



# AESO Reliability Standards Monthly Report

September 2010

## **CIP-002-4 - Cyber Security — Critical Cyber Asset Identification**

### **Purpose:**

Draft 2 Standard, posted for comment and ballot.

### **Current Standard:**

CIP-002-3 was approved by the NERC BOT on December 19, 2009.

### **Proposed Standard:**

The proposed CIP-002-4 is written to improve on CIP-002-3 by including a specific list of criteria for entities to use in identifying their critical assets.

The previously approved versions of CIP-002 relied on entities to develop their own critical asset identification methodology, and have led to unequal assessments of critical assets between entities in a region, and between regions. This subjectivity has led some external observers to question how assessments were produced, and has contributed to distrust of the entire critical asset identification process. The revised standard provides uniformity to the critical asset identification process for all entities as well as uniformity and predictability to the audit process. As envisioned, each entity will apply the criteria against its assets to determine exactly which side of the "bright-line" they fall. The bright-line thresholds are justified based on overall impact to Bulk Electric System reliability, adding further clarity to the critical asset identification process. The bright-line criteria were developed based on stakeholder comments on CIP-010.

### **Applicability:**

Reliability Coordinator, Balancing Authority, Interchange Authority, Transmission Service Provider, Transmission Operator, Transmission Owner, Generator Operator, Generator Owner, Load-Serving Entity, Regional Entity, NERC

### **Current Status:**

The draft standard is posted for comment until Nov 3. A ballot will be held during the last 10 days of the posting.

### **NERC Link:**

[Critical Cyber Asset Identification](#)