What’s New

NERC Three-Year Assessment Filed at FERC

When NERC was certified as the nation’s Electric Reliability Organization in 2006, it was directed to assess its performance after three years. The assessment, which was recently filed at FERC, asserts that NERC is successfully carrying out its ERO responsibilities by developing and enforcing mandatory reliability standards and maintaining the reliable operation of the North American bulk power system.

The report also provides NERC’s evaluation of the effectiveness of the Regional Entities, including the Southwest Power Pool RE. Finally, the report identifies actions that NERC and the Regional Entities plan to take to improve operations and to continue to enhance the reliable operation of the bulk power system.

Read the NERC Three Year Assessment (the SPP RE assessment is on page 23 of Attachment 3) or read the complete SPP RE Statement of Activities, Achievements, and Effectiveness that was submitted to NERC for the report.

SPP RE Implementing New Document Submission Procedures

The SPP RE is implementing new procedures for accepting official documents from Registered Entities. We now have a single point of contact for filing documents not supported by the SPP RE Compliance Data Management System (CDMS). Beginning September 1, 2009, all official communications to the SPP RE not supported by CDMS must be sent to the SPP Regional Entity File Clerk (Clerk) at SPP_Regional_Entity_File_Clerk@spp.org. You may submit written correspondence to the Clerk at 415 N. McKinley, Suite 140, Little Rock, AR 72205 or fax 501.821.8726.

The Clerk will date stamp and enter the documents into the Registered Entity’s official record, but will not provide an acknowledgement of receipt unless requested.

Registered Entities will continue to respond to Spot Checks and submit Self Reports, Self Certification Data Submittals, and Mitigation Plans in CDMS. Correspondence associated with CMEP functions not supported by CDMS - such as Complaints, Exception Reporting, and Investigations - must be filed with the Clerk. The rule of thumb for filing information with the Clerk: if you do not receive an email confirmation of information submitted in CDMS, you should file the information with the Clerk.

Correspondence filed with the Clerk should include your contact information and, if applicable, reference the SPP RE addressee and NERC Violation Identification Number. If the document is Privileged, Proprietary, Critical Energy Infrastructure, or Non Public, it is the Registered Entity’s responsibility to label it Confidential before submitting it in CDMS or filing with the Clerk (see NERC Rules of Procedure, Confidential Information, § 1500 et. seq.).

Please contact Machelle Smith at 501.688.1681 with questions about this new process.

CIP Standards Compliance Spot/Full Audits

Table 1* entities began July 1, 2009. Spot Audits of 13 requirements.
Table 1* entities begin July 1, 2010. Full Audits of 41 requirements.

* Definitions of Table 1 and Table 2 are available on the NERC website.

NERC Reliability Assessments

2009 Summer Assessment
Calendar of Events

Q4 Regional Entity Trustee Meeting
Tulsa, OK
October 28
8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Register on SPP.org

Fall Compliance Workshop
Kansas City, MO
November 17: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
November 18: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Register on SPP.org

Spring 2010 Compliance Workshop
Grapevine, TX
April 19, 2010: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
April 20, 2010: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Register on SPP.org

Subscribe to the SPP Regional Entity Email Lists
View the SPP RE Calendar

Subscribe to the NERC newsletter
This informative monthly e-newsletter brings you the latest on NERC compliance, standards, and CIP issues. Email mailto:subscribe-nercnews@listserv.nerc.com. Leave the subject and body of the message blank.

Your RE Team

RE Trustees
John Meyer, Trustee—Chairman
Dave Christiano, Trustee
Gerry Burrows, Trustee

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Alison Hayes, General Counsel, (501) 688-1623
Ron Ciesiel, Executive Director of Compliance, (501) 688-1623

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The SPP RE Newsletter is a publication of the Southwest Power Pool Regional Entity.