmission Operator Function** **Purpose:** To ensure that each entity that wants to be recognized as a transmission operator has the capability of performing the responsibilities assigned to the transmission operator function. **Status:** Standard drafting underway.
☐	**Amend Standards Process Manual** **Purpose:** The purpose of this SAR is to amend the NERC Reliability Standards Process Manual to remove the requirement that all modifications to the process manual be accomplished through the standards process (i.e. initiate SAR, collect industry comment, ballot etc). The SAC believes that certain parts of the process manual, (those dealing with process or procedures) should be changed by SAC, with approval by the Board of Trustees, and other parts (those dealing with fundamental tenets of the process) should only be changed with stakeholder recommendation and approval by the Board of Trustees. This SAR will allow needed changes to be made with less burden on the industry and without confusing process manual changes with standards development. **Status:** Drafting team is preparing consideration of comments on the SAR and is preparing a draft revision to the manual for posting in May.
☐	**Reliability Standards Process Manual - Revision to Step 2** **Purpose:** To extend the public comment period for Step 2 (Solicit Public Comments on the SAR) of the Reliability Standards. The current 30 day response period does not provide adequate time for some Regional Councils and others to circulate the

announced SARs; to draft Regional comments and positions; circulate those comments to appropriate committees and then meet with those committees to discuss, revise and approve a final position. To date, the comment periods have been extended to accommodate the lack of responses. Part of this may be educational, but a part of this lack of response is the lack of discussion time. Step 2 - Solicitation of Public Comments: the comment period must be increased to a minimum of 60 days. Other comment periods (e.g., Balloting periods) of less than 60 days should also be considered for extensions to at least 60 days.

Status: Comments under review.

This bulletin is intended to provide recipients with the latest news concerning the development of NERC reliability standards. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on how we can improve our bulletin, please contact Gerry Cauley at Gerry.Cauley@nerc.net.

North American Electric Reliability Council
116-390 Village Boulevard · Princeton, New Jersey 08540
609-452-8060 (Voice) · 609-452-9550 (Fax) · info@nerc.com (E-mail)