



Date: February 7, 2017
To: Board of Directors
From: Finance and Audit (F&A) Committee Chair
Subject: Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard

Issue for the ERCOT Board of Directors

ERCOT Board of Directors Meeting Date: February 14, 2017

Item No.: 13.2

Issue:

Whether the Board of Directors (Board) of Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) should approve any or all of the ERCOT staff-proposed modifications or recommend and approve any other changes to the ERCOT Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard (Standard), to become effective upon approval by the Board.

Background/History:

The ERCOT Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard requires review at least annually by the F&A Committee, with modifications approved by the Board of Directors (Board). The Standard was last approved by the Board on February 9, 2016.

ERCOT staff is proposing to revise the Standard to provide that staff will prepare market credit risk updates for the F&A Committee “regularly” instead of “bi-annually.”

A copy of the revised Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard is included as **Attachment A**.

Key Factors Influencing Issue:

In the current Standard, market credit risk updates to the F&A Committee are required bi-annually. At its October 10, 2016 meeting, the F&A Committee requested that market credit exposure reporting be provided at every Committee meeting. The proposed revision ensures that the Standard is consistent with the Committee’s desired frequency of reporting.

Conclusion/Recommendation:

The F&A Committee is expected to review the Standard at its meeting on February 13, 2017, and is expected to recommend whether any revisions should be made to the Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard and whether they should become effective upon approval by the Board.



ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL OF TEXAS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, after due consideration of the alternatives, the Board of Directors (Board) of Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) deems it desirable and in the best interest of ERCOT to revise the Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard (the Standard), as recommended by the Finance and Audit (F&A) Committee, consistent with the revisions reflected in **Attachment A** hereto;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ERCOT is hereby authorized and approved to revise the Standard consistent with the revisions in **Attachment A**, to be effective immediately.

CORPORATE SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I, Vickie G. Leady, Assistant Corporate Secretary of ERCOT, do hereby certify that, at its February 14, 2017 meeting, the ERCOT Board passed a motion approving the above Resolution by _____.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ____ day of February, 2017.

Vickie G. Leady
Assistant Corporate Secretary

ERCOT CORPORATE STANDARD

Document Name:	Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard
Document ID:	CS3.6
Effective Date:	February <u>9</u> ¹⁴ , 201 <u>6</u> ⁷
Owner:	Board of Directors
Governs:	ERCOT Personnel
Approved:	Board of Directors, ERCOT, Inc.

1. Purpose

This Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard provides a framework by which the ERCOT Board of Directors seeks to maintain the long-term financial integrity of the ERCOT market and to help ensure that overall market credit risk is maintained within acceptable limits.

Recognizing that a number of risk factors contribute to overall market credit risk and that it is beneficial to understand the impact of these risks, various reports have been developed to help understand the nature and scope of market credit risk.

This standard does not change collateral requirements or Counter-Party obligations to comply with those collateral requirements under the ERCOT Protocols. Changes to collateral requirements require a change to ERCOT Protocols in accordance with Section 21, Process for Protocol Revision.

2. Definitions

Terms & Acronyms	Definition / Description
BOD	Board of Directors
CWG	Credit Work Group
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
Total Potential Exposure (TPE)	A measure of estimated credit risk as defined in ERCOT Protocols.

3. Standards

Market Credit Risk Objective

In seeking to fulfill BOD objectives to provide for a reliable Texas electricity market, ERCOT stakeholders will

- directly consider the credit implications of operational or market decisions,

- maintain sufficiently detailed understanding of the nature and scope of market credit risk so as to be able to identify material changes in ERCOT's credit risk profile in a timely manner and
- seek to maintain a market-wide credit risk profile consistent with an investment grade rating.

Delegation of Authority

Responsibility for monitoring and reporting on credit risk for the market consistent with this standard is hereby delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officer, the Vice President, Commercial Operations, and the Director, Settlements, Retail and Credit. These individuals will ensure the BOD is advised of material changes in ERCOT's credit risk profile.

This delegation does not mean that the results of any particular model or report will be the final determination of credit risk in the ERCOT market. Such determination rests with the BOD.

Internal Control

The Director, Settlements, Retail and Credit will ensure that written procedures and internal controls are established over the credit processes to ensure that results are consistent with the approved process reflected in this standard.

The Director, Settlements, Retail and Credit will ensure that these controls are reviewed periodically by ERCOT's Internal Audit staff to monitor compliance with control procedures. The results of Internal Audit reviews as well as underlying controls may be reviewed by the Finance and Audit Committee of the BOD upon request.

Measurement

ERCOT recognizes that one metric cannot capture all aspects of credit risk.

Therefore, at a minimum, ERCOT internal credit risk reporting for the Nodal market will consider the following factors in assessing credit risk:

- Creditworthiness of Counter-Parties,
- Market activity volume,
- Net load and generation Counter-Party concentration,
- Total Potential Exposure by type of Counter-Party, and
- Collateralization relative to Total Potential Exposure

As applicable, reporting will incorporate time series to aid in the interpretation of credit risk factors and identification of changes to ERCOT's credit risk profile.

ERCOT will provide other information or analyses as necessary to effectively communicate the sources and scope of market credit risk.

At ERCOT's discretion or upon request by the BOD, TAC or CWG, ERCOT will run stress scenarios with respect to market credit exposure to aid in the understanding of the impact of extreme events, such as extreme prices or market conditions.

Reporting

ERCOT will prepare market credit risk updates:

1. ~~bi-annually~~regularly for the F&A Committee,
2. whenever ERCOT determines there have been significant changes in ERCOT's market credit risk exposure or credit risk profile, and
3. upon request of TAC or CWG when contemplating market rule changes for which significant credit implications are being evaluated.

Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard Adoption

ERCOT's Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard was adopted by resolution of the BOD. The standard is reviewed at least annually by the Finance and Audit Committee and any modifications made thereto must be approved by the BOD.