



**Date:** February 13, 2018  
**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 20, 2018

**Item No.:** 12.2

**Issue:**

Whether the Board of Directors (Board) of Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) should approve the ERCOT Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard (Standard), to become effective upon approval by the Board.

**Background/History:**

The Board has established the ERCOT Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard, which requires review at least annually by the Finance and Audit (F&A) Committee, with modifications approved by the Board. The Standard was last approved by the Board on February 14, 2017.

This Standard establishes a framework to maintain ERCOT's long-term financial integrity and to help ensure that overall market credit risk is maintained within acceptable limits. ERCOT recognizes that maintaining financial integrity and acceptable overall market credit risk is critical to accomplishing its corporate goals and discharging ERCOT's primary responsibilities.

ERCOT staff has reviewed the Standard and does not propose any revisions, as reflected in **Attachment A**, to become effective upon approval by the Board. The F&A Committee is expected to recommend the Board adopt, reject or amend the Standard at its February 19, 2018 meeting.

**Key Factors Influencing Issue:**

The key factors influencing the issue are adherence to provisions of Board-approved corporate standards, improved clarity and consistency of policy documents, and the need to provide sound financial guidance for ERCOT's exempt purposes.

**Conclusion/Recommendation:**

The F&A Committee is expected to review the Standard at its meeting on February 19, 2018, and is expected to recommend to the Board whether any revisions should be made to the 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 approve the existing Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard (Standard), as recommended by the Finance and Audit (F&A) Committee, without revision as reflected in **Attachment A**;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the existing Standard is hereby approved without revision as reflected 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 20, 2018 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, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vickie G. Leady  
Assistant Corporate Secretary

## ERCOT CORPORATE STANDARD

Document Name:	Market Credit Risk Corporate Standard
Document ID:	CS3.6
Effective Date:	February 14 <del>20</del> , 2017 <del>8</del>
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
<b>BOD</b>	Board of Directors
<b>CWG</b>	Credit Work Group
<b>TAC</b>	Technical Advisory Committee
<b>Total Potential Exposure (TPE)</b>	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. 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.