



# AESO Reliability Standards Monthly Report

August 2009

## Violation Severity Levels – Eight Sets of Standards

### Purpose:

Posting of revised VSLs.

### Current Standards:

The current standards use terminology that is not acceptable to FERC.

### Proposed Standards:

In its June 19, 2008 VSL Order, FERC directed NERC to review all Violation Severity Level assignments, (with the exception of those for which the Commission directed specific modification), for compliance with the following Guidelines 2b, 3, and 4 and submit a compliance filing either validating the current Violation Severity Level assignments or proposing revision.

- Guideline 2b — VSLs should not use ambiguous terms such as "minor" or "significant" to describe noncompliant performance.
- Guideline 3 — VSLs should be consistent with the corresponding requirement (VSLs should not expand on what is in the requirement).
- Guideline 4 — VSLs should be based on a single violation, not on a cumulative number of violations (unless stated otherwise in the requirement).

The VSL DT posted eight sets of proposed VSLs for stakeholder comment from April 1–30, 2009.

Each of the eight sets of VSLs covers several standards as identified below:

- **BAL**  
BAL-001 through BAL-006
- **CIP, COM, and VAR**  
CIP-001  
COM-001, COM-002  
VAR-001, VAR-002
- **FAC and MOD**  
FAC-001, FAC-002, FAC-003, FAC-008, FAC-009, and FAC-013  
MOD-006, MOD-007, MOD-010, MOD-012 and MOD-016 through MOD-021
- **INT, PER, and NUC**  
INT-001, INT-003 through INT-010  
PER-001 through PER-004  
NUC-001
- **IRO**  
IRO-001 through IRO-006 and IRO-014 through IRO-016
- **PRC**  
PRC-001, PRC-004, PRC-005, PRC-007 through PRC-011, PRC-015 through PRC-018, PRC-021, and PRC-022
- **TOP**  
TOP-001 through TOP-008
- **TPL**  
TPL-001 through TPL-004



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**Applicability:**

All NERC defined entities are covered by one or more of the standards.

**Current Status:**

Posted for recirculation ballot until August 27, 2009. The AESO cast an abstain ballot as the VSLs for these standards will be written in Alberta for the Alberta versions of the standards. The VSLs were approved by the ballot body.

**NERC Link:**

[VSLs for Eight Sets of Standards](#)