Feb. 1, 2024

To: ReliabilityFirst Compliance Contacts
Subject: RF Compliance Program Update Letter – February 2024

NEW! Proposed Revisions to NERC Rules of Procedure to Register Material Bulk Power System connected, non-Bulk Electric System, Inverter-Based Resources

NERC posted proposed revisions to Appendix 5B (Compliance Registry Criteria) of the NERC Rules of Procedure (ROP) as well as conforming revisions to Appendices 2 (Definitions) and 5A (Organization Registration and Certification Manual). The proposed revisions will be considered at the upcoming February meeting of the NERC Board of Trustees. The proposed revisions were developed in response to a FERC directive to register owners and operators of inverter-based resources (IBR) that are connected to and have a material impact in the aggregate to the bulk power system but are not currently required to register with NERC under the bulk electric system (BES) definition. This posting also includes revisions to the Reserve Sharing Group definition to conform with those being developed in Reliability Standard Project 2022-01 – Reporting ACE Definition and Associated Terms (Project 2022-01). For full details, please see the [Summary of Revisions](#).

NEW! SEL Release Notes Posted

During the January 25, 2024, maintenance outage, the SEL system deployed modifications to correct existing functionality or to improve user experience. The modifications included expanding the reference ID field on the SEL submission portal page; creation of a failed submission notification email; the inclusion of the validation reference ID in the submission confirmation email.

Release Notes provide details on the specific changes and indicate the users affected, as well as if any training materials need to be modified. The detailed release notes can be found on the [Align and SEL web page](#) under the Release Materials section.

NEW! ERO Enterprise 101 Informational Package and Entity Onboarding Checklist Revisions

The ERO Enterprise has updated the ERO Enterprise 101 Informational Package and Entity Onboarding Checklist to reflect recently updated Section 1600 data reporting information.

ERO Enterprise 101 Informational Package

ERO Enterprise Entity Onboarding Checklist

Section 1600 Reporting Requirements Listed by Function				
Reporting Type[41]	Description	Required Reporting For	Access Needed	Contact E-mail
Demand Response Availability Data System (DADS)	DADS reporting has been temporarily suspended. Data collection is still required. See DADS suspension notice.	BA, DP	Application TBD	dads@nerc.net
Generation Availability Data System (GADS)	Mandatory quarterly reporting of generator performance and outage data for conventional generating units that are 20 MW and larger, including smaller units that are aggregated	GO	OATI NERC web Portal	gads@nerc.net
Generation Availability Data System Wind (GADS Wind)	Mandatory quarterly reporting of generator performance data for wind plants that are 75 MW and larger	GO	OATI Digital Certificate	gadswind@nerc.net
Generation Availability Data System Solar (GADS Solar)	Mandatory quarterly reporting of generator performance data for solar plants that are 20 MW and larger	GO	OATI Digital Certificate	gadssolar@nerc.net
Geomagnetic Disturbance Data (GMD)	Mandatory annual reporting of GMD device information and GMD event data, or indicating that the entity does not have GMD equipment	GO, TO	ERO Portal, GMD permission(s)	gmd@nerc.net
Misoperations Information Data Analysis System (MIDAS)	Mandatory quarterly reporting of protection system operation and misoperation data for BES elements or indicating that the entity does not have MIDAS equipment	DP, GO, TO	ERO Portal, MIDAS permission(s)	midas@nerc.net
Transmission Availability Data System (TADS)	Mandatory quarterly reporting of transmission line and transformer outage data for BES elements 100 kV or greater	TO	OATI NERC web Portal	tads@nerc.net

Monthly Technical Talk with RF Call

The next Tech Talk with RF will be held on Monday, Feb. 12, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. EST.

February 2024 Technical Talk with RF: State Policy Edition

Monday, February 12, 2024, 2:00 PM | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Join link:

https://reliabilityfirst.webex.com/reliabilityfirst/j.php?MTID=m540647ba7ba6208cf8653eea088c565d

Webinar number: 2302 215 1701

Webinar password: 0123456 (0123456 from phones and video systems)

Join by phone:1-650-479-3207 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

Access code: 230 221 51701

Please join us on Slido.com using #TechTalkRF as the event code.

Agenda Topics

Disruptive Energy Futures

Amory Lovins, Co-founder, and Chairman Emeritus, RMI

- Amory will share his thoughts on the great energy transition, socio-economic impacts, and how new technologies and fuel sources may be a part of the grid of the future, plus the role of distributed energy resources.

Update on FERC Activities

Eric Vandenberg, Deputy Director, Office of Electric Reliability, FERC

- Eric will discuss key priorities for FERC's Office of Electric Reliability, including work relating to resource/energy adequacy, priority system attributes and inverter-based resources.

Save the Date! RF Fall Reliability and Security Summit, Sept. 17-18

Formerly known as the Fall Workshop, next year's Fall Reliability and Security Summit will take place **Sept. 17-18** at the vibrant Conrad Indianapolis (50 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204). Please save the date, mark your calendars, and stay tuned for additional information on topics and agendas.

Save the Dates! 2024 RF Protection System and Human Performance Workshops

Please mark your calendars for the 2024 RF Protection System and Human Performance Workshops. that will be held Aug. 7-8 at the RF offices in Independence, Ohio. The agenda and registration information will be made available closer to the meeting dates.

NEW! 2024 System Operator Conferences being offered by SERC

The SERC System Operator Working Group (SOWG) is pleased to announce the 2024 System Operator Conference (SOC) locations and dates. The planning for 2024 SOCs is well under way and registration links are below. The theme for 2024 is **"Securing the Grid of the Future"** and those who complete it will earn up to **19 continuing education hours (CEHs) (Operating)** depending upon which conference you attend. The topics for 2024 include **9 hours of classroom instruction** on:

- Winter Storm Elliott,
- NERC Reliability Standards,
- Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) - physical/cyber risks to the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO),
- Electricity Information Sharing Analysis Center (E-ISAC) industry trends and operator engagement,
- Enhancing operator understanding of transmission loading reliefs (TLRs),
- CIP and the impact to Human Performance,
- Lessons Learned, and
- Black Start Operations.

Additionally, there are **10 hours of hands-on simulation exercises.**

2024 SOC fees:
- $495 for In-person attendance for - 19 CEHs.
- $695 for a virtual attendance option to Conference #3 for 19 CEHs. A separate account provided with this registration allows learners to work at their own pace and receive 10 CEHs (part of the 19) for simulation hours.
- $330 for a virtual attendance option to Conferences #3 for 9 CEHs. This option is for those learners who do not need simulation hours.

Dates and Locations for 2024 SOCs:

Please register as soon as you can; space may be limited at certain locations. We are looking forward to seeing everyone.

- ➢ **SOC #1: April 9-11, 2024,** at Embassy Suites, **Greenville, SC**
  - o Registration Link: [2024 SOC #1 Event Details](#)
- ➢ **SOC #2: May 21-23, 2024,** at Embassy Suites, **Lexington, KY**
  - o Registration Link: [2024 SOC #2 Event Details](#)
- ➢ **SOC #3: October 15-17, 2024,** at Embassy Suites, **Tampa, FL (Hybrid Option)**
  - o Registration Link: [2024 SOC #3 Event Details](#)

Important! NERC Registration Information You Need to Know

Notification of Additional Changes in Status

Section 501.1.3.5 of NERC's Rules of Procedure requires the **registered entity to notify NERC through its corresponding Regional Entity of any changes in registration, ownership, corporate structure, or similar matters that affect the entity's responsibilities with respect to the Reliability Standards.** Failure to notify NERC through its corresponding Regional Entity will not relieve the registered entity from any responsibility to comply with the Reliability Standards or be liable for any penalties or sanctions associated with failing to comply with such standards. **RF requests that registered entities provide RF Registration with 30-60 days advance notice of any such changes impacting NERC Registration.** Contact Bob Folt, Principal Analyst, RAM and NERC Registration, with any questions at bob.folt@rfirst.org.

REMINDER - E-ISAC Membership

As a registered entity, it is important, and expected, that you will join the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC). E-ISAC membership is available to North American asset owners and operators (AOOs) and select partner organizations, and there is no cost to join. The E-ISAC encourages security individuals with cyber, physical, or operational technology security responsibilities to apply for membership.

Please complete the E-ISAC Membership application here: https://www.eisac.com/portal. You may also contact the E-ISAC at memberservices@eisac.com with any questions.

NERC Alert System Registration

NERC's Alert System is the tool used to disseminate information that is critical to ensuring the reliability of the BPS in North America. NERC distributes Alerts broadly to owners, operators, and users of the BPS utilizing the listing of the NCR. Entities registered with NERC are required to provide and maintain up-to-date compliance and cyber security contacts.

As a separate part of the NERC registration process and inclusion on the NCR, please contact NERC via email at NERC.Alert@nerc.net to register or revise your listing for the NERC Alert System. Alternately, you may call the NERC Alerts Hotline at 404.446.9797 to speak with someone. Each registered entity identified in the NCR is required to notify NERC Alert of any corrections, revisions, deletions, changes in ownership, corporate structure, or similar matters that affect the registered entity's responsibilities with respect to the Reliability Standards.

CORES — CENTRALIZED ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION ERO SYSTEM

IMPORTANT REMINDER – UPDATE COMPLIANCE CONTACT INFORMATION in CORES
Registered entities are expected to review and update their compliance contacts information as changes occur. Updating compliance contact information is critical to ensure that our contact data remains fresh, accurate and is current always. **Please verify and update as necessary the names, addresses, phone numbers (cell) and email addresses for each Primary Compliance Contact (PCC), Primary Compliance Officer (PCO) and Alternate Compliance Contact (ACC) in the ERO Portal/CORES system.**

Align Violations Reporting

As a reminder, any new violation of a Reliability Standard identified by a registered entity should be immediately self-reported to RF via the ERO Align system. Contact Shirley Ortiz, Senior Paralegal, at (216) 503-0674 with any questions concerning self-reports.

NERC Align Training Resources

The NERC Align Project page and FAQ document contain helpful information for registered entities. Self-service training resources provided for registered entity staff, including training videos and user guides, are available on the NERC Training Site.

NERC's training site provides training and materials on a variety of topics for Align and other tools used by NERC, Regional Entity, and registered entity staff. Your Primary Compliance Contact is the designated Access Approver for Align for your company. Remember to check out NERC's Align project page or reach out to AskAlign@NERC.net for additional information.

Align support – ERO Help Desk Ticketing System

If users encounter any access or system problems with Align, CORES or any of the other NERC applications, first and foremost, try to resolve the issues yourself by using any one of the many self-service resources, guides and videos NERC has made available to you at training.nerc.net.

If you are unable to resolve the issue on your own, place a ticket using the NERC Helpdesk Ticket Submission System: support.nerc.net.

The ERO Help Desk Ticketing System (Footprints) is available to registered entity users 24/7 and is monitored by the regions and NERC. We will do our best to address your questions, issues, and tickets as promptly as possible during normal business hours.

2024 Upcoming Standards Subject to Future Enforcement

FAC-003-5	Transmission Vegetation Management	April 1, 2024
FAC-011-4	System Operating Limits Methodology for the Operations Horizon	April 1, 2024
FAC-014-3	Establish and Communicate System Operating Limits	April 1, 2024
IRO-008-3	Reliability Coordinator Operational Analyses and Real-time Assessments	April 1, 2024
PRC-002-3	Disturbance Monitoring and Reporting Requirements | Implementation Plan	April 1, 2024
PRC-023-5	Transmission Relay Loadability | Implementation Plan	April 1, 2024
PRC-026-2	Relay Performance During Stable Power Swings | Implementation Plan	April 1, 2024
TOP-001-6	Transmission Operations	April 1, 2024
EOP-012-1	Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations (Requirements 1–2 effective 4/1/28; Requirement 4 effective 10/1/29)	Oct. 1, 2024

2025 Upcoming Standards Subject to Future Enforcement

IRO-010-5	Reliability Coordinator Data and information Specification and Collection | Implementation Plan TOP-003-6.1 – Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority Data and Information Specification and Collection | Implementation Plan	July 1, 2025
TOP-003-6.1 **NEW!**	TOP-003-6.1 – Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority Data and Information Specification and Collection | Implementation Plan	July 1, 2025

Please refer to the U.S. Effective Dates page on the NERC website for additional detail.

Periodic Data Submittals Due in February 2024			
2/28/2024	PRC-004	GO, TO, DP	Protection System Misoperations - Section 1600 data request for Q4-2023 (Oct. 1 – Dec. 31). **Submit in MIDAS portal.**

Periodic Data Submittals Due in March 2024			
3/31/2024	PRC-023	GO, TO, DP, PA/PC	PRC-023-4 - Transmission Relay Loadability – Annual Data Submittal (**Submissions to be made in Align**)