

# TRUEGRID

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## WELCOME TO TRUE GRID,

a newsletter from the NERC Services team at NAES that updates you on reliability and compliance trends and helps you keep your facility compliant with current and emerging reliability standards. We share lessons learned from our fleet of 160 power plants and the 20+ audits we undergo annually. We welcome your comments in return, so don't hesitate to reply to our authors.



### KEY EFFECTIVE DATES

**7/1/15 MOD-026-1**  
Verification of Models and Data Generator Excitation Control System (R2, 2.1-2.1.6)

**7/1/15 MOD-027-1**  
Verifications of Models and Data Turbine/Governor and Load Control (R2, 2.1-2.1.5)

**7/1/15 TOP-001-4**  
Transmission Operations

**9/1/15 CIP-003-6**  
Security Management Controls (R2, At. 1, Sec. 2 & 3)

**1/1/15 BAL-005-1**  
Balancing Authority Control

**1/1/15 FAC-001-3**  
Facility Interconnection Requirements



### EVENTS

**MARCH 27-29, 2018**  
WECC Compliance Workshop  
Boise, ID

**MARCH 27-29, 2018**  
Human Performance Conference  
Atlanta, GA

**JULY 24-25, 2018**  
NERC Standards & Compliance Workshop  
Columbus, OH

**AUGUST 20-23, 2018**  
NAES NERC Conference  
Seattle, WA



### Director's Moment

This issue of TRUE GRID sheds light on the potential upcoming changes to the Reliability Coordinator structure in WECC, explains reliability practices in Canada, Mexico and Europe, and discusses the critical role transparency plays in NERC compliance programs. Be sure to also check out the Cyber Security Awareness Moment and our NERC News Flashes for more updates from the industry.

[Mark Gollini | Director of NERC Services](#)

### Changes Coming in the West!

CAISO's planned withdrawal from Peak Reliability to become its own Reliability Coordinator, and Peak's joint venture with PJM Connex to create a new marketing in the West, have set changes in motion throughout the Western Interconnection. Alan Bull advises readers to monitor these developments but to hold off on taking action until a clear outcome emerges.

[Alan Bull | GM, Compliance Services](#)

[READ MORE](#)



### NERC Standards: What's Happening in Canada, Mexico and Beyond?

Grid reliability has become an increasing concern beyond U.S. borders, particularly to our north and south in the European Union. Shaun Rohret provides an update on policy practices in Canada, Mexico, and Europe, and explains how the regulating authorities have followed NERC's lead and, in some ways, departed from it.

[Shaun Rohret | NERC Reliability Specialist](#)

[READ MORE](#)



### Transparency in NERC Compliance Programs

Transparency, as Richard Schlottmann sees it, is not just about how clear and concise your plan might look from the outside. You also need to consider how effectively it integrates into your plant's operating philosophy, culture and day-to-day employee responsibilities and workflows.

[Richard Schlottmann | NERC Reliability Specialist](#)

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## CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MOMENT - E-ISAC BULLETINS

The Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) posts physical and cyber security bulletins to aid entities in awareness of threats. Consider subscribing and using non-confidential E-ISAC bulletins to raise security awareness with your employees and contractors on a frequent basis.

As a recent example, a generation facility plant manager received a phone call from an unknown individual who stated he was aware of a computer problem at the plant and that he needed the computer IP addresses to fix the issue. The plant manager recognized the similarities between his conversation and a conversation described in a previous E-ISAC bulletin. The plant manager ended the conversation immediately to subvert any threat.

Register for an individual E-ISAC portal account at <https://www.eisac.com/> and sign up for email notifications on your profile page.



## NEWS FLASHES

### NERC Seeks Industry Input to Streamline Effective Standards

NERC announced an initiative seeking industry input on recommendations to potentially retire existing requirements. NERC released a spreadsheet seeking recommendations and justifications for potential retirements by February 2, 2018. Recommendations for potential retirements will be provided to Standards Efficiency Review teams to consider. The project will use a risk-based approach to identify potential efficiencies that can be made by retiring or modifying currently-effective requirements.

### FERC Proposes Additional Cyber Security Reporting Requirements

On December 21, 2018 FERC issued a notice proposing to direct NERC to develop and submit modifications to the CIP Standards to improve mandatory reporting of cyber security incidents (CSI), in order to enhance awareness of threats to BES reliability. The proposed modifications would broaden CSI subject to mandatory reporting, with required information to include in CSI reports and a deadline for filing. Comments were due February 26, 2018.

### FERC Proposes to Approve CIP Supply Chain Standards

On January 18, 2018 FERC proposed to approve new and revised standards submitted by NERC addressing supply chain risk management. New proposed Standard CIP-013-1 requires responsible entities to develop and implement supply chain risk management plan(s), addressing high or medium impact BES Cyber Systems along with proposed revisions to CIP-005-6 and CIP-010-3. While NERC proposed an 18-month implementation period, FERC proposed a shorter period of 12 months for entities, upon approval. Comments on FERC's notice are due March 26, 2018.