



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-plus audits we undergo annually. We welcome your comments in return, so don't hesitate to reply to our authors.



KEY EFFECTIVE DATES

- 10/1/19 PRC-025-2
Generator Relay Loadability
- 1/1/20 CIP-003-7
Security Management Controls
- 1/1/20 PRC-026-1
Relay Performance During Stable Power Swings
- 7/1/20 CIP-005-6
Electronic Security Perimeters
- 7/1/20 CIP-010-3
Configuration Change Mgmt and Vulnerability Assessments
- 7/1/20 CIP-013-1
Supply Chain Risk Management



EVENTS

September 23-26, 2019
North America
Smart Energy Week
Salt Lake City, UT

October 1-3, 2019
Reliability First's Fall
Reliability and CIP
Workshop
Cleveland, OH

October 8-9, 2019
SERC's Fall Compliance
Seminar
Charlotte, NC

October 15-17, 2019
NAGF Annual
Meeting
Atlanta, GA



Director's Moment

As we work our way through the summer, it is important to remember upcoming and recent changes in the NERC industry. Our experts are here to give you inside advice regarding VAR-002 and the new ERO (CORES) app, while also discussing how to create and maintain a Culture of Compliance. As always our Cyber Security Awareness Moment and News Flashes will keep you well informed about NERC.

Mark Gollini | Director of NERC Services

NERC Spy: Insider's Guide to VAR-002 for Generators

VAR-002 is a trending audit item for Generator Operators. NERC and the Reliability Entities have made it a priority to seek out GO/GOPs with limited knowledge of their designated voltage schedule and identify if any prolonged swings in voltage haven't been reported.

Michael Tate | NERC Reliability Specialist, NAES

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A Compliance Manager's Guide to Shaping Compliance Culture

Many of your plant employees may be asking "Why are we doing this?" and "Does it really matter?" Through training and education, Compliance Managers can foster a positive understanding, promotion, maintaining, and "stay-ahead-of-the-curve" mentality.

William White | NERC Reliability Specialist

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CORES, Align and the Expansion of the ERO Portal

Over the past several years, NERC has been working with the regions to centralize several processes through the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) Portal. The CORES application will be the next system to come online. Read more to learn about the major data types in the CORES system and the results of the addition.

Jack Jackson | Senior NERC Reliability Specialist

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CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MOMENT

Huawei Technologies products have joined Kaspersky products in being banned for use by Federal government agencies. Both companies have strong ties to their country's government intelligence units and both of their home countries require companies to turn over any data they have without warrant or due process. Carefully consider the risk of continuing the use of any products in your networks manufactured/developed by either company.



NEWS FLASHES

NERC Lessons Learned

The Telecom Provider Failure Induced Loss of ICCP from Regional Neighbors Lessons Learned examines an incident in which a registered Reliability Coordinator experienced a temporary loss of inter-control center communications protocol data feeds from their regional neighbors. This loss of connectivity was due to third-party telecommunications vendor equipment that experienced a malfunction. For the next nine hours, these data links were intermittently unavailable. There was no adverse effect on the Bulk Electric System. This Lessons Learned is of primary interest to Reliability Coordinators, Balancing Authorities, Transmission Operators and Transmission Owners.

Electromagnetic Pulses Task Force

Protecting the Bulk Power System and assuring the effective reduction of risks to reliability are integral pieces of the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) mission. NERC has launched efforts to identify reliability concerns associated with Electromagnetic Pulses (EMPs) and potential methods for promoting resilience. A task force was created in April 2019 to first identify key issues and scope areas of improvement for the industry. The task force will also submit, as necessary, best practices and reliability guidelines to the NERC technical committees for review and endorsement. If necessary, a SAR will be submitted to the Standards Committee by the end of the year.

Resources Meet Summer Peak Demand

Atlanta-Projected resources are at or above the levels needed to satisfy summer peak demand under anticipated weather in most assessment areas, NERC's 2019 Summer Reliability Assessment finds. However, resource adequacy challenges in Texas, potential limits on natural gas supplies in southern California and wildfire risk in northern California increase the likelihood of grid emergency procedures this summer. The assessment concludes that planning reverse margins - a key metric that helps evaluate the potential for resource deficiencies - in most areas of North America indicate that bulk power system owners and operators can manage their reliability risk effectively. The risks of seasonal reliability include higher-than-expected generation or transmission outages and higher-than-expected electricity demand, though many areas have enough resources to serve even these very extreme conditions.



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