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"V"	Vote
"B"	Enter ballot
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NSRS Summary of Topics –May 5, 2010

Violation Risk Factors Criteria and Tool

C 05/07/10

A comment period has opened for a proposed VRF Criteria and its tool; All entities are applicable. The current Violation Risk Factor (VRF) definitions were never vetted through the NERC Standards Process, primarily due to time constraints during the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) startup. While the current definitions were a useful start, the lack of examples and clear divisions between risk levels led to inconsistency in their application and potential misallocation of resources.

Another primary problem is that risk is confused with importance. There are many requirements in the standards that are important, but implementing them incorrectly or late does not necessarily lead to cascading failures. Risk, as it applies to the Bulk Electric System (BES), includes both the impact of an event and the probability of the event occurring.

There has been a ratcheting effect in the current standards development and approval process that tends to inflate assigned risk. While this may seem to enhance reliability, it actually draws attention and resources away from true priorities.

The proposed [VRF Criteria and Tool](#) provides two things: 1) a plan to develop a clearer set of VRF definitions, and 2) a plan to develop a more consistent and objective approach of assigning VRFs to reliability standards.

NERC Project 2010-11 TPL Table 1 Order

C 05/26/10

A comment period has been opened until 05/26/10 and a pre-ballot review has been opened until 05/17/10 for the [revised](#) footnote b of Table 1. The ATFNSDT (Project 2006-02) SDT developed this clarification of the TPL standards. Applicable entities are **PC & TP**.

Revised footnote b: [No interruption of firm Load is allowed except: \(1\) Interruption of Load that is directly served by the elements that are removed from service as a result of the Contingency, or \(2\) Planned or controlled interruption of Load supplied by Transmission Facilities made temporarily radial as a result of the Contingency and where that Load must be interrupted to meet performance requirements only on those now radial Transmission Facilities.](#)

[No curtailment of Firm Transmission Service is allowed except when coupled with the appropriate re-dispatch of resources obligated to re-dispatch where it can be demonstrated that Facilities remain within applicable Facility Ratings and those adjustments do not result in the shedding of any firm Load. Where Facilities external to the Transmission Planner's planning region are relied upon, Facility Ratings in those regions should also be respected.](#)

NERC Project 2009-17 Interpretation of PRC-004-1 R1 & R3 and PRC-005-1 R1 & R2 By Y-W Electric and Tri-State G&T

V 05/08/10

This interpretation has been [revised](#). It is open for a ballot period. The applicable entities are TO, DP, & GO.

The following interpretation was developed by the System Protection and Controls Subcommittee.

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PRC-004-1 R1. The Transmission Owner and any Distribution Provider that owns a transmission Protection System shall each analyze its transmission Protection System Misoperations and shall develop and implement a Corrective Action Plan to avoid future Misoperations of a similar nature according to the Regional Reliability Organization's procedures developed for Reliability Standard PRC-003 Requirement 1.

PRC-004-1 R3. The Transmission Owner, any Distribution Provider that owns a transmission Protection System, and the Generator Owner shall each provide to its Regional Reliability Organization, documentation of its Misoperations analyses and Corrective Action Plans according to the Regional Reliability Organization's procedures developed for PRC-003 R1.

PRC-005-1 R1. Each Transmission Owner and any Distribution Provider that owns a transmission Protection System and each Generator Owner that owns a generation Protection System shall have a Protection System maintenance and testing program for Protection Systems that affect the reliability of the BES. The program shall include:

R1.1. Maintenance and testing intervals and their basis.

R1.2. Summary of maintenance and testing procedures.

PRC-005-1 R2. Each Transmission Owner and any Distribution Provider that owns a transmission Protection System and each Generator Owner that owns a generation Protection System shall provide documentation of its Protection System maintenance and testing program and the implementation of that program to its Regional Reliability Organization on request (within 30 calendar days). The documentation of the program implementation shall include:

R2.1. Evidence Protection System devices were maintained and tested within the defined intervals.

R2.2. Date each Protection System device was last tested/maintained.

Question: Y-W Electric Association, Inc. (Y-WEA) and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) respectfully request an interpretation of the term "transmission Protection System" and specifically whether protection for a radially-connected transformer protection system energized from the BES is considered a transmission Protection System and is subject to these standards.

Response: The request for interpretation of PRC-004-1 Requirements R1 & R3 and PRC-005-1 Requirements R1 & R2 focuses on the applicability of the term "transmission Protection System." The NERC Glossary of Terms Used in Reliability Standards contains a definition of "Protection System" but does not contain a definition of transmission Protection System. In these two standards, use of the phrase transmission Protection System indicates that the requirements using this phrase are applicable to any Protection System that is installed for the purpose of detecting faults on transmission elements (lines, buses, transformers, etc.) identified as being included in the Bulk Electric System (BES) and trips an interrupting device that interrupts current supplied directly from the BES. A Protection System for a radially connected transformer energized from the BES would be considered a transmission Protection System and subject to these standards only if the protection trips an interrupting device that interrupts current supplied directly from the BES and the transformer is a BES element.

Recirculation Ballot Standards Process Manual

V 05/08/10

A ballot period has re-opened for NERC [new](#) Standards Process Manual. **All Entities are applicable.** Changes were suggested in the three year performance assessment. NERC advertizes that these changes will improve the speed and effectiveness of standards development process.

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No curtailment of Firm Transmission Service is allowed except when coupled with the appropriate re-dispatch of resources obligated to re-dispatch where it can be demonstrated that Facilities remain within applicable Facility Ratings and those adjustments do not result in the shedding of any firm Load. Where Facilities external to the Transmission Planner's planning region are relied upon, Facility Ratings in those regions should also be respected.

NERC Project 2010-09 Cyber Security Order 706B Nuclear Plant Implementation Plan

B 05/19/10

A 30-day pre-ballot review for the revised implementation plans for versions 2 and 3 of NERC's critical infrastructure protection (CIP) standards has opened. **Applicable entities are U.S. nuclear power plant owners and operators.**

The implementation plans were revised to be more flexible and consider stakeholder comments.