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NERC Compliance Workshops

Texas RE is hosting a workshop on NERC Standards and Texas RE requirements for reliability of the bulk electric system on May 13, in Austin, Texas. [Find more information on the workshop and registration.](#)

NERC is hosting the following workshops on reliability standards:

Montreal, Québec, April 22-23
San Diego, California, April 29-30

[Find more information.](#)

Welcome from CCO Larry Grimm

Welcome to the first edition of the Texas REview. Published by Texas Regional Entity (Texas RE), this publication is intended for those who are users, owners, and operators of the reliability bulk power system in the ERCOT region. Compliance with NERC reliability standards and regional reliability standards is an important activity within the ERCOT region as well as all regions across North America.

Part of Texas RE's responsibility is to educate those who are subject to NERC reliability standards and regional reliability standards. Each quarter we will offer you a summary of Texas RE news, activities, and training opportunities; updates on NERC and regional reliability standards; and related news of interest. We hope that this information will help you in your mission of keeping electricity reliable and safe in Texas.

The Texas REview will be sent to the Texas RE information e-mail list subscribers. If you are not a current subscriber, I encourage you to subscribe today at <http://lists.ercot.com>.

Texas RE News

Approval of Texas Regional Entity Amended and Restated Delegation Agreement

FERC approved Texas RE's Amended and Restated Delegation Agreement, with minimal comments, in its March 21 Order Addressing Revised Delegation Agreements. [Read the order.](#)

Reliability Standards Tracking Site Launch

Texas RE is launching the Reliability Standards Tracking site, which allows ERCOT market participants in the ERCOT region, regulatory agencies, and other users, owners and operators of the bulk power system to view the status of regional reliability standards and standard authorization requests (SARs) for the ERCOT region. The site will be made available on the Reliability Standards section of ERCOT.com in mid-April.

- ERCOT member companies that wish to vote on regional standards may have one voting representative; the representative must register on the site as a first step toward joining the Registered Ballot Body (RBB).
- Current RBB members are encouraged to register on the site. RBB members will be able to vote through this site.
- All interested parties may register on the site to submit comments during the regional reliability standard development process.

[Visit the Reliability Standards section.](#)

2008 Transmission Availability Data System Submittal

Transmission owner submittal of all first quarter 2008 Transmission Availability Data System (TADS) data is scheduled for May 30. Submittals should include inventory data as well as outage data. **[The updated workbook is posted on the TADS Web site.](#)**

Texas RE First Reliability Standards Committee Meetings

Texas RE held three Reliability Standards Committee (RSC) meetings this quarter.

Over 40 stakeholders attended the first meeting in January. NERC guest speakers David Taylor, Manager, Reliability Standards, and Stephanie Monzon, Manager, Regional Reliability Standards, presented an overview of the NERC standards development process. Rick Keetch of Reliant Energy and Dale Bodden of CenterPoint Energy were elected as the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson respectively. The RSC approved *SAR-001 Revision to Texas RE Documents to Provide for the ERCOT ISO to Participate and Have a Vote in the Processes*.

In the February meeting, Farzaneh Tafreshi, Manager, Regional Reliability Standards, Texas RE, gave an overview of Texas RE's standard development process.

In March, the RSC accepted the SAR-001 drafting team formed by the Reliability Operations Subcommittee (ROS). The drafting team is scheduled to meet at the end of April.

[Visit RSC Web page for future meetings.](#)

Learn About the Event Analysis Process

The event analysis process is used to review significant events that could jeopardize reliability of some or all of the ERCOT bulk power system. The purpose of an event analysis is to recreate the sequence of events, identify the state of the grid at various points during the event, and review operational procedures and responses. This is done to improve reliability by determining root cause, identifying lessons learned, and recommending improvements.

Teams with special expertise may be formed to perform an event analysis, and Texas RE, ERCOT ISO, stakeholders, and sometimes NERC and FERC all have roles in the event analysis process. The event analysis process is normally overseen by ERCOT ISO technical staff starting with preparation of planning reports.

It is important to note that an event analysis is intended to reconstruct an event, and it is not a compliance analysis or investigation. An event analysis does not focus on potential compliance violations, but the resulting report is provided to Texas RE compliance and enforcement personnel for information and, if necessary, follow-up. Any needed compliance analysis or investigation is separately conducted by Texas RE, NERC, and/or FERC personnel.

FERC Decisions and Announcements

Conditional Approval of NERC Amended Rules of Procedure

On October 12, 2007, NERC filed an amendment to its Rules of Procedure. The amendment proposes a new section 1600, which would establish a process for NERC or a regional entity to issue requests for data or information.

FERC conditionally approves section 1600 of NERC's Rules of Procedure and directs NERC to make a compliance filing within 90 days of issuance of this order. **Read the order approving the NERC Amended Rules of Procedure.**

Conditional Approval of Eight Critical Infrastructure Protection Standards

In January, FERC conditionally approved eight critical infrastructure protection (CIP), standards. These standards require certain registered entities to comply with specific requirements to identify and safeguard critical cyber assets. **[View the order approving CIP standards.](#)**

NERC Registration and Certification

Entity Updates

All NERC registered entities must submit any changes in contact, company, or function information as soon as possible to Texas RE by filling out the appropriate forms. **[Find the NERC entity registration forms.](#)**

Please submit feedback, comments, and suggestions to information@texasre.org. If you are receiving e-mail from a distribution list from which you no longer wish to receive communications, please follow this link in order to unsubscribe from this list: <http://lists.ercot.com>. All external links within this newsletter are provided for your convenience. Maintenance is not the responsibility of Texas RE.

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