



Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. Regional Standards Committee Work Plan for Calendar Years 2020-2021

The following Regional Standards Committee (RSC) Work Plan activities for the calendar years of 2020-2021 will be consistent with the NPCC 2020 and 2021 Business Plans and Budgets, Organizational and Strategic Goals, both approved and in draft, and will also continue to be supportive of the ongoing periodic reviews, standards development, standards efficiency review, distributed energy resources (DER) Forum and metric activities. Also, the Work Plan is responsive to the NERC Reliability Standards Development Process, the ERO Enterprise Long-Term Strategy, and the ERO Enterprise Operating Plan.

NPCC Reliability Standards Committee Program Responsibilities (related to Standards)

To carry out its standards related responsibilities defined in the NPCC RSC Scope of Work, the RSC will perform the following activities:

1. Monitor NERC's Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC) risk profiles and other reliability related issues and priorities for potential incorporation into NERC and NPCC Standards and Criteria, for removal from standards or for potential incorporation into guidelines or other non-standards-based solutions. Provide and coordinate NPCC's input into those decisions.
2. Monitor NERC's Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) reliability related issues and priorities for potential incorporation into NERC and NPCC Standards and Criteria, for removal from standards or for potential incorporation into guidelines or other non-standards-based solutions. Provide and coordinate NPCC's input into those decisions.
3. Coordinate and provide input to the development and prioritization of ERO reliability standards within the NERC Reliability Standards Development Plan through active Regional participation with the Periodic Review Standing Review Team or successor group or related activity.
4. Review and support the ERO Standards Efficiency Review (SER) initiative's future phases and ongoing standards development work which is defined to be a core set of results-based standards achieving an adequate level of reliability.
5. Provide ongoing input to the Periodic Review Template used to determine the efficacy of standards.
6. Continue to coordinate Regional input for cost effectiveness activities conducted during NERC's Standards Development program.
7. Oversee, and participate in the Regional Standards Development Process and base any development, revision or retirement of NPCC Regional Reliability Standards on the continued reliability related needs of the Region or continent-wide ERO standards such as the revision of NPCC PRC-006-NPCC-1 (new version 2) Underfrequency Load Shedding and any future revision which may be necessary.
8. Engage in the NERC Compliance Guidance Policy process. Support the inputs through the NPCC Compliance Committee (CC) by providing technical and policy related opinions as necessary.
9. Coordinate any NPCC Regional Standards development activity with NERC Standards development activity to avoid duplication and ensure resources are available for efficient and effective standards development and implementation.
10. Coordinate NPCC participation in reviews and revisions of NERC Standards when addressing reliability directives from FERC and any Provincial Governmental Authority directives.

11. Participate in any NERC Task Forces which may drive NERC and NPCC standards development activities related to resilience (e.g. Geomagnetic Disturbance (GMD) and High-Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse (HEMP)).
12. Address emerging issues FERC has identified with the NPCC Regional Standard Processes to promote consistency and support of the ERO Enterprise Alignment. Maintain and revise the NPCC standards processes as required in 2020.
13. Conduct thorough reviews of all NERC Standards being developed or revised and coordinate timely consensus-based comments within the NPCC Region based on reliability needs, results-based requirements, Periodic Reviews, and SER activities.
14. Develop and submit Standard Authorization Requests (SARs) for revisions when necessary to improve Standards and address reliability related issues for approved or draft Standards utilizing input from the NPCC Regional Feedback Mechanism to improve the quality and efficacy of standards.
15. Develop, as needed, any Interconnection Wide Regional variances for NERC Reliability Standards and NPCC Regional Standards in accordance with the NPCC Regional Standard Process Manual.
16. Develop ballot recommendations or provide a list of reliability or compliance issues to RSC members and NERC Registered Ballot Pool entities within NPCC for all NERC Standards under development.
17. Review and develop ballot recommendations for any future NERC formal interpretations to Standards.
18. Provide guidance to NPCC Regional Standard Drafting Teams in critical areas of results-based Standards, Violation Severity Levels, and Violation Risk Factor development as well as ensuring quality.
19. Respond to FERC and Provincial filings and interrogatories on issues related to Regional and NERC Standards as requested.
20. Serve as a liaison for the Northeast Region to the NERC RISC for all new and emerging reliability risks.
21. Serve as a liaison for the Northeast Region to the NERC RSTC
22. Participate in or observe the proceedings of various NERC groups to contribute to the continual improvement of NERC Standards and processes. These groups include but are not limited to:
 - a. NERC Standards Committee (SC)
 - b. NERC Standards Committee Process Subcommittee (SCPS)
 - c. NERC Project Management Oversight Subcommittee (PMOS)
 - d. NERC SAR and Standards Drafting Teams (SDTs)
 - e. NERC RISC
 - f. NERC RSTC
 - g. NERC SER Teams
23. Develop proposed standards and standard clarifications utilizing regional technical committees as assigned by the NPCC Reliability Coordinating Committee, RSC, or as identified through the NPCC Regional Feedback Mechanism.
24. Work with the NPCC CC to develop the necessary compliance elements of the Regional Standards, for example, Violation Severity Levels (VSLs).
25. Revise and implement the NPCC Cost Effective Analysis Procedure and apply it to Directories being revised or developed, as needed. Promote and participate in the NERC cost effectiveness analysis activities conducted during formal industry comment periods of the ERO draft continent-wide Standards.
26. Ensure that the appropriate NPCC Task Forces review NERC Standards-related issuances, and provide input to support development of a NPCC consensus opinion.
27. Solicit technically qualified candidates from NPCC stakeholder companies to participate on each of the NERC Standard Drafting Teams and additional members to the regional drafting teams. Ensure sufficient regional representation exists on the drafting teams.
28. Educate and notify NPCC Region stakeholders and regulators about issues related to Standards development.
29. Participate in two scheduled NPCC Compliance and Standards Workshops.
30. Participate in the revision and redrafting of the NERC Rules of Procedure and other documents related to standards development as the NERC documents come up for review and /or modification.
31. Coordinate implementation of the NERC Standards development processes and NPCC Regional Standard processes and recommend revisions as necessary.
32. Coordinate with the Reliability Coordinating Committee, all activities related to input received from the “Distributed Energy Resources BES Impact Reporting Form.”

33. Provide oversight, and further develop as may be necessary, the process, information and promotion of the “Distributed Energy Resources BES Impact Reporting Form.”
34. Develop and conduct three DER Forum Meetings annually or as needed.
35. Coordinate and work with State and Provincial Governmental Authorities to address reliability and resilience related issues associated with DERs, energy storage.

NPCC Regional Standards Committee Program Responsibilities (related to Directory Criteria)

1. Coordinate Directory Development activities with the regulatory authorities in the U.S. and applicable Provincial Governmental Authorities.
 2. Identify the need for new or modified NPCC Directories and the Criteria, Guidelines and Procedures pursuant to Section 313 of the NERC ROP responsibilities
 3. Oversee a broad review for the development, modification, or retirement of Directories in accordance with the NPCC Directory Development and Revision Manual
 4. Revise and maintain the NPCC Directory Development and Revision Manual & Process for the Review and Approval of Criteria, Guidelines, and Procedures as needed to identify incremental reliability benefit and cost effectiveness as directed by the NPCC Board of Directors and Full Members.
 5. Coordinate Directory Criteria requirements with Regional and NERC Standards requirements to ensure no inconsistencies or duplication exists and identify potential areas for improvements.
 6. Develop filings for the Directories for the New York State Public Service Commission to fulfill obligations for the “Carve-out” outlined in Order 672 for mandatory adherence to more stringent Regional criteria for New York State.
 7. Develop filings of Directories as required with the Provincial Governmental Authorities as per the various Memorandums of Understanding.
 8. Communications
 - a. Announce development activities pertaining to the NPCC Reliability Directories and NPCC guidance documents which will enable users, owners and operators of the Bulk Power System in the Region to be aware of and apply the NPCC Regionally-specific criteria.
 - b. Identify future Regional Standard development or retirement opportunities by developing a set of Regional Reliability Directories incorporating the ERO Reliability Standards, Regional Standards and Regionally-specific more stringent Criteria.
-

The activities listed in this work plan are based on the current planned execution of the NERC Reliability Standards Development Plan (RSDP), proposed strategic direction of the NPCC BOD and NERC BOT as well as additional Directives from the FERC Orders. Changes to these programs, the NERC RSDP, the NERC Rules of Procedure, or the NPCC Standards or Directory processes may necessitate changes to listed activities, including revised scheduling of the activities, removal of certain activities, and/or the addition of activities. If significant changes occur during the course of the year, the RSC Work Plan will be revised in advance of the NPCC Board of Director’s annual review and will be forwarded to the NPCC Board of Directors for approval.