

Texas Regional Entity Standards Development Process

Appendix to Exhibit C to the Delegation Agreement Between NERC and ERCOT

October 19, 2006

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I. Introduction

This document defines the fair and open process for adoption, approval, revision, reaffirmation, and deletion of an Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) Regional Reliability Standard (Regional Standard) by the Texas Regional Entity (Texas RE) a division of ERCOT. Regional Standards provide for the reliable regional and sub-regional planning and operation of the Bulk Power System (BPS), consistent with Good Utility Practice within a Regional Entity's (RE's) geographical footprint.

The process for obtaining a Texas RE Regional Variance to a NERC Reliability Standard shall be the same as the process for obtaining a Regional Standard. Throughout this document, where the term Regional Standard is used, the same process will be applied to a Regional Variance.

Due process is the key to ensuring that Regional 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 Regional Standard's development.

Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the BPS has a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, and c) having the right to appeal.

Proposed Regional Standards shall be subject to approval by NERC, as the electric reliability organization, and by FERC before becoming mandatory and enforceable under Section 215 of the FPA. No Regional Standard shall be effective within the Texas RE area unless filed by NERC with FERC and approved by FERC.

Regional Standards shall provide for as much uniformity as possible with reliability standards across the interconnected BPS of the North American continent. A Regional Standard shall be more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, including a regional difference that addresses matters that the continent-wide reliability standard does not, or shall be a regional difference necessitated by a physical difference in the BPS. A Regional Standard that satisfies the statutory and regulatory criteria for approval of proposed North American reliability standards, and that is more stringent than a continent-wide reliability standard, would generally be acceptable.

Regional Standards, when approved by FERC, shall be made part of the body of NERC reliability standards and shall be enforced upon all applicable BPS owners, operators, and users within the Texas RE area, regardless of membership in the region.

II. Background

The Texas RE may develop, through their own processes, separate Regional Standards that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC Reliability Standards; obtain a Regional Variance; or otherwise address issues that are not addressed in NERC Reliability Standards.

NERC Reliability Standards and Regional Standards are all to be included within the Texas RE's Compliance Program.

Regional Standards are developed consistent with the following philosophies according to the process defined within this document:

- Developed in a fair and open process that provides an opportunity for all interested parties to participate;
- Does not have an adverse impact on commerce that is not necessary for reliability;
- Provides a level of BPS reliability that is adequate to protect public health, safety, welfare, and national security and does not have a significant adverse impact on reliability; and
- Based on 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. As these principles are fundamental to reliability and the market interface, these principles 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 Texas 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 Regional Standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that each Regional Standard serves a purpose in support of reliability of the North American BPS. Each Regional Standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no Regional 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 Regional Standards shall be consistent with the market interface principles. Consideration of the market interface principles is intended to ensure that Regional Standards are written such that they achieve their reliability objective without causing undue restrictions or adverse impacts on competitive electricity markets.

III. Regional Standards Definition

A NERC Reliability Standard defines certain obligations or requirements of entities that operate, plan, and use the BPS 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.

The Texas RE may develop, through its own processes, separate Regional Standards that go beyond, add detail to, or implement NERC Reliability Standards; obtain a Regional Variance; or that cover matters not addressed in NERC Reliability Standards. Regional Criteria may be developed and exist in ERCOT Protocols, Operating Guides, and/or Procedures separately from NERC Reliability Standards, or may be proposed as NERC Reliability Standards. Regional Criteria that exist separately from NERC Reliability Standards shall not be inconsistent with or less stringent than NERC Reliability Standards.

IV. Roles in the Texas RE Regional Standards Development Process

Originator – Any person, acting as a representative of an organization which is directly and materially affected by the operation of ERCOT's BPS, is allowed to request a Regional Standard be developed or an existing Regional Standard modified, or deleted, by creating a Regional Standards Authorization Request (SAR) as described in Appendix B to this document.

Texas RE Board of Directors (Texas RE BOD) – The Texas RE BOD shall act on any proposed Regional Standard that has gone through the process. Once the Regional Standard is approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), compliance with the Regional Standard will be enforced consistent with the terms of the Regional Standard.

Registered Ballot Body (RBB) – The Registered Ballot Body is comprised of all entities or individuals that qualify for one of the Texas RE Segments and are registered with the Texas RE as potential ballot participants. This includes the ERCOT Independent System Operator (ERCOT ISO) and all entities or individuals that are part of an ERCOT Market Participant Segment and are current with any ERCOT designated fees or have received a fee waiver.

Registered Ballot Pool (RBP) – Each Regional Standard has its own ballot pool formed of interested members of the Registered Ballot Body. Through the voting process, the RBP will ensure that the need for and technical merits of a proposed Regional Standard are appropriately considered. The RBP will also ensure that appropriate consideration of views and objections are received during the development process.

Reliability and Operations Subcommittee (ROS) – A balanced subcommittee comprised of the seven (7) ERCOT Market Participant Segments responsible for reviewing events and issues as they may impact ERCOT system reliability and operations. Meetings of the ROS are open to all interested parties. The ERCOT ISO is an active participant in all ROS discussions.

Reliability Standards Committee (RSC) – A balanced committee comprised of entities representing the seven (7) ERCOT Market Participant Segments and the ERCOT ISO, that will consider which requests for new or revised Regional Standards shall be assigned for development (or existing Regional Standards considered for deletion). The RSC will also vote to recommend whether proposed new or revised Regional Standards should be presented for a vote to the Registered Ballot Body.

Reliability Standards Manager (RSM) – A person or persons on the Texas RE staff assigned the task of ensuring that the development, revision or deletion of Regional Standards is in accordance with this document. The RSM works to ensure the integrity of the process and consistency of quality and completeness of the Regional Standards. The RSM manages the

Regional Standards Development Process, and coordinates and facilitates all actions contained in all steps in the process.

Reliability Standards Staff – Employees of the Texas RE that work with or for the Reliability Standards Manager.

Standard Drafting Team (SDT) – A team of technical experts, assigned by the ERCOT Reliability and Operations Subcommittee (ROS), and typically includes a member of the Texas RE staff and the Originator, assigned the task of developing a proposed Regional Standard based upon an approved SAR using the Regional Standard Development Process contained in this document.

Texas RE Segments – The seven (7) ERCOT Market Participant Segments and the ERCOT ISO.

V. Texas RE Regional Standards Development Process

A. Assumptions and Prerequisites

The process for developing and approving Standards is generally based on the procedures of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and other standards-setting organizations in the United States and Canada. The Regional Standards development process has the following characteristics:

- **Due process** – Any person 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, and
 - c) Appealing any negative decision
- **Openness** – Participation is open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by ERCOT region's BPS reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in ERCOT, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of SDTs are open to all interested parties. All proposed SARs and Regional Standards are posted for comment on the Texas RE Website.
- **Balance** – The Texas RE Standards Development Process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests and shall not be dominated by any single interest category.

B. Regional Standards Development Process Steps

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

The Texas RE will coordinate with NERC such that the acknowledgement of receipt of a Regional Standard request identified in Step 1, notice of comment posting period identified in Step 4, and notice for vote identified in Step 5 below are concurrently posted on both the Texas RE and NERC websites.

Step 1 – Development of a Standards Authorization Request (SAR) to Develop, Revise, or Delete a Regional Standard

Any entity (Originator) which is directly or materially impacted by the operation of the BPS within the geographical footprint of the Texas RE may request, via a submittal of a Standard Authorization Request (SAR) form, the development, modification, or deletion of a Regional Standard or Regional Variance. The following entities may submit a SAR:

- Any market participant,
- PUCT Staff,
- ERCOT Staff,
- TRE Staff, and
- Any entity that resides (or represents residents) in the ERCOT Region or operates in the ERCOT Region electricity market.

Any such request shall be submitted to the Texas RE RSM, or his/her designee. The SAR form may be downloaded from the Texas RE Website.

An acceptable SAR contains a description of the proposed Regional Standard subject matter containing sufficiently descriptive detail to clearly define the purpose, scope, impacted parties, and other relevant information of the proposed Regional Standard.

The RSM will verify that the submitted SAR form has been adequately completed. The RSM may offer the Originator suggestions regarding changes and/or improvements to enhance clarity of the Originator's intent and objectives. The Originator is free to accept or reject these suggestions. Within 15 days the RSM will electronically acknowledge receipt of the SAR.

The RSM will post all adequately completed SARs for public viewing and possible comment. Within 60 days of receipt of an adequately completed SAR, the RSC shall determine the disposition of the SAR and if needed post for review and comment.

The disposition decision and decision process shall use the normal "business rules and procedures" of the RSC then in effect. The RSC may vote to take one of the following actions:

- Accept the SAR as a candidate for: development of a new Regional Standard, revision of an existing Regional Standard, or deletion of an existing Regional Standard. The RSC may, in its sole discretion, expand or narrow the scope of the SAR under consideration. The RSC shall prioritize the development of SARs as may be required based on the number of SARs under development at any time.
- Reject the SAR. If the RSC rejects a SAR, a written explanation for rejection will be delivered to the Originator within 30 days of the decision.
- Remand the SAR back to the Originator for additional work. The RSM will make reasonable efforts to assist the Originator in addressing the deficiencies identified by the RSC. The Originator may then resubmit the modified SAR using the process above.

The Originator may choose to withdraw the SAR from further consideration prior to re-submittal to the RSC.

Any SAR that is accepted by the RSC for development of a Regional Standard (or modification or deletion of an existing Regional Standard) shall be posted for public viewing on the Texas RE Website and their status will be updated as appropriate.

Any documentation of the deliberations of the RSC concerning SARs shall be made available according to normal “business rules and procedures” of the RSC then in effect.

Texas RE Staff shall submit a written report to the Texas RE BOD on a periodic basis (at least quarterly at regularly scheduled Texas RE BOD Meetings) showing the status of all SARs that have been brought to the RSC for consideration.

Step 2 – Formation of the Standard Drafting Team and Declaration of Milestone Date

Upon acceptance by the RSC of a SAR for development of a new Regional Standard (or modification or deletion of an existing Regional Standard), the RSC shall direct the ROS to assemble a qualified balanced slate for the SDT. The RSM will solicit drafting team nominees. The SDT will consist of a group of people who collectively have the necessary technical expertise and work process skills. The RSM will recommend a slate of ad-hoc individuals or a pre-existing task force, work group, or similar for the SDT based upon the ROS’ desired team capabilities.

The RSM will ensure that team membership receives all necessary administrative support. This support typically includes a Texas RE staff member and the Originator if he/she chooses to participate. The ROS appoints the SDT interim chair (should not be a Texas RE staff person). The SDT will elect the permanent Chair and Vice-chair at its first meeting.

The RSM submits the proposed list of names of the SDT to the ROS. The ROS will either accept the recommendations of the RSM or modify the SDT slate, as it deems appropriate within 60 days of accepting a SAR for development. Upon approval of the SDT slate by the ROS, the RSC will declare a preliminary date on which the SDT is expected to have ready a completed draft Regional Standard and associated supporting documentation available for comments.

Step 3 – Work and Work Product of the Standard Drafting Team

The RSM will collaborate with the SDT to develop a work plan including the establishment of milestones for completing critical elements. This plan is then delivered to the RSC for its concurrence to ensure that the objectives established by the RSC are met.

The SDT is to meet, either in person or via electronic means as necessary, establish sub-work teams (made up of members of the SDT) as necessary, and performs other activities to address the parameters of the SAR and the milestone date(s) established by the RSC.

The work product of the SDT will consist of the following:

- A draft Regional Standard consistent with the SAR on which it was based.
- An assessment of the impact of the SAR on neighboring regions, and appropriate input from the neighboring regions if the SAR is determined to impact any neighboring region.
- An implementation plan, including the nature, extent and duration of field-testing, if any.
- Identification of any existing Regional Standard that will be deleted, in part or whole, or otherwise impacted by the implementation of the draft Regional Standard
- Technical reports and/or work papers that provide technical support for the draft Regional Standard under consideration.
- Document the perceived reliability impact should the Regional Standard be approved.

Upon completion of these tasks, the SDT submits these documents to the RSC, which will verify that the proposed Regional Standard is consistent with the SAR on which it was developed.

The SDT regularly (at least once each month) informs the RSC of its progress in meeting a timely completion of the draft Regional Standard. The SDT may request RSC scope changes of the SAR at any point in the Regional Standard Development Process.

The RSC may, at any time, exercise its authority over the Regional Standards Development Process by directing the SDT to move to Step 4 (below) and post the current work product for comment. If there are competing drafts, the RSC may, at its sole discretion, have posted the version(s) of the draft Regional Standard for comment on the Texas RE Website. The RSC may take this step at any time after a SDT has been commissioned to develop the Regional Standard.

Step 4 – Comment Posting Period

At the direction from the RSC, the RSM then facilitates the posting of the draft Regional Standard on the Texas RE Website, along with a draft implementation plan and supporting documents, for a 30-day comment period. The RSM shall also give notice of the posting to all potentially interested entities inside or outside of the ERCOT region of which Texas RE is aware. The RSM will utilize the typical communication procedures in effect or other means as deemed appropriate.

Within 30 days of the conclusion of the 30-day comment posting period, the SDT shall convene and consider changes to the draft Regional Standard, the implementation plan, and/or supporting technical documents based upon comments received. The SDT may then elect to return to Step 3 to revise the draft Regional Standard, implementation plan, and/or supporting technical documentation.

The SDT shall prepare a “modification report” summarizing the comments received and the changes made as a result of these comments. The modification report also summarizes comments that were rejected by the SDT and the reason(s) that these comments were rejected, in part or whole. Responses to all comments will be posted on the Texas RE Website no later than the next posting.

Step 5 – Posting for Voting by the Registered Ballot Pool

Upon recommendation of the SDT, and if the RSC concurs that all of the requirements for development of the standard have been met, the RSM shall post the proposed standard and implementation plan for ballot on the Texas RE Website. RSM shall also announce the vote to approve the standard, including when the vote will be conducted and the method for voting. Once the notice for a vote has been issued, no substantive modifications may be made to the proposed standard unless the revisions are posted and a new notice of the vote is issued.

The RSM will schedule a vote among the Registered Ballot Pool, which is to be scheduled to commence no sooner than 15 days and no later than 30 days following this posting.

The RSM shall send a notice to every entity in the Registered Ballot Body (RBB) to notify them of an opportunity to become a part of the Registered Ballot Pool for this Regional Standard or a Regional Variance. This notice should precede the start of the ballot by at least 30 days. The purpose of this notice is to establish a ballot pool to participate in the consensus development process and ballot the proposed action. All members of the Registered Ballot Body are eligible to participate in voting on proposed new Regional Standards, Regional Standard revisions, or Regional Standard deletions. There shall be one person designated as the primary representative of each entity. Those members of the RBB that sign up for the Ballot Pool become that pool.

The Texas RE Registered Ballot Pool shall be able to vote on the proposed standard during a 15-day period. Votes shall be submitted electronically, or through other means as approved by the RSC.

Voting is an advisory to the Texas RE BOD. The voting results will be composed of only the votes from Registered Ballot Pool members who have responded within the 15-day voting period. Votes may be accompanied by comments explaining the vote, but are not required. All comments shall be responded to and posted to the Texas RE Website prior to going to the RSC or Texas RE BOD.

At least one (1) representative from six (6) of the eight (8) Texas RE Segments must vote to constitute a quorum. Each ERCOT Market Participant Segment shall have one (1) Segment Vote. The representative of each Voting ERCOT Member shall receive an equal fraction of its Segment Vote. The ERCOT ISO shall have 1/4 vote.

Step 6A – Registered Ballot Pool Voting Receives 2/3 or Greater Affirmative Votes of the Texas RE Segments

If a draft Regional Standard receives 2/3 or greater (4.83 segment votes=2/3 of 7.25) affirmative votes during the 15-day voting period, the RSC will forward the Regional Standard to the Texas RE BOD for action (Step 7).

Step 6B – Membership Voting Does Not Receive 2/3 Affirmative Votes of the Texas RE Segments

If a draft Regional Standard does not receive 2/3 or greater (4.83 segment votes=2/3 of 7.25) affirmative votes during the 15-day voting period, the RSC may:

- Revise the SAR on which the draft Regional Standard was based and remand the development work back to the original SDT or a newly appointed SDT. The resulting draft Regional Standard and/or implementation plan will be posted for a second voting period. The RSC may require a second comment period prior to a second voting period. The second posting of the draft Regional Standard, implementation plan, and supporting documentation shall be within 60 days of the RSC action.
 - If a draft Regional Standard receives 2/3 or greater (4.83 segment votes=2/3 of 7.25) affirmative votes during the second voting period, the RSC will forward to the Texas RE BOD for action (Step 7).
 - If a draft Regional Standard does not receive 2/3 or greater (4.83 =2/3 of 7.25) affirmative votes during the second voting period, the RSC will refer the draft Regional Standard and implementation plan to the Texas RE BOD. The RSC may also submit an assessment, opinion, and recommendations to the Texas RE BOD (Step 7).
- Direct the existing SDT to reconsider or modify certain aspects of the draft Regional Standard and/or implementation plan. The resulting draft Regional Standard and/or implementation plan will be posted for a second voting period. The RSC may require a second comment period prior to the second voting period. The second posting of the draft Regional Standard, implementation plan, and supporting documentation shall be within 60 days of the RSC action.
 - If a draft Regional Standard receives 2/3 or greater (4.83=2/3 of 7.25) affirmative votes on the second voting period, the RSC will forward it to the Texas RE BOD for action (Step 7).
 - If a draft Regional Standard does not receive 2/3 or greater (4.83=2.3 of 7.25) affirmative votes on the second voting period, the RSC will refer the draft Regional Standard and implementation plan to the Texas RE BOD. The RSC may also submit an assessment, opinion, and recommendations to the Texas RE BOD (Step 7).
- Recommend termination of all work on the development of the Regional Standard action under consideration and so notify the Texas RE BOD.

Step 7 – Action by the Texas RE Board of Directors

A proposed Regional Standard submitted to the Texas RE BOD for action shall be publicly posted at least 10 days prior to action by the Texas RE BOD. At a regular or special meeting, the Texas RE BOD shall consider adoption of the draft Regional Standard. The Texas RE BOD shall be provided with an “informational package” which includes:

- The draft Regional Standard and any modification or deletion of other related existing Regional Standard(s)
- Implementation Plan (including recommending field testing and effective dates)
- Technical Documentation supporting the draft Regional Standard
- A summary of the vote and summary of the comments and responses that accompanied the votes.

The Texas RE BOD will consider the results of the voting and dissenting opinions. The Texas RE BOD will consider any advice offered by the RSC and may:

- Approve the proposed Regional Standard;
- Remand the proposed Regional Standard to the RSC with comments and instructions;
or
- Disapprove the proposed Regional Standard without recourse.

Under no circumstances may the Texas RE BOD substantively modify the proposed Regional Standard.

Once a Regional Standard is approved by the Texas RE BOD, the standard will be submitted to NERC for approval and filing with FERC.

Step 8 – Implementation of a Regional Standard

Upon approval of a draft Regional Standard by the Texas RE BOD, the RSM will notify the membership of such action of the Texas RE BOD through the normal and customary membership communication procedures and processes then in effect. The RSM will take whatever steps are necessary to have a Regional Standard reviewed and/or approved by NERC or any successor organization.

C. Regional Standards Integration

Once the Regional Standard is approved by FERC the RSM shall notify the stakeholders of the effective date. The RSM will also notify the Texas RE Compliance Staff for integration into the Texas RE Compliance Program.

Appendix A – Stakeholder Representation

The Texas RE stakeholder representation for Regional Standards development is as follows:

I. *Balanced Decision Making in Committees*

The Reliability Standards Committee (RSC), comprised of representatives from the Texas RE Segments (Independent Generators, Investor-Owned Utilities, Independent Power Marketers, Independent Retail Electric Providers, Municipally-Owned Utilities, Cooperatives, Consumers, and ERCOT ISO), is to provide balanced decision-making and due process for Regional Standards and Regional Variances. The RSC will receive, consider, and vote upon requests for new or revised Regional Standards and Regional Variances.

The RSC will consider any requests for Regional Standards or Regional Variances from parties that are directly and materially affected by the operation of the ERCOT Region BPS.

II. *Texas RE Board of Directors (BOD)*

The Texas RE is a division of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), a Texas non-profit corporation that is the Independent System Operator for the ERCOT Region. ERCOT is governed by a combination independent and balanced stakeholder board, as required by Section 39.151 of the Texas Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA). The Texas RE BOD includes the following individuals:

- Five independent individuals who are unaffiliated with any electric market participant who are each approved by the Texas Public Utility Commission (PUCT) for three-year terms;
- Six electric market participant representatives from each of the following market segments: Independent Generators, Investor-Owned Utilities, Independent Power Marketers, Independent Retail Electric Providers, Municipally-Owned Utilities, and Cooperatives;
- Three Consumer representatives;
- CEO of ERCOT (as ex officio voting Director); and
- Chairman of the PUCT (as ex officio non-voting Director).

Although the Texas RE BOD will have the final vote on proposed Regional Standards and Regional Variances, the Texas RE BOD will not have involvement in Regional Standard compliance and enforcement activities.

III. *Registered Ballot Body (RBB)*

A Registered Ballot Body (RBB) will be comprised of representatives from the Texas RE Segments (Independent Generators, Investor-Owned Utilities, Independent Power Marketers, Independent Retail Electric Providers, Municipally-Owned Utilities, Cooperatives, Consumers, and ERCOT ISO), to provide balanced decision-making on Regional Standards. The RBB is eligible to vote on all proposed new or revised Regional Standards. A Registered Ballot Pool

(RBP) will be formed for each proposed Regional Standard and will be a subset of the RBB. The RBP will vote on a particular standard action.

Appendix B – Principles, Characteristics, and Special Procedures

I. Principles

Due process is the key to ensuring that regional reliability 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 the development of a standard.

The Texas RE develops Regional Standards with due consideration of the following principles, in accordance with the steps outlined in this procedure. The process must ensure that any Regional Standard is technically sound and the technical specifications proposed would achieve a valuable reliability objective.

The standards development process has the following characteristics:

- **Open** – Participation in the development of a Regional Standard shall be open to all organizations that are directly and materially affected by ERCOT BPS reliability. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Participation shall not be conditioned upon membership in ERCOT, and shall not be unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements. Meetings of drafting teams shall be open to ERCOT members and others.
- **Balanced** – The Texas RE Standards Development Process strives to have an appropriate balance of interests and shall not be dominated by any two interest categories and no single interest category shall be able to defeat a matter.
- **Inclusive** – Any entity (person, organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest in the ERCOT BPS in the Texas RE area shall have a right to participate by: a) expressing a position and its basis, b) having that position considered, and c) having the right to appeal.
- **Fair due process** – The Texas RE Standards Development Process shall provide for reasonable notice and opportunity for public comment. At a 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 regional reliability standards shall be transparent. All standards development meetings shall be open and publicly noticed on the regional entity's Web site.
- Does not unnecessarily delay development of the proposed Regional Standard.

NERC has adopted reliability principles and market interface principles to define the purpose, scope, and nature of reliability standards. These principles are to be used to guide the development of reliability standards, including regional reliability standards. The NERC Board

of Trustees may modify these principles from time to time, as necessary, to adapt its vision for reliability standards.

Each Regional Standard shall enable or support one or more of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that each Regional Standard serves a purpose in support of the reliability of the ERCOT BPS. Each Regional Standard shall also be consistent with all of the reliability principles, thereby ensuring that no Regional Standard undermines reliability through an unintended consequence.

While 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 Regional Standards shall be consistent with NERC's 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.

II. Regional Standard Characteristics and Elements

a. Characteristics of a Regional Standard

The following characteristics describe objectives to be considered in the development of Regional Standards:

1. **Applicability** – Each Regional Standard clearly identifies the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, with any specific additions or exceptions noted. Such functional classes include: Reliability Coordinators, Balancing Authorities, Transmission Operators, Transmission Owners, Generator Operators, Generator Owners, Interchange Authorities, Transmission Service Providers, Market Operators, Planning Authorities, Transmission Planners, Resource Planners, Load-Serving Entities, Purchasing-Selling Entities, and Distribution Providers. Each Regional Standard identifies the geographic applicability of the standard. A standard may also identify any limitations on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility characteristics.
2. **Reliability Objectives** – Each Regional Standard has a clear statement of purpose that describes how the standard contributes to the reliability of the ERCOT BPS.
3. **Requirement or Outcome** – Each Regional Standard states one or more requirements, which if achieved by the applicable entities, will provide for a reliable BPS, consistent with good utility practices and the public interest.
4. **Measurability** – Each performance requirement is stated so as to be objectively measurable by a third party with knowledge or expertise in the area addressed by that requirement. Each performance requirement has one or more associated measures used to objectively evaluate compliance with the requirement. If performance can be

practically measured quantitatively, metrics are provided to determine satisfactory performance.

5. **Technical Basis in Engineering and Operations** — Each Regional Standard is based upon sound engineering and operating judgment, analysis, or experience, as determined by expert practitioners in that particular field.
6. **Completeness** — Each Regional Standard is complete and self-contained. Supporting references may be provided with standards, but they are not part of the standard and do not impose mandatory requirements.
7. **Clear Language** — Each Regional Standard is stated using clear and unambiguous language. Responsible entities, using reasonable judgment and in keeping with good utility practice, are able to arrive at a consistent understanding of the required performance.
8. **Practicality** — Each Regional Standard establishes requirements that can be practically implemented by the assigned responsible entities within the specified effective date and thereafter.
9. **Consistent Terminology** — To the extent possible, Regional Standards use a set of standard terms and definitions that are approved through the regional standards development procedure.

Although Regional Standards have a common format and process, several types of standards may exist, each with a different approach to measurement:

- **Technical standards** are related to the provision, maintenance, operation, or state of electric systems, and will likely contain measures of physical parameters that are technical in nature.
- **Performance standards** are related to the actions of entities providing for or impacting the reliability of the BPS, and will likely contain measures of the results of such actions or qualities of performance of such actions.
- **Preparedness standards** are related to the actions of entities to be prepared for conditions that are unlikely to occur, but are nonetheless critical to reliability, and will likely contain measures of such preparations or the state of preparedness.

b. Elements of a Regional Standard

To ensure uniformity of regional reliability standards, a Regional Standard shall consist of the elements identified in this section of the procedure. These elements are intended to apply a systematic discipline in the development and revision of standards. This discipline is necessary to achieving standards that are measurable, enforceable, and consistent.

All mandatory requirements of a regional reliability standard shall be within the 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.

Table 1 – Performance Elements of a Regional Standard

Identification Number	A unique identification number assigned in accordance with an administrative classification system to facilitate tracking and reference.
Title	A brief, descriptive phrase identifying the topic of the standard.
Applicability	Clear identification of the functional classes of entities responsible for complying with the standard, noting any specific additions or exceptions. If not applicable to the entire Texas RE area, then a clear identification of the portion of the BPS to which the standard applies. Any limitation on the applicability of the standard based on electric facility requirements should be described.
Effective Date and Status	The effective date of the standard or, prior to approval of the standard, the proposed effective date.
Purpose	The purpose of the standard. The purpose shall explicitly state what outcome will be achieved or is expected by this standard.
Requirement(s)	Explicitly stated technical, performance, and preparedness requirements. Each requirement identifies what entity is responsible and what action is to be performed or what outcome is to be achieved. Each statement in the requirements section shall be a statement for which compliance is mandatory.
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 BPS instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the BPS at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning timeframe that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly cause or contribute to BPS instability, separation, or a cascading sequence of failures, or could place the BPS at an unacceptable risk of instability, separation, or cascading failures, or could hinder restoration to 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 BPS, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the BPS, but is unlikely to lead to BPS instability, separation, or cascading failures; or (b) is a requirement in a planning timeframe that, if violated, could, under emergency, abnormal, or restorative conditions anticipated by the preparations, directly affect the electrical state or capability of the BPS, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the BPS, but is unlikely, under emergency, abnormal, or restoration conditions anticipated by the preparations, to lead to BPS instability, separation, or cascading failures, nor to hinder restoration to a</p>

	<p>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 BPS, or the ability to effectively monitor and control the BPS; 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 BPS, or the ability to effectively monitor, control, or restore the BPS.</p>
Measure(s)	<p>Each requirement shall be addressed by one or more measures. Measures are used to assess performance and outcomes for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements stated above. Each measure will identify to whom the measure applies and the expected level of performance or outcomes required demonstrating compliance. Each measure shall be tangible, practical, and as objective as is practical. It is important to realize that measures are proxies to assess required performance or outcomes. Achieving the measure should be a necessary and sufficient indicator that the requirement was met. Each measure shall clearly refer to the requirement(s) to which it applies.</p>

Table 2 – Compliance Elements of a Regional Standard

Compliance Monitoring Process	<p>Defines for each measure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific data or information that is required to measure performance or outcomes. • The entity that is responsible for providing the data or information for measuring performance or outcomes. • The process that will be used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes. • The entity that is 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.
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Table 3 – Supporting Information Elements

Interpretation	Any interpretation of regional reliability standard that is developed and approved in accordance with Section VI “Interpretation of Regional Standards” in Appendix B of this procedure, to expound on the application of the standard for unusual or unique situations or to provide clarifications.
Implementation Plan	Each regional reliability 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	<p>This section references related documents that support reasons for, or otherwise provide additional information related to the regional reliability standard. Examples include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glossary of terms • Developmental history of the standard and prior versions • Notes pertaining to implementation or compliance • Regional Standard references • Regional Standard supplements • Procedures • Practices • Training references • Technical references • White papers • Internet links to related information

III. Maintenance of the Texas RE Regional Standards Development Process

Significant changes to this process shall begin with the preparation of a SAR and be addressed using the same procedure as a request to add, modify, or delete a Regional Standard.

The RSC has the authority to make ‘minor’ changes to this process as deemed appropriate by the RSC and subject to the RSC voting practices and procedures then in effect. The Reliability Standards Manager, on behalf of the RSC, shall promptly notify the Texas RE BOD of such ‘minor’ changes to this process for their review and concurrence at the next Texas RE BOD meeting.

IV. Maintenance of Regional Standards

The RSM shall ensure that each Regional Standard is reviewed at least once every five years from the effective date of the Standard or the latest revision to the Regional Standard,

whichever is the later. The review process shall be conducted by soliciting comments from the stakeholders. If no changes are warranted, the RSM shall recommend to the Texas RE BOD that the Regional Standard be reaffirmed. If the review indicates a need to revise or delete a Regional Standard, a SAR shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with the standards development process contained in this process.

V. Urgent Action

Under certain conditions, the RSC may designate a proposed Regional Standard or revision to a standard as requiring urgent action. Urgent action may be appropriate when a delay in implementing a proposed standard or revision could materially impact reliability of the BPS. The RSC must use its judgment carefully to ensure an urgent action is truly necessary and not simply an expedient way to change or implement a Regional Standard.

An originator prepares a SAR and a draft of the proposed standard and submits both to the Reliability Standards Manager. The standard request must include a justification for urgent action. The RSM submits the request to the RSC for its consideration. If the RSC designates the requested standard or revision as an urgent action item, then the RSM shall immediately post the draft for pre-ballot review. This posting requires a minimum 30-day posting period before the ballot and applies the same voting procedure as detailed in Step 6.

Any Regional Standard approved as an urgent action shall have a termination date specified that shall not exceed one year from the approval date. Should there be a need to make the standard permanent the standard would be required to go through the full Regional Standard Development Process. All urgent action standards require Texas RE BOD, NERC, and FERC approval, as outlined for standards in the regular process.

Urgent actions that expire may be renewed using the urgent action process again, in the event a permanent standard is not adopted. In determining whether to authorize an urgent action standard for a renewal ballot, the RSC shall consider the impact of the standard on the reliability of the BPS and whether expeditious progress is being made toward a permanent replacement standard. The RSC shall not authorize a renewal ballot if there is insufficient progress toward adopting a permanent replacement standard or if the RSC lacks confidence that a reasonable completion date is achievable. The intent is to ensure that an urgent action standard does not in effect take on a degree of permanence due to the lack of an expeditious effort to develop a permanent replacement standard. With these principles, there is no predetermined limit on the number of times an urgent action may be renewed. However, each urgent action standard renewal shall be effective only upon approval by the Texas RE BOD, and approval by applicable governmental authorities.

Any person or entity, including the drafting team working on a permanent replacement standard, may at any time submit a standard request proposing that an urgent action standard become a permanent standard by following the full standards process.

VI. Interpretations of Regional Standards

All persons who are directly and materially affected by ERCOT's BPS reliability shall be permitted to request an interpretation of a Regional Standard. The person requesting an interpretation will send a request to the RSM explaining the specific circumstances surrounding the request and what clarifications are required as applied to those circumstances. The request should indicate the material impact to the requesting party or others caused by the lack of clarity or a possibly incorrect interpretation of the standard.

The RSM will assemble a team with the relevant expertise to address the clarification. The Interpretation Drafting Team (IDT) typically consists of members from the original SDT. The RSM submits the proposed list of names of the IDT to the ROS. The ROS will either accept the recommendations of the RSM or modify the IDT slate.

As soon as practical (not more than 45 days), the team will draft a written interpretation to the Regional Standard addressing the issues raised. Once the IDT has completed a draft interpretation to the Regional Standard addressing only the issues raised, the team will forward the draft interpretation to the RSM. The RSM will forward the draft interpretation to the Texas RE Chief Compliance Officer. The Chief Compliance Officer is to assess if the inclusion of the interpretation lessens the measurability of the Regional Standard. In addition the RSM will forward the interpretation to the ROS. Barring receipt of an opinion from either the Chief Compliance Officer or ROS within 21 days, that the interpretation lessens measurability or is not technically appropriate for the Regional Standard, respectively, the RSM will forward the interpretation to the RSC. The RSC will determine if the interpretation is consistent with the Regional Standard. The RSM, on behalf of the RSC, will forward the interpretation to the Texas RE BOD for informational purposes as being appended to the approved Regional Standard.

Note: In the event that the Chief Compliance Officer determines that measurability is lessened, the Chief Compliance Officer shall provide an explanation of his/her reasoning to the RSM and IDT for inclusion in a subsequent reversion. The ROS shall in a similar manner provide an explanation of its reasoning if it determines that the interpretation makes the standard technically inappropriate. In either case, the IDT and RSM will continue to re-circulate the interpretation as stated above.

The interpretation will stand until such time as the Regional Standard is revised through the normal process, at which time the Regional Standard will be modified to incorporate the clarifications provided by the interpretation.

VII. 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 Regional Standard shall have the right to appeal. This Appeals Process applies only to this Regional Standards Process.

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

The Appeals Process provides two levels, with the goal of expeditiously resolving the issue to the satisfaction of the participants:

Level 1 Appeal

Level 1 is the required first step in the appeals process. The appellant submits a complaint in writing to the RSM that describes the substantive or procedural action or inaction associated with Regional Standard or the Regional Standards Process. The appellant describes in the complaint the actual or potential adverse impact to the appellant. Assisted by any necessary staff and committee resources, the RSM shall prepare a written response addressed to the appellant as soon as practical, but not more than 45 days after receipt of the complaint. If the appellant accepts the response as a satisfactory resolution of the issue, both the complaint and response will be made a part of the public record associated with the Regional Standard.

Level 2 Appeal

If after the Level 1 Appeal the appellant remains unsatisfied with the resolution, as indicated by the appellant in writing to the Reliability Standards Manager, the RSM shall convene a Level 2 Appeals Panel. This panel shall consist of five members total appointed by the Texas RE BOD. In all cases, Level 2 Appeals Panel Members shall have no direct affiliation with the participants in the appeal.

The RSM shall post the complaint and other relevant materials and provide at least 30 days notice of the meeting of the Level 2 Appeals Panel. In addition to the appellant, any person that is directly and materially affected by the substantive or procedural action or inaction referenced in the complaint shall be heard by the panel. The panel shall not consider any expansion of the scope of the appeal that was not presented in the Level 1 Appeal. The panel may in its decision find for the appellant and remand the issue to the RSC with a statement of the issues and facts in regard to which fair and equitable action was not taken. The panel may find against the appellant with a specific statement of the facts that demonstrate fair and equitable treatment of the appellant and the appellant's objections. The panel may not, however, revise, approve, disapprove, or adopt a Regional Standard. The actions of the Level 2 Appeals Panel shall be publicly posted.

In addition to the foregoing, a procedural objection that has not been resolved may be submitted to Texas RE BOD for consideration at the time the Texas RE BOD decides whether to adopt a particular Regional Standard. The objection must be in writing, signed by an officer of the objecting entity, and contain a concise statement of the relief requested and a clear demonstration of the facts that justify that relief. The objection must be filed no later than 30 days after the announcement of the vote on the Regional Standard in question.

Appendix C – Regional Standard Authorization Request Form

The tables below provide a representative example of information in a Regional Standard Authorization Request (SAR). The RSM shall be responsible for implementing and maintaining the applicable form as needed to support the information requirements of the Texas RE Standards Process. The latest version of the form will be downloadable from the Texas RE's Standards Development Web page.

Standard Authorization Request

Texas RE to complete

ID
Authorized for Posting
Authorized for Development

Title of Proposed Regional Standard:
Request Date:

SAR Originator Information

Name:	SAR Type (Check one box.)	
Company:	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Regional Standard
Telephone:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revision to Existing Regional Standard
Fax:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal of Existing Regional Standard
Email:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urgent Action

<p>Purpose (Describe the purpose of the proposed regional reliability standard – what the standard will achieve in support of reliability.)</p>
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<p>Industry Need (Provide a detailed statement justifying the need for the proposed regional reliability standard, along with any supporting documentation.)</p>

Brief Description (Describe the proposed regional reliability standard in sufficient detail to clearly define the scope in a manner that can be easily understood by others.)

Reliability Functions

The Regional Standard will Apply to the Following Functions *(Check all applicable boxes.)*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Reliability Coordinator	The entity that is the highest level of authority who is responsible for the reliable operation of the BPS, has the Wide Area view of the BPS, and has the operating tools, processes and procedures, including the authority to prevent or mitigate emergency operating situations in both next-day analysis and real-time operations. The Reliability Coordinator has the purview that is broad enough to enable the calculation of Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits, which may be based on the operating parameters of transmission systems beyond any Transmission Operator's vision.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Balancing Authority	The responsible entity that integrates resource plans ahead of time, maintains load-interchange-generation balance within a Balancing Authority Area, and supports Interconnection frequency in real time.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interchange Authority	Authorizes valid and balanced Interchange Schedules.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning Authority	The responsible entity that coordinates and integrates transmission facility and service plans, resource plans, and protection systems.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transmission Service Provider	The entity that administers the transmission tariff and provides Transmission Service to Transmission Customers under applicable transmission service agreements.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transmission Owner	The entity that owns and maintains transmission facilities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transmission Operator	The entity responsible for the reliability of its "local" transmission system, and that operates or directs the operations of the transmission facilities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transmission Planner	The entity that develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the reliability (adequacy) of the interconnected bulk power transmission systems within its portion of the Planning Authority Area.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Planner	The entity that develops a long-term (generally one year and beyond) plan for the resource adequacy of specific loads (customer demand and energy requirements) within a Planning Authority Area.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Generator Operator	The entity that operates generating unit(s) and performs the functions of supplying energy and Interconnected Operations Services.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Generator Owner	Entity that owns and maintains generating units.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Purchasing-Selling Entity	The entity that purchases or sells, and takes title to, energy, capacity, and Interconnected Operations Services. Purchasing-Selling Entities may be

		affiliated or unaffiliated merchants and may or may not own generating facilities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Distribution Provider	Provides and operates the “wires” between the transmission system and the customer.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Load-Serving Entity	Secures energy and transmission service (and related Interconnected Operations Services) to serve the electrical demand and energy requirements of its end-use customers.

Reliability and Market Interface Principles

Applicable Reliability Principles <i>(Check all boxes that apply.)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Interconnected BPSs shall be planned and operated in a coordinated manner to perform reliably under normal and abnormal conditions as defined in the NERC Standards.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. The frequency and voltage of interconnected BPSs shall be controlled within defined limits through the balancing of real and reactive power supply and demand.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Information necessary for the planning and operation of interconnected BPSs shall be made available to those entities responsible for planning and operating the systems reliably.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Plans for emergency operation and system restoration of interconnected BPSs shall be developed, coordinated, maintained, and implemented.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Facilities for communication, monitoring, and control shall be provided, used, and maintained for the reliability of interconnected BPSs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Personnel responsible for planning and operating interconnected BPSs shall be trained, qualified, and have the responsibility and authority to implement actions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. The security of the interconnected BPSs shall be assessed, monitored, and maintained on a wide-area basis.
Does the proposed Regional Standard comply with all of the following Market Interface Principles? <i>(Select ‘yes’ or ‘no’ from the drop-down box.)</i>	
Recognizing that reliability is an Common Attribute of a robust North American economy:	
1. A reliability standard shall not give any market participant an unfair competitive advantage. Yes	
2. A reliability standard shall neither mandate nor prohibit any specific market structure. Yes	
3. A reliability standard shall not preclude market solutions to achieving compliance with that standard. Yes	
4. A reliability standard shall not require the public disclosure of commercially sensitive information. All market participants shall have equal opportunity to access commercially non-sensitive information that is required for compliance with reliability standards. Yes	

Detailed Description <i>(Provide enough detail so that an independent entity familiar with the industry could draft a standard based on this description.)</i>

Related Standards

Standard No.	Explanation

Related SARs

SAR ID	Explanation

Appendix D – Texas RE Standards Development Process Diagram



