



**NERC, WECC and ARC
Reliability Standards Activities
Monthly Report – December 2008**

This report gives an overview of the AESO activities dealing with the NERC and WECC standards that are posted for review, comment or balloting. The AESO consults with internal subject matter experts, members of the AESO Reliability Committee Working Groups and the Standards Review Committee (SRC) of the ISO/RTO Council when responding to NERC and WECC on the standards. The report also includes a summary of [Alberta Reliability Committee \(ARC\)](#) and its Working Groups activities.

Click on a Standard Activity to get information on recent developments.

Developer	Standard Activities	Name/Description	Purpose	Status	Due Date
NERC	IRO-006-5	Transmission Loading Relief	Revised Standard Draft 1	Comment Period	Dec. 1, 2008
NERC	MOD-030-2	Flowgate Methodology	Revised Standard Draft 1	Ballot Period Ended	Dec. 10, 2008
NERC	TOP-002-2	Normal Operations Planning	Request for Interpretation	Recirculation Ballot Period Ended	Dec. 19, 2008
NERC	FAC-008-2	Facility Ratings Methodology	Revised Standard Draft 4	Recirculation Ballot Period Ended	Dec. 19, 2008
NERC	PER-005-1	System Personnel Training	Revised Standard Draft 5	Recirculation Ballot Period Ended	Dec. 22, 2008
NERC	CIP-006-1a	Physical Security of Critical Cyber Assets	Request for Interpretation	Pre-Ballot Review	Dec. 30, 2008
NERC	CIP-002-2 to 009-2	Cyber Security	Revised Standards Draft 1	Comment Period	Jan. 5, 2009

NERC Standards Development page is on-line at:

http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Reliability_Standards_Under_Development.html

WECC Standards Development page is on-line at:

<http://www.wecc.biz/index.php?module=pnForum&func=viewforum&forum=1>

NERC Reliability Standards

IRO-006-5 – Transmission Loading Relief

Purpose:

Revised Standard, Draft 1 posted for comment

Current Standard:

IRO-006-4 has been in effect since October 23, 2007.

Proposed Standard:

This is the third of three phases of Project 2006-08: Reliability Coordination — Transmission Loading Relief. The first phase, the split of the IRO-006-3 and its associated Attachment 1 into NERC and North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) standards, was approved by the NERC Board of Trustees and filed with regulatory authorities in 2007. The second phase, which is intended to address any needed modifications to the standards based on the PJM, MISO, and SPP waivers, is currently undergoing field testing. This third phase is intended to improve the quality of the standards. As part of the modifications, IRO-006-4 is scheduled to be retired.

Applicability:

Reliability Coordinators

Current Status:

Posted for comment until December 1, 2008. The AESO submitted comments to NERC on this standard as part of the ISO/RTO Standards Review Committee. They can be viewed at the link below.

NERC Link:

<http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Reliability-Coordination-Transmission-Loading-Relief.html>

MOD-030-2 - Flowgate Methodology

Purpose:

Revised Standard, posted ballot.

Current Standard:

MOD-030-1 was recently approved by the NERC ballot pool.

Proposed Standard:

This new version of the standard was developed based on stakeholder comments submitted with the initial ballot of MOD-030-1 conducted July 21–30, 2008. The drafting team's responses to the comments submitted with the ballots for this standard are posted for stakeholder review. MOD-030-1 will continue through the recirculation ballot process at the same time this new version of the standard goes through the standards development process. As envisioned, the new version of MOD-030-2 will be approved by its ballot pool and filed for regulatory approval before MOD-030-1 becomes effective. Requirements 2 and 11 of MOD-030-1 will be modified.

Applicability:

Transmission Operators and Transmission Service Providers that use the Flowgate Methodology. The AESO does not use the Flowgate Methodology.

Current Status:

Ballot period ended December 10. The AESO cast an Abstain ballot as we do not use the Flowgate methodology. The ballot body voted 86.5% for approval but there were negative votes with comments so there will be a recirculation ballot.

NERC Link:

<http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/MOD-V0-Revision.html>

TOP-002-2 – Normal Operations Planning

Purpose:

Request for Interpretation (RFI).

Standard:

The standard addresses current operations plans and procedures that are essential to being prepared for reliable operations, including response for unplanned events.

The Orlando Utilities Commission RFI is on TOP-002-2, R11.

The request asks:

1. Is the Transmission Operator required to conduct a "unique" study for each operating day, even when the actual or expected system conditions are identical to other days already studied? In other words, can a study be used for more than one day?
2. Are there specific actions required to implement a "study"? In other words, what constitutes a study?
3. Does the term, "to determine SOLs" as used in the first sentence of Requirement 11 mean the "determination of system operating limits" or does it mean the "identification of potential SOL violations"?

Applicability:

Balancing Authorities, Transmission Operators, Generation Operators, Load Serving Entities, Transmission Service Providers

Current Status:

The interpretation was posted for recirculation ballot until Dec. 19, 2008 and was approved by the ballot pool. The AESO voted in favour of the interpretation.

NERC Link:

http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2008-13_TOP-002_Interpretation_OUC.html

FAC-008-2 – Facility Ratings

Purpose:

Revised Standard, Draft 4, posted for recirculation ballot.

Current Standard:

There are two Facility Ratings standards, FAC-008-1 and FAC-009-1, being modified into one to address concerns raised by FERC and industry stakeholders.

Proposed Standard:

The Facility Ratings standard is undergoing modifications to address the directives in FERC Order 693. The purpose of the standard is to ensure that Facility Ratings used in the reliable planning and operation of the bulk electric system are determined based on technically sound principles.

Applicability:

Transmission Owners, Generation Owners

Current Status:

The recirculation ballot period ended December 19, 2008 and was not approved by the ballot body with, only 57% in favour. The AESO voted in favour of the proposed standard with a comment stating our concern over R. 7, which was the reason for most negative votes. The drafting team is considering its next steps.

NERC Link to FAC-008-2:

http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Facility_Ratings_Project_2006-09.html

PER-005-1 – System Personnel Training

Purpose:

Revised Standard, Draft 5, posted for recirculation ballot.

Current Standard:

This is a new standard that will replace PER-002 and parts of PER-004.

Proposed Standard:

This standard will ensure that System Operators performing real-time, reliability-related tasks on the North American Bulk Electric System are competent to perform those tasks. The competency of system operators is critical to the reliability of the North American Bulk Electric System. The Standard will set the minimum acceptable requirements for the development, implementation and maintenance of initial and continuing System Personnel Training programs.

Applicability:

Balancing Authorities, Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Operators

Current Status:

Recirculation ballot ended December 22 and was approved by the ballot pool. The AESO voted in favour of the proposed standard.

NERC Link:

<http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/System-Personnel-Training.html>

CIP-006-1a - Physical Security of Critical Cyber Assets

Purpose:

Request for Interpretation.

Standard:

The US Army Corps of Engineers requested an interpretation to clarify requirements for monitoring and logging physical access referenced in Requirement R4.

R4. Logging Physical Access — Logging shall record sufficient information to uniquely identify individuals and the time of access twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The Responsible Entity shall implement and document the technical and procedural mechanisms for logging physical entry at all access points to the Physical Security Perimeter(s) using one or more of the following logging methods or their equivalent:

R4.1. Computerized Logging: Electronic logs produced by the Responsible Entity's selected access control and monitoring method.

R4.2. Video Recording: Electronic capture of video images of sufficient quality to determine identity.

R4.3. Manual Logging: A log book or sign-in sheet, or other record of physical access maintained by security or other personnel authorized to control and monitor physical access as specified in Requirement R2.3.

Request and Interpretation:

Q1) For physical access control to cyber assets, does this include monitoring when an individual leaves the controlled access cyber area?

NERC Interpretation: No, monitoring and logging of access are only required for ingress at this time.

Q2) Does the term, "time of access" mean logging when the person entered the facility or does it mean logging the entry/exit time and "length" of time the person had access to the critical asset?

NERC Interpretation: The term "time of access" refers to the time an authorized individual enters the physical security perimeter.

Applicability:

Balancing Authorities, Reliability Coordinators, Load-Serving Entities

Current Status:

The interpretation is posted for Pre-ballot review until Dec. 30, 2008, which will be followed by a 10 day ballot period.

NERC Link:

http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2008-15_ Interpretation_CIP-006-1a_US_Army_COE.html

CIP-002-2 to 009-2 – Cyber Security

Purpose:

Revised Standard, Draft 1 posted for comment

Current Standard:

The current cyber standards are essentially Version 0 standards modified into mandatory reliability standards. FERC Order 706 requires that numerous changes be made to these 8 standards. The new version addresses the FREC Order.

Proposed Standard:

This set of revisions in this project includes:

- Modifying the standards so they conform to the latest approved versions of the ERO Rules of Procedure as outlined in the Standard Review Guidelines identified in Attachment 1.
- Addressing the directives issued by FERC, in Order 706 relative to the approved Cyber Security Standards CIP-002-1 through CIP-009-1. Refer to <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2008/011708/E-2.pdf> for the complete text of the final order. Specific requirements from the Order are identified in Attachment 2.
 - Emphasis on Order 706 directive for NERC to address revisions to the CIP standards considering applicable feature of the NIST Security Risk Management Framework among other resources.
- Incorporating clarifications from the Interpretation of CIP-006-1 Requirement 1.1.

Applicability:

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

Current Status:

Posted for comment until January 5, 2009.

NERC Link:

http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project_2008-06_Cyber_Security.html

WECC Reliability Standards

There are currently no WECC Standards posted for comment.

AESO Reliability Committee (ARC)

The ARC last met on Dec 2. Presentations were made by the AESO on filing Reliability Standards with AUC under T-Reg section 19 and on the Stakeholder consultation plan for T-Reg Section 23 – compliance monitoring and enforcement. EOP-003 and EOP-004 were recommended by the OWG to be adopted and ARC accepted the recommendation. The AESO presented the 2009/2010 standards work plan. The next meeting is scheduled for March 2009.

The T-Reg Section 23 presentation from the meeting is available at:

<http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15409.html>

ARC Operations Work Group

The OWG met last on November 14. The OWG reviewed the drafts prepared by the AESO for Alberta Reliability Standards EOP-003-AB-1 and EOP-004-AB-1. Revisions were sent to the OWG members with the opportunity to comment until Nov. 28. It was agreed that the AESO will prepare the revision documents for PRC-009-0, PRC-010-0, PRC-021-1 and PRC-022-1 for the next scheduled meeting in February 2009. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15411.html>

ARC Technical Work Group

The TWG met on December 9. FAC-001-0 and 002-0 were reviewed by the group. It was determined that PRC-002-1 applies to the WECC and there is no need for the WG to review the standard. The WG started the Alberta rewrite of FAC-501-WECC-1. The next meeting is scheduled for February 2009. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15412.html>

ARC Transmission Planning Work Group

The TPWG last met on September 10. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Q1 2009. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15413.html>

ARC Security Work Group

The Security Working Group met on November 9 and 27. The SWG is reviewing CIP-001-1 in order to adapt it to the Alberta model. A key component of the standard is defining exactly what “sabotage” is and the group reached a consensus after the meeting on the 9th. On the 27th the WG began adapting the NERC requirements to fit the Alberta Model. This will be continued at the next meeting in January. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15979.html>

Compliance Work Group

The CWG met on December 10, 2008. The AESO gave an update on the outcomes of the most recent ARC meeting and presented the high level plan to address Section 23 of the T-Reg. The next meeting will be in January 2009. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/16400.html>

Standards Review Committee (SRC) of the ISO/RTO Council

The SRC holds biweekly teleconferences and quarterly meetings to discuss and review the current NERC standards posted for review and to draft a group response to them.

Comments/Questions

If you have any comments or questions about the Reliability Standards listed here or have a comment to submit to NERC or WECC on a Reliability Standard that you would like the AESO to consider, please contact either:

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