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New Agreement to Ensure the Reliability of the Bulk Power System in Québec

PRINCETON, N.J., May 20, 2009 — The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. (NPCC) have signed a critical agreement with the Régie de l'Énergie in Québec, providing for the two organizations to assist the Régie in establishing mandatory reliability standards in Québec. The agreement also introduces a compliance monitoring and enforcement program in the province.

The agreement marks the latest milestone in NERC's efforts to ensure common reliability standards are adopted and enforced across the interconnected bulk power system in North America. Recent agreements in New Brunswick and Saskatchewan have also marked progress in this area. NERC's over 100 reliability standards are mandatory and enforceable in the United States and are recognized throughout much of Canada.

"We are pleased to join with the Régie to help ensure the reliability of the bulk power system in Québec and across North America," commented Rick Sergel, NERC President and CEO. "We firmly believe that a common set of reliability standards and appropriate enforcement mechanisms are needed across the continent to ensure the reliable generation and delivery of electricity to the nearly 400 million people we serve. This agreement is a critical step toward achieving these goals."

The agreement is available at: http://www.nerc.com/files/NERC-Regie-NPCC_Agreement_20090508EN_signed.pdf

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) is an international regulatory authority for electric reliability of the bulk power system in North America. NERC develops and enforces reliability standards; assesses adequacy annually via a 10-year forecast and winter and summer forecasts; monitors the bulk power system; and educates, trains, and certifies industry personnel. NERC is a self-regulatory organization, subject to oversight by the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and governmental authorities in Canada. Learn more at www.nerc.com.

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