



**NERC, WECC and ARC  
Reliability Standards Activities  
Monthly Report – October 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.

<b>Developer</b>	<b>Standard Activities</b>	<b>Name/Description</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
NERC	<a href="#">EOP-008-1</a>	Backup Facilities	Revised Standard Draft 2	Comment Period Ended	Oct. 9, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">EOP-002-2</a>	Capacity and Energy Emergencies	Request for Interpretation	Re-ballot Period Ended	Oct. 24, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">TOP-002-2</a>	Normal Operations Planning	Request for Interpretation	Ballot Period Ended	Oct. 30, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">Request for Input</a>	Generator Owner/Operator - Transmission Owner/Operator Interface	Stakeholder Input	Comment Period Ended	Oct. 30, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">PER-005-1</a>	System Personnel Training	Revised Standard Draft 5	Ballot Period	Nov. 5, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">FAC-008-2</a>	Facility Ratings Methodology	Revised Standard Draft 4	Ballot Period	Nov. 5, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">MOD-004-1</a>	Capacity Benefit Margin	Revised Standard Draft 3	Re-circulation Ballot	Nov. 06, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">EOP-005-2</a> <a href="#">EOP-006-2</a>	System Restoration and Blackstart	Revised Standard Draft 4	Comment Period	Nov. 18, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">TOP-001-2</a> <a href="#">TOP-002-2</a> <a href="#">TOP-003-1</a> <a href="#">TOP-004-3</a>	Real-Time Operations	Revised Standard Draft 1	Comment Period	Nov. 20, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">FAC-003-2</a>	Vegetation Management	Revised Standard Draft 1	Comment Period	Nov. 25, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">MOD-030-2</a>	Flowgate Methodology	Revised Standard Draft 1	Pre-ballot review	Nov. 26, 2008
NERC	<a href="#">IRO-006-5</a>	Transmission Loading Relief	Revised Standard Draft 1	Comment Period	Dec. 1, 2008
WECC	<a href="#">Multiple Standards</a>	Seven WECC Tier 1 standards	NERC BOT Approval Process	NERC Staff Recommendation	Oct. 16, 2008

NERC Standards Development page is on-line at:

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Reliability\\_Standards\\_Under\\_Development.html](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

## **EOP-008-1 – Backup Facilities**

Purpose:

Revised Standard, Draft 2, posted for comment.

Current Standard:

The current standard is Version 0 and was adopted from the non-mandatory standards.

Proposed Standard:

In the first draft, the drafting team made many changes to this “Version 0” standard to add more specificity to the requirements and to address issues raised by FERC in Order 693. The second draft of EOP-008-1 includes significant changes based on comments received from the industry, such as the following:

- A revision to the applicability of the Transmission Operator. This was done to attempt to eliminate the burden on a Transmission Operator that just has a radial connection to the Bulk Electric System under 200 kV unless the Regional Entity deems them as a critical part of the Interconnection.
- Changing the transition time periods so that they are equivalent for all applicable entities.
- A short description of what needs to be in the Operating Process for the transition time period.

The second draft also includes Violation Risk Factors, Time Horizons, Measures, Compliance elements, including Violation Severity Levels, and an Implementation Plan.

Applicability:

Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Operators, Balancing Authorities

Current Status:

Was posted for comment until Oct. 9, 2008. The AESO submitted comments 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/Backup\\_Facilities.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Backup_Facilities.html)

## **EOP-002-2– Capacity and Energy Emergencies**

Purpose:

Request for Interpretation.

Standard:

Brookfield Power submitted a Request for an Interpretation of EOP-002-2 — Capacity and Energy Emergencies. The request asked for clarification about the treatment of export transactions during emergency operations.

The request for interpretation asked if, to assist in complying with Control Performance and Disturbance Control Standards, Requirement R6.3 requires curtailment of non-firm exports when interruptible load is curtailed while R7.1 requires curtailment of firm exports when firm load is curtailed.

The revised interpretation clarifies that when considering actions to be taken to comply with EOP-002-2 Requirement R6.3, it is intended that all exports, firm and non-firm, are available for curtailment with the exception of those exports designated as network resources for an external Balancing Authority. If a capacity or energy emergency still exists after all exports have been curtailed with the exception of those related to a network resource designated to an external Balancing Authority, then EOP-002-2 Requirement R7.1 would take effect and firm load would be shed while the designated network resource transaction would continue to flow.

Applicability:

Balancing Authorities, Reliability Coordinators, Load-Serving Entities

Current Status:

The revised interpretation was posted for re-ballot until Oct. 24, 2008, because the original ballot did not reach a quorum. The AESO cast an Affirmative ballot on the interpretation in the original ballot. There were negative ballots with comments cast in the re-ballot, so the interpretation will go to re-circulation ballot after the SDT reviews and responds to the comments.

NERC Link:

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/EOP-002-2\\_ Interpretation\\_Brookfield\\_Power\\_2008-07.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/EOP-002-2_ Interpretation_Brookfield_Power_2008-07.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 ballot until Oct. 30, 2008. The AESO voted in favour of the interpretation.

NERC Link:

<http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Project2008-13 TOP-002 Interpretation OUC.html>

**Request for Input - Generator Owner/Operator - Transmission Owner/Operator Interface**

Purpose:

NERC Request for Input.

Background:

NERC is seeking stakeholder input to determine an appropriate long-term approach to the applicability of transmission owner/operator (TO/TOP) reliability standard requirements to generator owner/operators (GO/GOP) by virtue of their interconnection facilities to the bulk electric grid. There has been considerable industry concern over this issue that has manifested itself, in part, in GO/GOP appeals to be included on NERC's Compliance Registry as a TO/TOP. In this regard, NERC requests your input to help shape the issues and identify potential courses of action to better address the long-term issues in NERC's Reliability Standards.

Current Status:

The comment period ended October 30, 2008. The AESO submitted comments on its own and as part of the Standards Review Committee of the ISO/RTO Council. Both sets of comments are available using the link below.

NERC Link to the Request for Input:  
[http://www.nerc.com/news\\_pr.php?npr=173](http://www.nerc.com/news_pr.php?npr=173)

**PER-005-1 – System Personnel Training**

Purpose:  
Revised Standard, Draft 5, posted for 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:  
The ballot period is open until November 5, 2008. The AESO plans to vote in favour of the proposed standard.

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

**FAC-008-2 – Facility Ratings**

Purpose:  
Revised Standard, Draft 4, posted for 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 ballot period is open until November 5, 2008. The AESO is currently reviewing the standard.

NERC Link to FAC-008-2:  
[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Facility\\_Ratings\\_Project\\_2006-09.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Facility_Ratings_Project_2006-09.html)

**MOD-004-1 – Capacity Benefit Margin**

Purpose:  
Revised standard, posted for recirculation ballot.

Current Standard:

MOD-004 — Capacity Benefit Margin — A standard that describes the requesting, calculation, and use of CBM.

Proposed Standard:

This standard addresses the reliability aspects of determining and maintaining a Capacity Benefit Margin and the conditions under which that margin may be used.

The ballot for this standard includes the retirement of the following associated approved standards:

- MOD-005-0 — Procedure for Verifying CBM Values
- MOD-006-0 — Procedures for the Use of Capacity Benefit Margin Values
- MOD-007-0 — Documentation of the Use of Capacity Benefit Margin

Applicability:

Load-Serving Entities, Resource Planners, Transmission Service Providers, Balancing Authorities, Transmission Planners

Current Status:

Re-circulation ballot period is open until Nov. 6, 2008. The AESO cast an “Abstain” ballot in the original vote, as we do not use CBM in Alberta, and will maintain that position.

NERC Link:

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

**EOP-005-2 and EOP-006-2 – System Restoration and Black Start**

Purpose:

Revised Standard, Draft 4 posted for comment.

Current Standards:

Currently EOP-005-1, EOP-006-1, EOP-007-0 and EOP-009-0 are in effect.

Proposed Standards:

Once finalized the 4 current standards will be revised into EOP-005-2 and EOP-006-2.

The proposed revised standards include many significant changes, including re-assignment of requirements that had been assigned to the Regional Reliability Organization, identification of the specific elements that must be contained in a system restoration plan, and the introduction of a new term “blackstart resource” along with a recommendation to retire the term “blackstart capability plan.”

The System Restoration and Blackstart Standard Drafting Team has responded to all comments submitted for the third draft. In addition to reviewing the most recent comments, the drafting team has carefully reviewed all prior comments and FERC Order 693. The drafting team did this complete review as part of its process to make the fourth draft as near final as possible.

Applicability:

Transmission Operators, Generator Operators, Transmission Owners, Distribution Providers, Reliability Coordinators

Current Status:

Posted for comment until November 18, 2008.

NERC Link:

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/System\\_Restoration\\_Blackstart.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/System_Restoration_Blackstart.html)

## **TOP-001-2, TOP-002-3, TOP-003-1 and TOP-004-3 – Real-Time Operations**

### **Purpose:**

Revised Standards, Draft 1 posted for comment.

### **Current Standards:**

TOP-001-1 Reliability Responsibilities and Authorities  
TOP-002-2 Normal Operations Planning  
TOP-003-0 Planned Outage Coordination  
TOP-004-1 Transmission Operations  
TOP-005-1 Operational Reliability Information  
TOP-006-1 Monitoring System Conditions  
TOP-007-0 Reporting Sol and IROL Violations  
TOP-008-0 Response to Transmission Violations  
PER-001-0 Operating Personnel Responsibility and Authority  
The nine standards will be revised into four.

### **Proposed Standards:**

The drafting team has attempted to eliminate redundancy in the Transmission Operations (TOP) family of standards. As part of this process, the drafting team has made an effort to reorganize the standards and requirements in a more logical manner. In addition, the drafting team has supplied a complete set of Violation Risk Factors, Time Horizons, Measures, and Compliance elements including Violation Severity Levels. An Implementation Plan has been provided on the NREC site to show the timeframe for compliance.

### **Applicability:**

Balancing Authorities, Transmission Operators, Transmission Owners, Generator Operators, Generator Owners, Distribution Providers, Load-Serving Entities, Balancing Authorities, Interchange Authorities

### **Current Status:**

Posted for comment until November 20, 2008.

### **NERC Link:**

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Real-time Operations Project 2007-03.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Real-time_Operations_Project_2007-03.html)

## **FAC-003-2 - Vegetation Management**

### **Purpose:**

Revised Standard, Draft 1 posted for comment

### **Current Standard:**

FAC-003-1 has been in effect since June 1, 2007.

### **Proposed Standard:**

The standard drafting team revised the vegetation management standard in accordance with the Standard Authorization Request, which reflects comments from the FERC Order 693 and from stakeholders as well as procedural updates.

### **Applicability:**

Transmission Owner, Reliability Coordinator

### **Current Status:**

Posted for comment until November 25, 2008.

### **NERC Link:**

[http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Vegetation-Management Project 2007-7.html](http://www.nerc.com/filez/standards/Vegetation-Management_Project_2007-7.html)

## **MOD-030-2 - Flowgate Methodology**

### **Purpose:**

Revised Standard, posted for pre-ballot review

### **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:**

Posted for pre-ballot review until Nov. 26, 2008. The AESO will not be commenting on this standard as it not used in Alberta.

### **NERC Link:**

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

## **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.

### **NERC Link:**

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

## **WECC Reliability Standards**

On October 16, 2008, WECC received NERC Staff's evaluation of the WECC Tier 1 Reliability Standards. In their evaluation, NERC Staff recommends that the NERC Board of Trustees (BOT) approve, with

conditions, five of the seven WECC Tier 1 standards and recommends that the NERC BOT reject the following:

1. BAL-002-WECC-1 Contingency Reserves; and
2. IRO-006-WECC-1 Qualified Transfer Path Unscheduled Flow (USF) Relief.

Approval of the WECC Tier 1 Reliability Standards is on the agenda for NERC BOT meeting on October 29, 2008. WECC will submit a written response to NERC Staff's evaluation prior to the NERC BOT and will formally request, at that meeting, that the NERC BOT approve all seven WECC Tier 1 Standards as submitted.

WECC will post its response on the WECC website, <http://www.wecc.biz>, following submission to the NERC BOT.

At the October 29 meeting noted above, FAC-501-WECC-1, PRC-004-WECC-1, TOP-007-WECC-1, VAR-002-WECC-1, and VAR-005-WECC-1 were approved by the NERC BOT, as well as BAL-002-WECC-1. The BOT decided to defer a decision on the one remaining standard, IRO-006-WECC-1 ("Unscheduled Flow Relief Standard") to allow NERC and WECC Staffs time to provide more information.

## **Standards**

There are currently no WECC Standards posted for comment.

## **AESO Reliability Committee (ARC)**

The ARC last met on September 25. The agenda and a presentation are available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15409.html>

## **ARC Operations Work Group**

The OWG last met on September 12. The next meeting is scheduled for November 14. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15411.html>

## **ARC Technical Work Group**

The TWG met on September 11. The next meeting is scheduled for December 9. 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 December. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15413.html>

## **ARC Security Work Group**

The Security Working Group held its second meeting on October 9. 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. The WG worked on the definition and expect to finalize it at the next meeting on November 6. Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/15979.html>

## **Compliance Work Group**

The Compliance Work Group met on October 15.

The group discussed the Compliance Monitoring Implementation Plan and held its kick-off discussion on:

- Templates
- Schedules

- Tools
- Registration Process

Work Group information is available at: <http://www.aeso.ca/rulesprocedures/16400.html>

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

The IESO (the ISO in Ontario) hosted the quarterly face-to-face meeting. Anita Lee and Mark Thompson represented the AESO at the meeting. Current NAESB activities were reviewed by Ed Skiba of MISO. Current NERC postings were discussed by the group, including most of the Standards listed in this document. The SRC will be preparing responses for many of them. NERC items were then reviewed including the RLC letter on NERC hearings, NUC Standards Order 716, the NERC Budget Order and the FAC Standards Order.

The SRC Chair, Charles Yeung of SPP, reminded the group that his term was coming to an end and that the process to choose his successor should begin.

### **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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