



Southwest Power Pool
Regional Entity
Standards Development Process
Manual

October 2, 2007

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I. Introduction

This manual defines the fair and open process for adoption, approval, revision, reaffirmation, and deletion of a regional reliability standard (Standard) by Southwest Power Pool, a regional entity (RE). Standards provide for the reliable regional and sub-regional planning and operation of the Bulk Power System (BPS), consistent with Good Utility Practice within an RE's geographical footprint.

Due process is the key to ensuring that Standards are developed in an environment that is equitable, accessible and responsive to the requirements of all interested and affected parties. An open and fair process ensures that all interested and affected parties have an opportunity to participate in a Standard's development.

Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the Bulk Power System has a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, c) voting on a proposed regional reliability standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and d) having the right to appeal.

II. Background

An RE may develop, through its own processes, separate Standards that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or otherwise address issues that are not addressed in NERC reliability standards.

NERC reliability standards and the RE's Standards are all to be included within the RE's Compliance Program.

RE Standards are developed consistent with the following philosophies and according to the process defined in this manual:

- A fair and open process that provides an opportunity for all interested parties to participate;
- Avoid any impact on commerce that is not necessary for reliability;
- Provide a level of BPS reliability that is adequate to protect public health, safety, welfare, and national security and do not have a significant adverse impact on reliability; and
- A justifiable difference between regions or between sub-regions within the Regional geographic area.

The NERC Board of Trustees has adopted reliability principles and market interface principles to define the purpose, scope, and nature of reliability standards. These principles are fundamental to reliability and the market interface, and provide a constant beacon to guide the development of reliability standards. The NERC Board of Trustees may modify these principles from time to time, as necessary, to adapt its vision for reliability standards. Persons and committees that are responsible for the RE Standards process shall consider these NERC principles in the execution of those duties.

NERC reliability standards are based on certain reliability principles that define the foundation of reliability for the North American BPS. Each Standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that it serves a purpose in support of reliability of the North American BPS. Each Standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no Standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

While NERC reliability standards are intended to promote reliability, they must at the same time accommodate competitive electricity markets. Reliability is a necessity for electricity markets, and robust electricity markets can support reliability. Recognizing that BPS reliability and electricity markets are inseparable and mutually interdependent, all Standards shall be consistent with the market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure that Standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

III. Regional Reliability Standard Definition, Characteristics, and Elements

A. Definition of a Regional Reliability Standard

A NERC reliability standard defines certain obligations or requirements of entities that operate, plan, and use the Bulk Power Systems of North America. The obligations or requirements must be material to reliability and measurable. Each obligation and requirement shall support one or more of the stated reliability principles and shall be consistent with all of the stated reliability and market interface principles in the NERC Standards Process Manual.

SPP RE may develop, through the process described in this manual, separate SPP Regional Reliability Standards (Standard) that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or that cover matters not addressed in NERC continent-wide reliability standards. SPP Regional Reliability Standards may be developed and exist separately from NERC continent-wide reliability standards, or may be proposed as NERC reliability standards. Standards that exist separately from NERC reliability standards shall be more stringent than a NERC continent-wide reliability standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the NERC continent-wide reliability standard does not, or shall be a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the bulk power system. These regional reliability standards, if approved by the RE Trustees, are forwarded to NERC for review and submittal to FERC for approval.

B. Definition of SPP Criteria

SPP Criteria are those requirements used by SPP members that are for purposes others than those specified for SPP Regional Reliability Standards (Standards). SPP Criteria are enforceable only under the terms and conditions of the SPP Membership Agreement. SPP Criteria may be developed in accordance with SPP Bylaws outside the process described within this manual since these criteria are not intended to be used by the SPP Regional Entity for compliance and enforcement under the authority delegated under the NERC – SPP Regional Delegation Agreement.

C. Characteristics of a Regional Reliability Standard

Standards define obligations or requirements for the operation and planning of interconnected systems and market interface practices that will be enforceable under the authority of the SPP RE. The format and process defined by this manual applies to all Standards.

A Standard shall have the following characteristics:

- **Material to Reliability** - A Standard shall be material to the reliability of bulk power systems of the RE's region. If the reliability of the bulk power systems could be compromised without a particular standard or by a failure to comply with that standard, then the standard is material to reliability.
- **Measurable** - A Standard shall establish technical or performance requirements that can be practically measured.

- **Relative to NERC Reliability Standards** - A Standard must go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC reliability standards, or cover matters not addressed in NERC reliability standards.

D. Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

An RE Standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of this manual. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of Standards. This discipline is necessary to achieve standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent. The format allows a clear statement of the purpose, requirements, measures, and penalties for non-compliance associated with each Standard. Supporting documents to aid in the implementation of a Standard may be referenced by the Standard but are not part of the Standard itself. All mandatory requirements of a Standard shall be within an element of the standard.

Performance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

Identification Number	A unique identification number assigned in accordance with an administrative classification system to facilitate tracking and reference RE documentation. Format for Regional Standard Request will be: RSR-000
Title	A brief, descriptive phrase identifying the topic of the Standard.
Effective Date and Status	The effective date of the Standard or, prior to adoption of the Standard by the RE through its own processes, the proposed effective date. The status of the standard will be indicated as active or by reference to one of the numbered steps in the standards process.
Purpose	The purpose of the Standard. The purpose shall explicitly state what outcome will be achieved or is expected by this Standard. The purpose is agreed to early in the process as a step toward obtaining approval to proceed with the development of the standard. The purpose should link the standard to the relevant principle(s).
Requirement(s)	Explicitly stated technical, performance, and preparedness requirements. Each requirement identifies the responsible entity and the action to be performed or outcome to be achieved. Each statement in the requirements section shall be a statement for which compliance is mandatory. Any additional comments or statements for which compliance is not mandatory such as background or explanatory information should be placed in a separate document and referenced. (See Supporting References).

Applicability	<p>Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions.</p> <p>If not applicable to the entire SPP area, then a clear identification of the portion of the bulk power system to which the standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.</p>
Risk Factor(s)	<p>The potential reliability significance of each requirement, designated as a High, Medium, or Lower Risk Factor in accordance with the criteria listed below:</p> <p>A High Risk Factor requirement (a) is one that, if violated, could directly cause or contribute to bulk power system instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the bulk power system at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly cause or contribute to bulk power system instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the bulk power system at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures, or could hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Medium Risk Factor requirement (a) is a requirement that, if violated, could directly affect the electrical state or the capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the bulk power system, but is unlikely to lead to bulk power system instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the bulk power system, but is unlikely, under emergency, abnormal, or restoration conditions anticipated by the preparations, to lead to bulk power system instability, separation, or cascading failures, nor to hinder restoration to a normal condition.</p> <p>A Lower Risk Factor requirement is administrative in nature and (a) is a requirement that, if violated, would not be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the bulk power system; or (b) is a requirement in a planning time frame that, if violated, would not, under the emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, be expected to affect the electrical state or capability of the bulk power system, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the bulk power system.</p>

Measure(s)	Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measurements. Measurements will be used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measurement identifies to whom the measurement applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required to demonstrate compliance. Each measurement shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. Measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measures should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirements(s) to which it applies.
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Compliance Elements of a Regional Reliability Standard

Compliance Monitoring Process	<p>The following compliance elements, which are part of the standard and are balloted with the standard are developed for each measure in a standard by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the standard drafting team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific data or information required to measure performance or outcomes. • The entity responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes. • The process used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes. • The entity responsible for evaluating data or information to assess performance or outcomes. • The time period in which performance or outcomes is measured, evaluated, and then reset. • Measurement data retention requirements and assignment of responsibility for data archiving.
Violation Severity Levels	Defines the degree to which compliance with a requirement was not achieved. The violation severity levels, are part of the standard and are balloted with the standard, and developed by the NERC compliance program in coordination with the standard drafting team.

Supporting Information Elements

Interpretations	Formally approved interpretations of the reliability standard. Interpretations are temporary, as the standard should be revised to incorporate the interpretation. Interpretations are developed and approved through a process described in the section Interpretations of Standards.
Implementation Plan	Each standard shall have an associated implementation plan describing the effective date of the standard or effective dates if there is a phased implementation. The implementation plan may also describe the implementation of the standard in the compliance program and other considerations in the initial use of the standard, such as necessary tools, training, etc. The implementation plan must be posted for at least one public comment period and is approved as part of the ballot of the standard.
Supporting References	This section references related documents that support reasons for, or otherwise provide additional information related to, the Standard. Examples include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development history of the Standard and prior versions• Notes pertaining to implementation or compliance• Standard references• Standard supplements• Procedures• Practices• Training references• Technical references• White papers• Internet links to related information

IV. Roles in the Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

Any member of NERC, including any member of a regional reliability organization, regional entity, or group within NERC shall be allowed to request that a Standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn. Additionally, any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) who is directly and materially affected by the reliability of the North American Bulk Power Systems shall be allowed to request a Standard be developed, modified, or withdrawn.

Originator - Any entity (person, organization, company, governmental agency, individual, etc.) that is directly and materially affected by the operation of an RE's BPS, is allowed to request a Standard be developed or an existing Standard be modified, or deleted.

Registered ballot body — The registered ballot body comprises all entities or individuals that qualify for one of the voting segments and are registered with SPP as a ballot participant in the voting of a proposed standard. Membership in SPP is not a requirement for registration. Registration in a ballot body must be done via the SPP website by close of business the day prior to the day voting begins on the standard. [Each standard action has its own registered ballot body.] The representation model of the registered ballot body is provided in Sec V. B. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps, Step 5 – Open Voting.] The outcome of the vote of the registered ballot body is forwarded to the RE Trustees regardless of advisory voting outcomes at the MOPC or SPP Board level.

SPP Regional Entity Trustees (RE Trustees) – The SPP Regional Entity Trustees shall act on any proposed Standard that has gone through the process contained in this manual. Upon approval by the RE Trustees, the Standard will be submitted to NERC for approval under the ERO. RE Trustees are notified of all proposed regional reliability standards requests and receive progress reports from the RE Staff. They also receive notice of the outcome of votes by the ballot body and any recommendations and reports on proposed standards made by the SDT, MOPC and SPP Board.

Regional Entity Staff (RE Staff)- RE Staff shall support the RE Trustees in their oversight authority over the Standards Development Process and any other function or responsibility ascribed to them in the NERC- Southwest Power Pool, Inc. Delegation Agreement.

SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) - The SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee will assign Standards to a Standards Development Team for development or revision

SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee (BOD/MC) – The SPP Board of Directors in conjunction with the Members Committee provides advisory votes to the RE Trustees on reliability matters as they pertain to the RE. The BOD/MC votes on proposed regional standards or changes to regional standards for the sole purpose of providing an additional stakeholder forum for review, and valuable input to the RE Trustees decision on a regional standard based on the groups expertise on reliability, operations and market matters as well as its wide diverse representation of the SPP membership.

Compliance Director – The RE office responsible for the administration of the SPP Compliance Program. The duties of this office includes but are not limited to, providing inputs and comments during the standards development process to ensure the measures will be effective and can be practically implemented.

Standard Drafting Team (SDT) – Usually an existing SPP Working Group or Task Force that is comprised of technical experts. Any interested party may attend meetings, provide input and comments, and vote under provisions of the SPP Regional Standards Process Manual.

V. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process

A. Assumptions and Prerequisites

The process for developing and approving Standards is similar to procedures accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), like that employed by the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB). The Standards development process has the following characteristics:

- **Inclusive** - Any entity (person, organization, company, governmental agency, individual, etc.) representing an organization with a direct and material interest has a right to participate by:
 - a) Expressing an opinion and its basis,
 - b) Having that position considered,
 - c) Voting on a proposed regional reliability standard through a segment weighted balanced process, and
 - d) Appealing any negative decision

- **Openness** - Participation is open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by the RE's BPS reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in the RE, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of SDT's are open to all interested parties and are noticed on the SPP website at least 15 days in advance. Since pre-existing SPP committees, working groups, or task forces may be assigned the responsibilities of a SDT, the agenda for meetings will note that an SDT activity is being undertaken to distinguish such activity from other non-SDT related agenda items. The openness provisions of this manual apply only and explicitly to the SDT activities. Meetings of subcommittees and working groups serving as a SDT shall follow the SPP Bylaws Sec 3.5 Meetings.
- **Balance** - The RE Standards development process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests. The process prevents any two voting sectors from dominating voting outcomes and no single voting sectors from defeating a proposed reliability standard.
- **Due Process** – The SPP Regional Reliability Standards Development Process provides reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At the minimum, the procedure shall include public notice of the intent to develop a standard, a public comment period on the proposed standard, due consideration of those public comments, and a ballot of interested stakeholders.

- **Transparent** – All actions material to the development of a SPP regional reliability standard shall be transparent. All standards development meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the SPP website.

B. Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Steps

Note: The term “days” below refers to calendar days.

Step 1 – Request to Develop, Revise or Delete a Regional Reliability Standard

Any individual representing an organization (Originator) that is directly or materially impacted by the operation of the BPS within the geographical footprint of the RE may submit a request to the Markets and Operations Policy Committee (MOPC) for the development, modification, or deletion of an RE Standard. Any such request shall be submitted to the MOPC Chairman, or his/her designee, or by another process as otherwise posted on the SPP website. The request should be made using the SPP Regional Standard Request Form (RSR) in Appendix B.

The MOPC or a designee will work with the Originator to develop a description of the proposed Standard subject matter containing sufficient detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information related to the proposed Standard.

Step 2 – Notification to Regional Entity Trustees & Public Notice

The Chairman of the MOPC or his/her designee will forward the request to the RE Trustees. SPP staff will also post the request on the SPP website for public notice and may utilize any appropriate SPP email distribution lists within 30 days. The request is not to be judged as appropriate or useful at this stage.

The MOPC will assign the drafting and scoping responsibility to an appropriate SPP Working Group or Task Force. This group will become the Standards Drafting Team (SDT) for this particular Standard request. The assignment will include any necessary deadlines and due dates for the Standard.

Any documentation of the deliberations of the SDT concerning the Standard shall be made available in accordance with the SPP Bylaws requirements for meeting and organizational groups then in effect. Meetings of the SDT are open to any interested party. Meeting dates and actions on the regional reliability standard are publicly noticed on SPP's public Web site.

The SDT shall provide a report to the RE Trustees and the MOPC on a periodic basis (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) noting the status of the Standard that has been assigned to it for consideration.

Step 3 – Scoping and Drafting

The SDT will draft the language of the Standard per the Standard description provided by the MOPC and the Originator. The SDT may recommend changes to the scope, purpose, need or other relevant aspects of the Standard through consultation with the MOPC.

The SDT develops a work plan for completing the Standard development work, including the establishment of milestones for completing critical elements of the work in sufficient detail to ensure that the SDT will meet the date objective in the assignment, or an alternative date. This plan will be provided to the RE Trustees and the MOPC.

The SDT may meet in person or via electronic means as necessary; may establish sub-work teams (made up of members of the SDT) as necessary; and perform other activities to address the parameters of the Standard and the established milestone date(s).

The SDT should consider:

- The impact of the Standard on neighboring regions, and seek appropriate input from the neighboring regions if the Standard is determined to have such an impact.
- An implementation plan, including the nature, extent and duration of field-testing, if any.
- The need for any existing Standard to be deleted, in part or whole, or otherwise impacted by the implementation of the draft Standard.
- Technical reports, white papers and/or work papers that provide technical support for the draft Standard under consideration.
- Documenting the perceived reliability impact should the Standard be approved.

The SDT will regularly (at least at every regularly scheduled meeting) report to the RE Trustees and the MOPC on its progress in meeting a timely completion of the draft Standard. The SDT may request consideration of scope changes of the Standard at any point in the Standard development process.

The RE Trustees or the MOPC may, at any time direct the SDT move to Step 4 and post for comment the current work product, or to terminate the activity if there is no further need for the Standard. If the activity is terminated RE Staff will notify the Originator and the RE Trustees within 30 days.

If there are competing drafts all will be posted on the SPP website for comment. The MOPC may take this step at any time after a SDT has been commissioned to develop the Standard.

For Standards in progress, the MOPC must take action to move to Step 4. *Public Comments*, or to reject the proposal. If the MOPC votes to terminate the activity, the RE Trustees must be notified with supporting reasons provided to them. The proposed standard would then go directly to Step 11. (See Step 11. *RE Trustees Action*)

Step 4 – Post Draft for 30 Day Public Comments

RE Staff will post the draft Standard on the SPP website, along with any supporting documents, for a 30-day comment period. RE Staff shall also inform registered entities and other potentially interested stakeholders of the posting using available SPP communication resources, or by other means deemed appropriate. Comments may be submitted using the RSR Comment Form in Appendix B available on the SPP internet website.

Within 30 days of the conclusion of 30-day comment posting period the SDT shall convene and consider changes to the draft Standard, the implementation plan and/or supporting technical documents. The SDT may elect to return to Step 3. *Scoping and Drafting* to revise the draft Standard, and/or any supporting documentation. The SDT shall summarize the comments received and any changes made as a result. This summary will be and posted on the SPP website when completed.

Step 5 – Open Voting

The SDT shall direct the RE Staff to post the revised draft Standard and other relevant documents including, implementation plan, supporting technical documentation, and summary of comments.

RE Staff will schedule a vote by interested parties to commence no sooner than 15 days and no later than 30 days following the posting of the revised draft.

Members of the ballot body shall be allowed to vote over a period of 15 days. Voting will be through electronic means or other means provided by SPP.

SPP Segment Weighted Voting

Registration in a ballot body created for a specific proposed regional standard is required to vote. Registration for a proposed Standard is noticed on the SPP website and through a Standards email exploder for a period of 15 days prior to the start of the ballot (subscription to the Standards email exploder is open to any interested party through the SPP website). All interested parties who register with the ballot body may vote on the proposed new Standard, Standard revision or Standard deletion. An interested party may only register in one segment.

The five SPP voting segments for Regional Reliability Standards are:

- 1) Transmission
- 2) Generation
- 3) Marketer/Broker
- 4) Distribution/Load Serving Entity
- 5) End User and Public Interest

RE Staff will accept votes any time during the 15-day ballot period for the Standard. Votes will be counted by voting segment. Each voting segment will receive 20% of the vote. A weighted vote of 2/3 affirmative of those voting will pass a Standard for further consideration (Step 7). If the vote fails to achieve a 2/3 majority of those voting, the Standard will be returned to the SDT for consideration for future action (Step 3). The SDT may: revise the Standard; post the Standard again for comments; reballot the Standard; ask the RE Trustees to terminate the request; or any other action it deems appropriate.

The RE Trustees are notified of the outcome of the vote and any actions taken by the SDT as a result of the vote. The RE Trustees will determine any additional action to be taken. (See Step 11. *RE Trustees Action*)

Step 6 – Prepare Consensus Draft & Minority Report

When a Standard is approved, the SDT will prepare a consensus draft representing the version of the Standard to be presented to the MOPC and the BOD/MC before final action by the RE Trustees.

Minority Report and Appeals

- A minority report will be prepared if there are significant issues that cannot be resolved within the SDT during the drafting phase (Step 3) or from the public comments (Step 4).
- A minority report will include any appeals from interested parties that the SPP Standards Procedure Manual was violated in the development of the Standard.
- The minority report remains a part of the record of the Standard and is available to any interested party during any subsequent steps.
- The consensus draft and any minority reports are presented to the MOPC for its consideration and an advisory vote.

Step 7 – Post Draft Standard for Action on the MOPC Agenda

A recommended Standard is noticed for consideration on the MOPC agenda. The agenda materials are made available per the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.5.

If a Standard requires consideration by the MOPC prior to a regularly scheduled meeting, the RE Staff will notify the MOPC Chairman who will notice a special meeting in accordance with the SPP Bylaws.

Step 8 – MOPC Review

The MOPC will provide an advisory vote on the Standard under the governance provisions of the SPP Bylaws, Section 3.9 Voting.

If the MOPC opposes the Standard, the MOPC may request revision of the Standard or termination of further activity on the Standard. If the Standard is terminated, notice is provided (described in Step 9) to the RE Trustees for further action (Step 11).

If the MOPC concurs with the Standard, the Standard proceeds to the SPP Board of Directors and Members Committee for review (Step 9).

The RE Trustees are notified of the outcome of the MOPC review.

Step 9 – SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee Review

A draft Standard submitted to the SPP Board of Directors/Members Committee (BOD/MC) for review must be publicly posted at least 10 days prior to consideration by the BOD/MC. The BOD/MC may consider the Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting, or as determined by the Chairman of the BOD/MC.

The BOD/MC shall be provided:

- The consensus draft Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)

- Technical Documentation supporting the draft Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the votes including a Minority Report if applicable.
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any comments
- Any other information relevant to the Standard

The BOD/MC will:

- Provide an advisory vote to the RE Trustees on the Standard (Step 10); or
- Return the Standard to the MOPC with comments

In the case of a second return of a Standard, the proposed Standard is forwarded to the RE Trustees for action. (The proposed Standard would go directly to Step 11).

Step 10 –Presentation to RE Trustees

A draft Standard submitted to the RE Trustees for action must be publicly posted at least 10 days prior to consideration by the RE Trustees.

The RE Trustees shall be provided:

- The consensus draft Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommended field testing and effective dates)
- Technical Documentation supporting the draft Standard
- A summary of the registered ballot body vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the vote including a Minority Report if applicable
- The results of the MOPC advisory vote and any comments
- The result of the BOD/MC advisory vote and any comments
- Any other information relevant to the Standard

Step 11 - RE Trustees Action

The RE Trustees will:

- Recommend NERC approve the Standard through the NERC process; or
- Remand the Standard to the SDT through the MOPC with comments and instructions; or
- Determine there is no need for the Standard and terminate any future activity.

The RE Trustees may consider the Standard at a regularly scheduled meeting, or as determined by the Chairman of the RE Trustees.

If a Standard is forwarded to the RE Trustees for action as a result of an opposing MOPC vote (Step 8), or if automatically forwarded to them as a result of two or more returns by the MOPC

or SPP Board (Step 9), the RE Trustees will take definitive action, including initiating the process from Step 3, Scoping and Drafting. The RE Trustees may not submit a Standard to NERC for approval without a positive outcome from open and balanced voting in Step 5.

Advisory votes of the MOPC and the BOD/MC do not impact the RE Trustees' authority to submit a Standard to NERC.

Step 12 – Submit to NERC for Approval as Regional Standard

RE Staff will notify interested parties of submission of Standard to NERC by the RE Trustees through the normal and customary communication procedures and processes then in effect.

The RE Staff will publicly notice any further steps necessary to have a Standard reviewed and/or approved through the NERC or any successor organization standards process.

C. Filing of Regional Reliability Standards with Regulatory Agencies

The development of Standards must be administered in coordination with the NERC Standards Development Procedure. At the discretion of the NERC Board of Trustees, adopted Standards may be filed with applicable regulatory agencies in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Regional Reliability Standards once approved by FERC, are made part of the NERC standards and shall be enforced accordingly.

Appendix A

I. Maintenance of the Regional Reliability Standards Development Process Manual

Any interested party may propose changes to this Manual. Such Process Manual change requests will follow all the steps of the Regional Reliability Standards Process outlined in Section V., Part B of this Manual.

II. Appeals

Persons who have directly and materially affected interests and who have been or will be adversely affected by any substantive or procedural action or inaction related to the development, approval, revision, reaffirmation, or withdrawal of a Standard shall have the right to appeal. This appeals process applies only to the Standards process as defined in this procedure.

The burden of proof to show adverse effect shall be on the appellant. Appeals shall be made within 30 days of the date of the action purported to cause the adverse effect, except appeals for inaction, which may be made at any time. In all cases, the request for appeal must be made prior to the next step in the process.

The appeal will be addressed by the RE Trustees. The appeal is included in a Minority Report of the Standard which remains a part of the record for the Standard throughout the SPP Regional Standards Procedure.

The final decisions of any appeal shall be documented in writing and made public.

A complaint will be noted in a Minority Report including the substantive or procedural action or inaction associated with a reliability standard or the standards process. The complaint should describe the actual or potential adverse impact to the appellant. The RE Trustees will provide a written response to the complaint. The appellants response to the RE Trustees determination will be included in the Minority Report.

The RE Trustees shall provide a response to any remaining open complaints.

Appendix B: SPP Regional Standard Request Form

RSR Number		RSR Title	
SPP Regional Standard Name (include Section No., Title, and existing Standard Version if any)			
Requested Resolution Date (if applicable)			
Description			
Reliability Need or Purpose – Try to identify if known: Technical requirements, reliability risk factor, measurements (refer to SPP Standards Process Manual for descriptions).			
Tariff Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes)			
Criteria Implications or Changes (Yes or No; If yes include a summary of impact and/or specific changes)			
NERC Standard Implications (Yes or No, and summary of impact)			

Sponsor	
Name	
E-mail Address	
Company	
Company Address	
Phone Number	
Fax Number	

Proposed Regional Standard Language

Appendix C: SPP Regional Standard Request Comment Form

RSR Number		RSR Title	
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Date	
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Submitter's Information	
Name	
E-mail Address	
Company	
Company Address	
Phone Number	
Fax Number	

Comment Form Instructions (please delete before submitting comments):

Comments are to be submitted electronically and are due by close of business of the comment due date. Please follow this file naming convention:
 ###PRR <Company Name> Comments<date>.doc.

Comments

Revised Regional Standard Language

Appendix D: SPP Standards Development Procedure

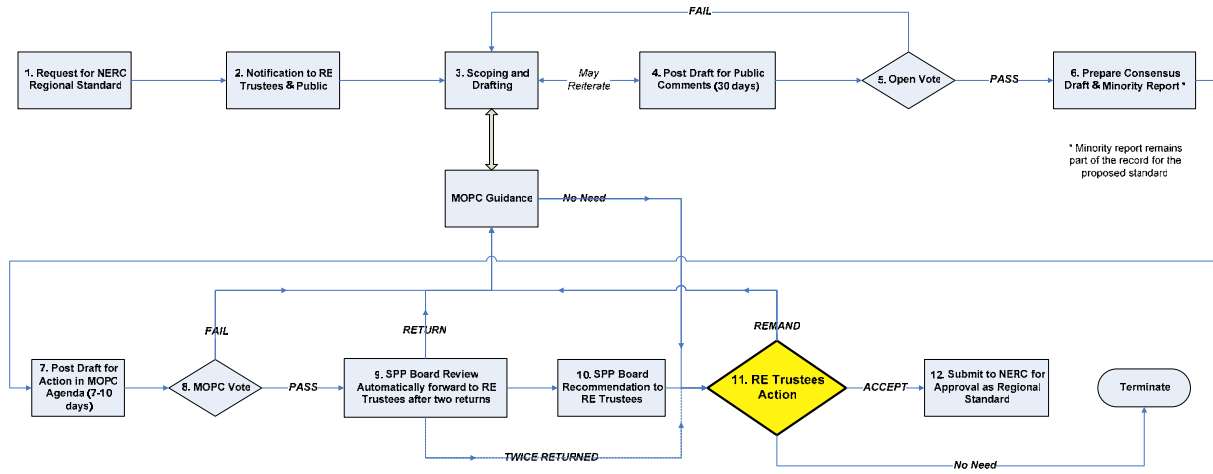


EXHIBIT D – COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

1.0 REGIONAL COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

SPP will implement the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program, Appendix 4C to the NERC Rules of Procedure (which for purposes of this section 1.0 shall not include Attachment 2, Hearing Procedures), to monitor and enforce compliance with Reliability Standards by the owners, operators, and users within **SPP's** geographic or electrical boundaries, and such other scope, set forth on **Exhibit A** of this Agreement.

2.0 REGIONAL HEARING OF COMPLIANCE MATTERS

SPP shall establish and maintain a hearing body with authority to conduct and render decisions in compliance hearings in which a Registered Entity may contest a finding of alleged violation, proposed penalty or sanction, or a proposed mitigation plan, which shall be either **SPP's** board or a balanced compliance panel reporting directly to **SPP's** board. **SPP's** hearing body is the SPP Regional Entity Trustees.

SPP shall conduct all compliance hearings in which a Registered Entity may contest a finding of alleged violation, proposed penalty or sanction, proposed Mitigation Plan, or a proposed Remedial Action Directive, in accordance with Attachment 2, Hearing Procedures, to the NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program, subject to the following deviations, if any: None.

3.0 OTHER DECISION-MAKING BODIES

SPP has engaged the SERC Reliability Corporation (SERC) to oversee the compliance monitoring and enforcement responsibility within the SPP Region as related to **SPP's** compliance with Reliability Standards requirements that are applicable to the functions for which SPP is a Registered Entity.

Exhibit E — Funding

1. Scope of activities funded through the ERO funding mechanism

SPP shall include in its annual budget submission to NERC amounts for costs it will incur in performing its delegated functions and related activities as described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Agreement. These activities shall include:

- Reliability Standard Development
- Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement
- Organization Registration and Certification
- Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis (including necessary data gathering activities)
- Event Analysis and Reliability Improvement
- Training and Education
- Situation Awareness
- Infrastructure Security

2. Preparation of Annual Business Plan and Budget

- (a) NERC and SPP, in conjunction with the other Regional Entities, shall collaboratively develop an annual schedule for the development, submission, review and approval of SPP's business plan and budget. The annual schedule for the preparation of business plans and budgets shall require SPP (i) to submit to NERC draft(s) of SPP's proposed business plan and budget and other preliminary documents and information, and (ii) to submit a final proposed business plan and budget that has been approved by SPP Board of Trustees to NERC by July 1 or such other agreed date as provides sufficient time for NERC's review, approval and submission of SPP's business plan and budget to the Commission 130 days in advance of the beginning of each fiscal year. The SPP business plan and budget submission shall include supporting materials, including SPP's complete business plan and organization chart, explaining the proposed collection of all assessments, dues, fees and charges, and the proposed expenditure of the funds to be collected in sufficient detail to justify the requested budgeted expenditures and assessments. SPP's business plan and budget and proposed assessments shall provide for reasonable reserve mechanisms for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses and other contingencies, consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.
- (b) NERC shall review and approve SPP's proposed business plan and budget and proposed assessments for performing the delegated functions and related activities described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of this Agreement and listed above in Section 1 of this **Exhibit E**, or shall direct SPP to make such revisions as NERC deems appropriate prior to approval. NERC shall submit SPP's approved business plan and budget and proposed assessments to the Commission for

approval as part of NERC's overall business plan and budget submission, in accordance with the ERO Regulations.

3. Allocation of Costs

Assessments to fund the costs of SPP's delegated functions and related activities pursuant to the Agreement shall be allocated among all load-serving entities on the basis of Net Energy for Load, unless a different method(s) of allocating and calculating such assessments has been submitted to and approved by NERC and the Commission in accordance with Section 9(b) of the Agreement. SPP shall submit to NERC annually at the same time it submits its budget request a list of the load-serving entities or designees within its geographic boundaries that shall be responsible for paying SPP's assessment and the load-serving entities' proportionate Net Energy for Load, and such other data and information as is necessary to allocate and calculate the allocation of SPP's assessment to the load-serving entities or designees under the method(s) of allocation and calculation that will be used.

4. Collection of Funding

- (a) NERC shall submit invoices to the load-serving entities or designees identified by SPP covering the NERC and SPP assessments approved for collection.
- (b) NERC shall pursue any non-payments of assessment amounts and shall request assistance from ERO Governmental Authorities as necessary to secure collection. To the extent reasonably practicable, SPP shall assist NERC in pursuing and collecting any non-payments. Notwithstanding the foregoing, SPP is not responsible and does not assume any liability for recovering non-payments or underpayments of assessment amounts. NERC shall retain sole responsibility for recovering non-payments or underpayments of assessment amounts. NERC shall add the amount of any non-payments by end-users or designees within SPP's region, that are reasonably determined to be uncollectible, to NERC's assessments for a subsequent year with the amount of such non-payments to be allocated to end-users within SPP's region.
- (c) Upon approval by ERO Governmental Authorities of SPP's annual assessment to fund the costs of its delegated functions and related activities, NERC shall pay SPP's annual assessment to Regional Entity in four equal quarterly payments on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of the budget year.

5. Application of Penalties

Except as otherwise approved by the Commission, all penalty monies received by SPP, shall be applied as a general offset to SPP's budget requirements for U.S.-related activities under this Agreement for the subsequent fiscal year. Funds from financial penalties shall not be directly applied to any program maintained by the investigating entity.

6. Budget and Funding for SPP's Non-Statutory Activities

In addition to its delegated functions and related activities as specified in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Agreement and in Section 1 of this **Exhibit E** (such delegated functions and activities referred to in this Section 6 as "statutory activities"), SPP performs the following other functions and activities (such other functions and activities being referred to in this Section 6 as "non-statutory activities"):

SPP's performs non-statutory activities as a Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO"). As a RTO, SPP is mandated by the Commission to ensure reliable supplies of power,adequate transmission infrastructure, and competitive wholesale prices of electricity. In furtherance of this mandate, SPP's specific non-statutory activities are the following primary services:

1. **Tariff Administration:** Independent administration of the Open Access Transmission Tariff that provides one-stop shopping for regional transmission service with consistent rates and terms.
2. **Reliability Coordination:** SPP monitors power flow throughout our footprint. We anticipate problems and take preemptive action to mitigate operating limit violations. SPP coordinates regional response in emergency situations or blackouts.
3. **Regional Scheduling:** SPP ensures that the amount of power sent is coordinated and matched with power received. SPP's regional scheduling service reduces the number of entities with which SPP members and customers have to coordinate.
4. **Market Operations:** SPP administers an Energy Imbalance Marketplace, monitors resource/load balance and ensures that less expensive power is used to serve load before expensive power, all while ensuring system reliability is met.
5. **Expansion Planning:** SPP's planning process seeks to identify system limitations and develop transmission upgrades for increased capacity.
6. **Contract Services:** SPP provides reliability, tariff administration, and scheduling for non-members on a contract basis.

SPP shall employ the following methods and procedures to (i) keep its funding mechanisms for its statutory activities separate from its funding mechanisms for its non-statutory activities, and (ii) record the costs it incurs in the performance of its non-statutory functions separately from the costs it incurs in the performance of its statutory functions:

(i) Separation of funding sources for statutory activities and non-statutory activities. As a RTO, SPP is a public utility under the Federal Power Act, and is required to submit its budget to the Commission. The Commission already has approved SPP's RTO activities and has ordered that SPP's budgets be filed with the Commission.

SPP's non-statutory activities are funded separately from its Regional Entity statutory activities through the imposition of a Commission-approved Tariff Administration Fee charged by SPP to all load under the SPP Open Access Tariff, except for Contract Services activities, which are funded by contract fees. Additionally, SPP's members are assessed an annual membership fee.

SPP shall provide its budget for such non-statutory activities to NERC at the same time that SPP submits its annual budget to FERC. SPP agrees that no costs of non-statutory activities are to be included in the calculation of SPP's dues, fees, and other charges for its statutory activities.

As provided in section 4(c) of this Exhibit E, on a quarterly basis, NERC will pay SPP an amount equal to one-fourth of the current year approved annual funding amount for SPP's statutory activities. Upon receipt of payment from NERC, SPP will deposit these funds into an account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC pursuant to SPP's performance of statutory activities under the Delegation Agreement. On a monthly basis, all expenses incurred by SPP for statutory activities and for non-statutory activities are recorded and paid from the SPP operating account. Throughout the year, as expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities are paid from the SPP operating account, transfers are made from the account established solely to receive and hold funding received from NERC to the SPP operating account in the amounts of payments made for expenses incurred for SPP statutory activities. The RE General Manager shall have sole authority to approve all withdrawal of funds from the SPP Regional Entity bank account.

(ii) Separation of costs of statutory activities and non-statutory activities. All employees performing functions directly attributed to SPP's delegated responsibilities who also perform functions related to SPP's non-statutory activities will utilize a time tracking system to accurately reflect their time spent on statutory activities. Periodically, but no less frequently than annually, SPP will input the time associated with its direct function staff performing statutory activities into a cost calculation model. Specific, direct costs attributable to the direct function staff performing statutory activities are salary, SPP-paid medical insurance, Medicare and Social Security taxes, and other SPP-paid benefits. These costs are then combined with other directly assignable costs of statutory activities, such as travel, meetings, contractors, professional services, fees and expenses of Regional Entity independent trustees, and other direct administrative expenses, and reported on the NERC Statement of Activities.

In addition, an allocation of SPP overhead costs to statutory activities is calculated and the allocated overhead costs are recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities. These overhead costs are shared throughout the SPP organization and include costs for payroll and accounts payable processing, human resources and benefits management, accounting, information technology, executive leadership, corporate affairs and communications, office costs and other support services and expenditures. This allocation is calculated using a standard hourly rate multiplied by the number of SPP staff hours spent directly performing SPP's statutory activities. The hourly rate for allocated overhead costs is developed using SPP's current year

expenses, by separating SPP's shared services support costs which support all of SPP's functions (*i.e.*, the costs for the activities identified in the second sentence of this paragraph) from SPP's operational resource pool. The total indirect costs are then divided by estimated total annual available work hours for SPP's operational resource pool. The average annual employee utilization rate assumes each employee works an eight-hour work day with adjustments to reflect SPP's employment policies related to vacation allotment, SPP holidays and other non-productive leave. The total expenses for statutory activities in a month as recorded on the NERC Statement of Activities are used to determine the amount of transfer to be made to the SPP operating account to reimburse the SPP operating account for the payment of expenses of SPP's statutory activities. The RE General Manager shall have sole authority to approve all withdrawal of funds from the SPP Regional Entity bank account.

SPP shall provide its budget for such non-statutory activities to NERC at the same time that SPP submits its proposed annual business plan and budget for statutory activities to NERC pursuant to Section 9 of the Agreement. SPP's budget for non-statutory activities that is provided to NERC shall contain a detailed list of SPP's non-statutory activities and a description of the funding sources for the non-statutory activities. SPP agrees that no costs (which shall include a reasonable allocation of SPP's general and administrative costs) of non-statutory activities are to be included in the calculation of SPP's assessments, dues, fees, and other charges for its statutory activities.

7. Amended or Supplemental Business Plans and Budgets

During the course of the fiscal year, if SPP determines it does not or will not have sufficient funds to carry out its delegated functions and related activities, SPP shall submit to NERC one or more proposed amended or supplemental business plans and budgets and requests for approval of supplemental assessments, reflecting costs, cost increases or funding shortfalls not provided for in SPP's approved business plan and budget for the fiscal year. NERC shall review and approve the proposed amended or supplemental business plan and budget and proposed supplemental assessment, or shall direct SPP to make such revisions as NERC deems appropriate prior to approval. NERC shall submit SPP's approved amended or supplemental business plan and budget and proposed supplemental assessment to the Commission for approval.

8. NERC Review of Regional Entity Financial Statements

NERC shall conduct reviews of the quarterly and annual financial statements submitted by SPP pursuant to Section 9(h) and (i) of the Agreement. SPP shall provide supporting documentation for the quarterly and annual financial statements as reasonably requested by NERC based on its reviews.