



Dates & Events

June 2017

- 20-21 NERC Power System Modeling Workshop Technical [Conference](#) Oak Brook, IL
- 22 FERC [Technical Conference](#) regarding the Reliability of the Bulk-Power System

July 2017

- 1 Effective Date for 8 [Reliability Standards](#)
- 11-12 NERC 2017 [Standards and Compliance Workshop](#) New Orleans, LA

August 2017

- 1-2 NERC Variable Energy Resource Modeling and Verification [Technical Workshop](#)

Electric Reliability Update

JUNE 19, 2017

FERC

FERC To Hold Reliability Technical Conference On June 22 – FERC will hold a technical conference on policy issues related to the reliability of the Bulk-Power System in Washington, DC on June 22. There will be 4 different panels:

- Panel I: Overview on the State of Reliability
- Panel II: International Perspectives
- Panel III: The Potential for Long-Term and Large-Scale Disruptions to the Bulk-Power System
- Panel IV: Grid Security

The agenda can be found [here](#). Those attending are encouraged to [preregister](#) online.

NERC & FERC Issue a Joint Report on Restoration and Recovery Plans - June 9 – NERC and FERC issued a [report](#) on Planning Restoration Absent SCADA or Emergency Management Systems. The report provides recommendations regarding practices, procedures and methodologies aimed to expedite system restoration during a loss of SCADA or EMS functionality, including approaches to system monitoring without SCADA or EMS tools, planning to support system restoration under such conditions, and the incorporation of such measures and approaches into system restoration training.

FERC Accepts Amendments to Texas RE Bylaws and Regional Reliability Standards Development Process - May 30 - FERC accepted via [letter order](#) amendments proposed by NERC to the Texas Reliability Entity, Inc. (Texas RE) bylaws and regional reliability standards development process. These amendments (1) eliminate the Texas RE Reliability Standards Committee and transfer its duties to the Texas RE Member Representatives Committee, (2) add a Texas RE Director Compensation Committee, and (3) revise the activities of the Texas RE Nominating Committee.

NERC

NERC Issues Advisory on Ukraine Malware Discovery - June 12 - NERC's Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) issued a [LEVEL 1 NERC Alert](#) to inform registered entities of malware that specifically targets electric industry assets and that was associated with the December 2016 attacks on Ukrainian electric utilities. The malware can identify items and devices that control circuit breakers, and can cause loss of visibility, loss of control, manipulation of control, interruption of communications, and deletion of networked configuration files. The E-ISAC recommends several actions to mitigate risk to the malware, including limiting privileged access to Industrial Control Systems, requiring two factor authentication, and implementing a redundant backup and recovery strategy to mitigate the malware's data wiping functionality.

NERC Report Recommends Changes to of Solar Inverters - June 8 - A joint task force between NERC and the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) [investigated](#) an August 16, 2016 system disturbance caused by a fire in Southern California that resulted in the loss of 1,200 MW of photovoltaic generation. The report, [1,200 MW Fault-Induced Solar Photovoltaic Resource Interruption Disturbance Report](#), found that (1) inverters that trip instantaneously based on near instantaneous frequency measurements are susceptible to erroneous tripping during transients generated by faults on the power system, and (2) inverters that went into momentary cessation mode due to the disturbance returned to pre-disturbance levels at a slow ramp rate. The report included a series of recommendations to mitigate these risks in the future.

**Selected Regional
Compliance / Training
Events**

July 2017

19 [TRE Compliance 101](#)

NERC Submits Geomagnetic Disturbance Research Plan - May 30 - Pursuant to FERC [Order No. 830](#), NERC submitted its [preliminary work plan](#) to study geomagnetic disturbances and their impacts on the reliability of the Bulk-Power System. NERC identified nine different research tasks that must be completed to fulfill its obligations under Order No. 830. Due to the complexity of the research tasks and the need to tap scientific and technical personnel beyond NERC, NERC believes this project will be a multi-year research effort.

NERC Submits Report of Comparisons of Budgeted to Actual Costs for 2016 for NERC and Regional Entities - May 30 –NERC submitted a [compliance filing](#) to FERC reporting its budget-to-actual variance information for the year 2016 for NERC and the eight Regional Entities.

NERC Penalty Activity - May 31 - NERC filed with FERC [a spreadsheet notice of penalty](#) resolving 4 violations of 4 Reliability Standards totaling \$89,000.

Regional Developments

NERC Requests Approval of Amendments to WECC Reliability Standards Development Procedures - June 8 - NERC submitted to FERC a [petition for approval](#) of amendments to the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) Regional Reliability Standards Development Procedures to reflect a change in the NERC Compliance Registry. The proposed amendments include alignment of WECC voting sectors with NERC voting segments, create a two-thirds affirmative fractional majority vote for WECC Regional Reliability Standards and WECC Regional Criteria, and clarified treatment of Standard Authorization Requests.

Other Developments

DOE Announces Investment in Distributed Energy Resources - June 13 - The Department of Energy's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability [announced an investment](#) of nearly \$10 million for new research to enhance the monitoring and control of distributed energy resources by grid operators. The investment is part of DOE's Grid Modernization Initiative to integrate conventional and renewable energy sources while maintaining grid reliability and protecting against cybersecurity threats.

About Us

The Van Ness Feldman Electric Reliability Update is published by [Malcolm McLellan](#), [Suzanne Keppeler McBride](#), [Van Smith](#), [Gabe Tabak](#), [Darsh Singh](#), [Tyler Elliott](#), and [Michael Weiner](#). [Van Ness Feldman](#) counsels, advises and trains a wide range of clients on reliability matters. Please [email us](#) or call us at 206.829.1814 or 202.298.1800 for additional information. Click [here](#) to sign up for the Reliability Update. Follow us on Twitter [@VANNESSFELDMAN](#)

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