**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 share 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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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.

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.

**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.

**Meetings**

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

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

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

(i) the member signed the appropriate Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA);

(ii) the Texas RE Legal Department reviewed the signed NDA; and

(iii) the member:

(1) is directly employed by a NERC Registered Entity operating in the ERCOT Region, 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 NERC Registered Entity 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 Texas RE Legal Department will maintain a list of members who have signed the appropriate NDA and will provide to the NSRF Chair and Vice Chair for the determination of attendance at closed session meetings.

**Email Lists**

Texas RE maintains a Standards email listserv, which disseminates NSRF announcements and meetings notices. Any stakeholder may join the Texas RE Standards listserv. NSRF members who have an approved NDA and meet the requirements for participation in closed session may request to be added to the NSRF-Restricted email list maintained by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This list may share compliance-related information that members consider to be confidential.

**Amendments**

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.