



**TEXAS RE**

# **Physical Security**

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# Upcoming Texas RE Events



talk with  
TEXASRE

March 25, 2025

Training Exercises



talk with  
TEXASRE

April 1, 2025

IBR Work Plans  
and Registration



talk with  
TEXASRE

April 8, 2025

Trends for New  
Registrants



# Upcoming Texas RE Events



April 23, 2025

Spring Standards,  
Security, &  
Reliability  
Workshop



May 14, 2025

Q2 MRC, AGR&F, and  
Board Meetings



July 16, 2025

Evolving Grid  
Workshop



# Upcoming ERO Enterprise Events

## NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION



Date	Event
March 25-27	<a href="#">Physical Security Workshop (SERC)</a>
March 25-27	<a href="#">Reliability &amp; Security Workshop (WECC)</a>
April 2	<a href="#">Application of IBR Practice Guide Workshop (SERC)</a>
April 3	<a href="#">2025 Virtual RAM Conference (MRO)</a>
April 8-10	<a href="#">System Operator Conference 1 (SERC)</a>
April 10	<a href="#">GridEx VIII Preparation Webinar (MRO)</a>



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Table 1: 2024 and 2025 Risk Elements	
2024	2025
Remote Connectivity	Remote Connectivity
Supply Chain	Supply Chain
Physical Security	Physical Security
Incident Response	Incident Response
Stability Studies	<b>Transmission Planning and Modeling</b>
Inverter-Based Resources	Inverter-Based Resources
Facility Ratings	Facility Ratings
Extreme Weather Response	Extreme Weather Response



# The Importance of Physical Security

Resilience and Continuity

Protection of BES Assets

Integration with Cybersecurity

Public Safety



# Physical Security Process and the Standards



## Assessment

(CIP-014-3)



## Physical Protections

(CIP-003-8 and CIP-006-6)



## Monitoring/Reporting

(CIP-006-6)



# CIP-014-3 Assessment

R4. Each TO that identified a Transmission station, Transmission substation, or a primary control center in R1 and verified according to R2, and each TOP notified by a TO according to R3, shall conduct an evaluation of the potential threats and vulnerabilities of a physical attack to each of their respective Transmission station(s), Transmission substation(s), and primary control center(s) identified in R1 and verified according to R2.

The evaluation shall consider the following:

Unique characteristics of the identified and verified Transmission station(s), Transmission substation(s), and primary Control Center(s);

Prior history of attack on similar facilities taking into account the frequency, geographic proximity, and severity of past physical security related events

Intelligence or threat warnings received from sources such as law enforcement, the ERO, the E-ISAC, U.S. federal and/or Canadian governmental agencies, or their successors



# CIP-003-8 Physical Protections



Section 2: Each Responsible Entity shall control physical access, based on need as determined by the Responsible Entity, to:

- The asset or the locations of the low impact BES Cyber Systems within the asset
- The Cyber Asset(s), as specified by the Responsible Entity, that provide electronic access control(s) implemented for Section 3.1, if any



# CIP-006-6 Key Definitions

## Physical Security Perimeter (PSP)

- The physical, completely enclosed “six-wall” border surrounding computer rooms, telecommunications rooms, operations centers, and other locations in which Critical Cyber Assets are housed and for which access is controlled

## Physical Access Control System (PACS)

- Cyber Assets that control, alert, or log access to the Physical Security Perimeter(s), exclusive of locally mounted hardware or devices at the Physical Security Perimeter such as motion sensors, electronic lock control mechanisms, and badge readers



# CIP-006-6 Physical Protections

Only Medium Impact BCS with ERC

**Part 1.2** Utilize at least one physical access control to allow only individuals who have authorized unescorted physical access into the Physical Security Perimeter (PSP)

Only High Impact BCS

**Part 1.3** Utilize at least two or more different physical access controls

**Part 1.10** Restrict physical access to cabling and nonprogrammable communication components outside of the PSP or encrypt/monitor the status of the link and issue an alarm or alert within 15 minutes of detection, or equal logical protection

**Part 2.1** Require continuous escorted access of visitors within each PSP, except during CIP Exceptional Circumstances

**Part 3.1** Maintenance and testing of each Physical Access Control System (PACS) and locally mounted hardware or devices at the PSP at least once every 24 calendar months to ensure they function properly



# CIP-006-6 Monitoring and Reporting

**Part 1.4** Monitor for unauthorized access into a PSP

**Part 1.5** Issue an alarm or alert in response to detected unauthorized access through a physical access point to the personnel identified in the BES Cyber Security Incident Response Plan within 15 minutes of detection

**Part 1.6** Monitor each PACS for unauthorized physical access

**Part 1.7** Issue an alarm or alert of detected unauthorized physical access of a PACS to personnel identified in the BES Cyber Security Incident Response Plan within 15 minutes of detection

**Part 1.8** Log entry of everyone with authorized unescorted physical access into each PSP

**Part 1.9** Retain physical access logs for at least 90 days

**Part 2.2** Require manual or automated visitor logging

**Part 2.3** Retain visitor logs for at least 90 days



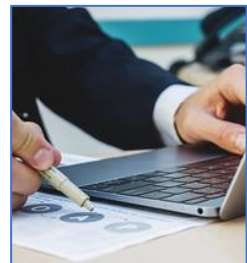
# Walkthroughs During an Audit



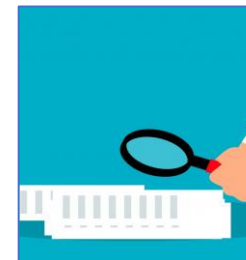
Inspect the perimeter to ensure it is adequate to deter unauthorized access



Test access control measures to ensure only authorized individuals can enter secure areas



Review environmental controls for Controls Centers and associated datacenters



Review visitor logs to ensure continuous escorted access of visitors within the PSP



Check surveillance and monitoring systems to verify functionality and coverage



# Best Practices



Avoid Single Points of Failure



Actively Monitor PACS Health



Avoid Alarm Fatigue



Coordinate with Local Law Enforcement



Employee Training



The background of the slide features a blurred image of the Texas state flag on the left and a close-up of a wind turbine's hub and blades on the right. The blades are white with red tips. A dark blue rounded rectangle is centered over the image.

# Questions?



**TEXAS RE**

Ensuring electric reliability for Texans