



Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. Regional Standards Committee Work Plan for Calendar Years 2022-2023

The following Regional Standards Committee (“RSC”) Work Plan activities for the calendar years of 2022-2023 will be consistent with the NPCC 2022 and 2023 Business Plans and Budgets, 2022-2025 Working Draft Strategic Plan, and continues to support the Distributed and Variable Energy Resource Forums along with other reliability activities related to de-carbonization goals in the Region. The Work Plan supports the 2022 ERO Enterprise Work Plan Priorities and the ERO Reliability Standards Development activities including ongoing standards periodic reviews, standards development, standards efficiency reviews, and standards grading.

NPCC Reliability Standards Committee Program Responsibilities (related to Standards)

The RSC’s work will be informed by the Strategic Reliability Focus Areas defined in the 2022-2025 Working Draft NPCC Strategic Plan. Those focus areas are: 1) Enhancing System Resilience and Assuring Energy Sufficiency 2) Reliably Integrating the Resources brought forward by Societal Decarbonization 3) Addressing Cyber and Physical Threats.

1. Monitor NERC’s Reliability Issues Steering Committee (“RISC”) risk profiles and other reliability related issues and priorities. Review the 2021 ERO Reliability Risk Priorities Report for NERC and NPCC Standards and Criteria development, or for the development of guidelines or other reliability solutions. Coordinate NPCC’s input into those decisions.
2. 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.
3. 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 and the promotion of new and efficient standards processes.
4. Provide ongoing input to the NERC Standards Periodic Review Template used to determine the effectiveness of standards.
5. Continue to coordinate Regional input for cost effectiveness activities conducted during NERC’s Standards Development program.
6. 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 and initiate any future revision(s) which may be necessary.
7. 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. 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.
8. Coordinate NPCC participation in reviews and revisions of NERC Standards when addressing reliability directives from FERC and any Provincial Governmental Authority directives.

9. Participate in any NERC Task Forces which may drive NERC and NPCC standards development activities related to resilience (e.g., Geomagnetic Disturbance (“GMD”), High-Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse (“HEMP”), and System Planning Impacts of the DER Working Group (“SPIDERWG”). 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 2021-2022
10. 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 by leveraging the expertise of the NPCC RSC and Task Forces.
11. Develop and submit Standard Authorization Requests (“SARs”) for revisions when necessary to improve Standards and address reliability related issues for approved or draft Standards.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. Review and develop ballot recommendations for any future NERC formal interpretations to Standards.
15. 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.
16. Respond to FERC and Provincial filings and interrogatories on issues related to Regional and NERC Standards as requested. Coordinate formal NPCC input to NERC filings and petitions
17. Serve as a liaison for the Northeast Region to the NERC RISC for all new and emerging reliability risks related to the development or revision of standards.
18. Coordinate input for the Northeast Region to the NERC RSTC as necessary
19. Participate in or observe the proceedings of various NERC groups to contribute to the continued 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
20. Develop proposals for standards, variances, and standard clarifications utilizing Regional technical resources as assigned by the NPCC Reliability Coordinating Committee, or RSC.
21. Work with the NPCC Compliance Committee and Staff to develop the necessary compliance elements of the Regional Standards, for example, Violation Severity Levels (“VSLs”).
22. Revise, as necessary, and implement the NPCC Cost Effective Analysis Procedure and apply it to Directories being revised or developed, as needed. Promote and participate in any NERC cost effectiveness analysis activities conducted during formal industry comment periods of the ERO draft continent-wide Standards.
23. Ensure that the appropriate NPCC Task Forces review NERC Standards-related issuances and provide input to support development of a NPCC consensus opinion based on cost effective reliability.
24. Solicit technically qualified candidates from NPCC stakeholder companies to participate on each of the NERC Standard Drafting Teams. Ensure sufficient regional representation exists on the drafting teams.
25. Promote among NPCC stakeholders, and State and Provincial regulators issues related to BES reliability and Standards development.
26. Participate in NPCC Compliance and Standards Workshops.
27. Participate in the revision and redrafting of the NERC Rules of Procedure and other documents related to standard development as the NERC documents come up for review and /or modification.
28. Coordinate implementation of the NERC Standards development processes and NPCC Regional Standard processes and recommend revisions as necessary.
29. Coordinate with the Reliability Coordinating Committee, all activities related to input received from the “Distributed Energy Resources BES Impact Reporting Form.”

30. Provide oversight, and further develop as may be necessary, the process, information, and promotion of the “Distributed Energy Resources BES Impact Reporting Form.”
31. Conduct DER/VER Forum Meetings as required.
32. Develop revisions to and maintain NPCC DER Guidance document(s) and processes.
33. Coordinate and work with State and Provincial Governmental Authorities to address reliability and resilience related issues associated with DER/VER, and energy storage as decarbonization goals are pursued.

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

1. Coordinate NPCC 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 NPCC 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. Identify future Regional Standard development or retirement opportunities by maintaining a set of Regional Reliability Directories incorporating the ERO Reliability Standards, Regional Standards and Regionally-specific more stringent Criteria.
 - b. Identify opportunities to revise NPCC Directories as a result of increased levels of DER/VER.
 - c. Maintain efficient and effective NPCC Directory criteria to support reliability and decarbonization goals in conjunction with NPCC’s Reliability Principles
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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.