**NERC Standards Review Forum Charter**

**Purpose and Scope**

The NERC Standards Review Forum (NSRF) is a stakeholder group reporting to the Member Representatives Committee (MRC). The purpose of the NSRF is to provide a regional stakeholder forum for discussion, collaboration, and research on NERC Standard Authorization Request forms (SARs), standards under development, interpretations, and existing Reliability Standards. The NSRF may also provide advice and recommendations to the MRC regarding the development of ERCOT region Regional Reliability Standards and variances. The NSRF will provide regular updates to the MRC to assist the MRC in regional industry analyses of standards being developed and balloted by NERC.

Additionally, the NSRF serves as a forum for stakeholders to hsare information regarding compliance with NERC Reliability Standards. Topics for discussion may include:

* best compliance practices
* audit experiences
* violations and possible violations of standards
* lessons learned
* industry policies, direction and trends
* current compliance-related events and programs of general interest
* compliance with new or modified NERC Reliability Standards
* the ERCOT Protocols and Guides as they relate to NERC requirements

**Leadership**

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**Participation**

Participation in NSRF is voluntary and open to interested entities and individuals in the ERCOT region. The NSRF should strive for diverse participation from all sectors and from large and small companies.

All positions adopted by NSRF and recommendations made by NSRF are non-binding on any party, and are intended for the benefit of and consideration by any interested party. No one is obligated to vote on NERC ballots in accordance with NSRF recommendations or to join in NSRF comments.

The NSRF will meet as needed, but typically once a month. All meeting notices with the agenda will be sent to the NSRF listserv and posted to the Texas RE website one week prior to the meeting.

There is no formal voting structure associated with NSRF, which will operate on a voluntary, consensus-based model.

NRWG meetings are open to all stakeholders, including ERCOT staff, the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) staff, Texas Reliability Entity (Texas RE) staff, and any other appropriate governing agency staff who wish to participate, *except* during discussions of confidential information in closed session relating to:

(i) Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII), or

(ii) Registered Entities’ experience and practices relating to compliance.

The NRWG Chair or Vice-Chair is responsible for determining when NRWG meetings should be held in closed session.

When NRWG meetings are held in a closed session, only NRWG members meeting the following requirements may participate:

(i) the member signed the appropriate ERCOT Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) or an acknowledgement thereof,

(ii) the ERCOT Legal Department approved the signed NDA, and

(iii) the member: (1) is directly employed by a Transmission and/or Distribution Service Provider (TDSP), Qualified Scheduling Entity (QSE), Resource Entity (RE) operating in the ERCOT Region, or ERCOT, or (2) is directly employed by an Affiliate of an above-referenced entity, or (3) is a consultant or contract labor authorized to represent a specific TDSP, QSE or RE in the ERCOT Region by that entity and who does not represent the business interests of the company with which s/he is directly employed.

The ERCOT Legal Department will maintain a list of members who have signed the appropriate ERCOT NDA or acknowledgement and coordinate with the NRWG Chair and Vice-Chair regarding attendance of closed session meetings. The ERCOT Legal Department requires reaffirmations of NDAs every two years.

The NSRF Chair or a designee will provide an NSRF report at each MRC meeting. This report will include an overview of items discussed by NSRF, including NERC standards open for ballot or comment and any voting recommendations or comments issued by NSRF.

NSRF may designate an NSRF member or observer as the “point of contact” for any standard or other item that it takes up for consideration and possible action by NSRF. The point of contact will collect and organize comments, propose action on the item (if desired) and lead NSRF discussion of the item.

The RSM shall facilitate the work of the NSRF, including:

* 1. tracking NERC Standards and other items under the Forum’s review;
  2. facilitating Texas RE subject-matter expert (SME) participation in meetings as necessary;
  3. preparing and publishing meeting announcements and agendas; and
  4. scheduling and facilitating in-person meetings and conference calls/web-meetings.

**Email Lists**

Texas RE External Relations staff will maintain an NSRF email listserv, which will disseminate announcements and meetings notices. Any stakeholder may join the NRWG email list hosted by ERCOT. This list receives general meeting information. NRWG members who meet the requirements for participation in closed session may request to be added to the NRWG-Restricted email list. This list may share compliance-related information that members consider to be confidential.

**Amendment**

Amendments to this Charter must be approved by the MRC.

If anything in this Charter is inconsistent with Texas RE governing documents, including the Delegation Agreement, Bylaws, and the Standards Development Process, the governing documents shall take precedence.