

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426  
OFFICE OF ELECTRIC RELIABILITY

North American Electric Reliability Corporation  
Docket Nos. RD10-6-001  
RD09-7-003

June 29, 2011

North American Electric Reliability Corporation  
1120 G Street N.W., Suite 990  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3801

Attention: Holly A. Hawkins, Attorney

Reference: Violation Risk Factors and Violation Severity Levels for Version 2  
and Version 3 Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards

Dear Ms. Hawkins:

1. On March 21, 2011, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) submitted a filing in response to the Commission's January 20, 2011 Order, which directed NERC to file complete sets of Violation Risk Factors (VRFs) and Violation Severity Levels (VSLs) to the Version 2 and Version 3 Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Standards.<sup>1</sup>

2. In its filing, NERC provides a chart of VRFs and a chart of VSLs that correspond to the Commission-approved Version 2 CIP Reliability Standards.<sup>2</sup> NERC also provides a chart of VRFs and a chart of VSLs that correspond to the Commission-approved Version 3 CIP Reliability Standards.<sup>3</sup> Included in these charts are several explanatory footnotes that NERC proposes to delete in its final approved edition.

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<sup>1</sup> *Order on Version 2 and Version 3 Violation Risk Factors and Violation Severity Levels for Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards*, 134 FERC ¶ 61,045 (January 20, 2011).

<sup>2</sup> See NERC Filing Exhibit B.

<sup>3</sup> See NERC Filing Exhibit C.

3. In addition to the compliance aspects of its filing, NERC submitted a chart of VRFs and a chart of VSLs that correspond to the proposed Version 4 CIP Reliability Standards still pending before the Commission in Docket No. RM11-11-000.
4. Notice of this filing was issued on March 29, 2011, with comments, protests or motions to intervene due on or before April 11, 2011.
5. Notices of intervention and unopposed timely filed motions to intervene are granted pursuant to the operation of Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 C.F.R. § 385.214). Any opposed or untimely filed motions to intervene are governed by the provisions of Rule 214. No protests or adverse comments were filed.
6. Exhibits B and C of NERC's uncontested filing are approved pursuant to the relevant authority delegated to the Director, Office of Electric Reliability, under 18 C.F.R. § 375.303. This action is independent of any future consideration of the VRFs and VSLs in Exhibit D.
7. This action shall not be construed as accepting any other contingency plan pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 375.303(a)(1)(i) or any other data or report pursuant to C.F.R. § 375.303(b)(3)(iv). This action shall not be construed as approving any other application including Electric Reliability Organization or Regional Entity Rules or procedures pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 375.303(a)(2)(i). Such acceptance or approval shall not be deemed as recognition of any claimed right or obligation associated therewith; and such acceptance or approval is without prejudice to any findings or orders which have been or which may hereafter be made by the Commission in any proceeding now or pending or hereafter instituted by or against NERC.
8. This order constitutes final agency action. Requests for rehearing by the Commission may be filed within 30 days of the date of issuance of this order, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.713.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. McClelland, Director  
Office of Electric Reliability