

# RELIABILITY & SECURITY

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## Oversight Monthly Update

December 21, 2023, 2:00 p.m. MT





# Reliability & Security Oversight Monthly Update

December 21, 2023

Mailee Cook  
Training and Outreach  
Specialist



# Grid FUNDAMENTALS



# RELIABILITY & SECURITY

Workshop - Salt Lake City, UT



March 26–27, 2024

# Antitrust Policy

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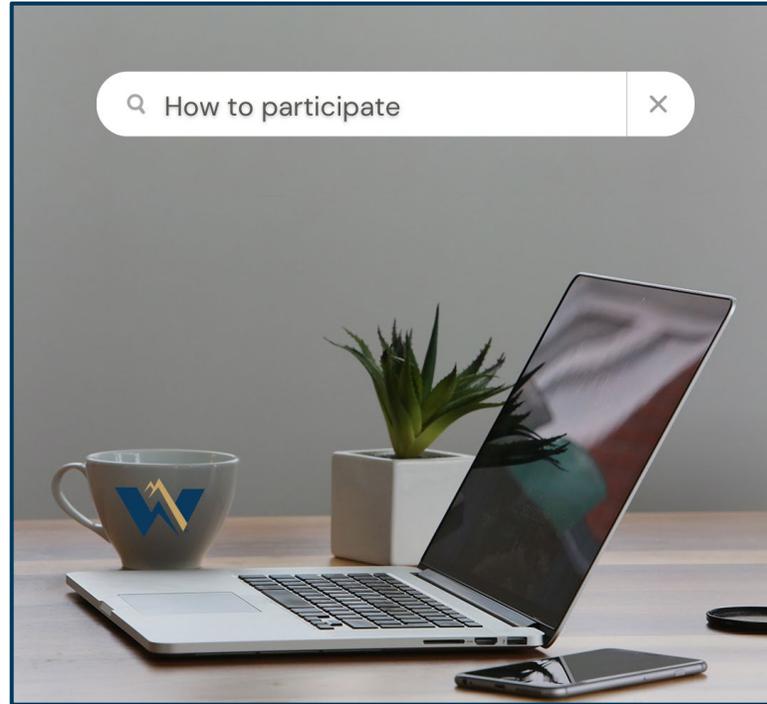
- All WECC meetings are conducted in accordance with the WECC Antitrust Policy and the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines
- All participants must comply with the policy and guidelines
- This meeting is public—confidential or proprietary information should not be discussed in open session

# Antitrust Policy

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- This webinar is being recorded and will be posted publicly
- By participating, you give your consent for your name, voice, image, and likeness to be included in that recording
- WECC strives to ensure the information presented today is accurate and reflects the views of WECC
- However, all interpretations and positions are subject to change
- If you have any questions, please contact WECC's legal counsel

# Participating



Send questions via chat to WECC Meetings

Use the “raise hand” feature

# Agenda

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- **Self-Certifications Reminder**
  - Angela Shapiro, Manager, Oversight Analysis & Administration
- **Standards Update**
  - Steve Rueckert, Director of Standards
- **Section 800 Reminder**
  - Mark Rogers, Sr. Technical Advisor, Registration & Certification
- **CORES Training**
  - Angela Shapiro, Manager, Oversight Analysis & Administration



# Self-Certification Reminder

December 21, 2023

Angela Shapiro  
Manager, Oversight Analysis  
and Administration

# 2024 Annual Self-Certification

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- Annual Self-Certification—Posted on December 15, 2023
  - Monitoring period January 1, 2023–December 31, 2023
  - Response due March 1, 2024

# Resources

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- WECC Align page: [www.wecc.org/Align](http://www.wecc.org/Align)
- NERC training site: [training.nerc.net](http://training.nerc.net)
- Technical support: [support.nerc.net](http://support.nerc.net)



# R&SO Monthly Update Standards Update

December 21, 2023

Steve Rueckert  
Director of Standards

# Items Covered

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- Current WECC activities
- Current NERC activities

# Current WECC Projects

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- WECC-0142 Retire BAL-002-WECC
  - In abeyance
- WECC-0153 Interchange Consolidation Criterion
  - Consolidation of 11 WECC INT Criteria into a single document
  - Drafting underway
  - Comment period open through January 8, 2024
- WECC-0154 VAR-001-5, Five-Year Review
  - Drafting team nominations open

# WECC Approval Items

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- WECC-0147 BAL-004-WECC-3 ATEC
  - Five-year review
  - Minor, nonsubstantive revisions
  - WECC BOD approval in March 2024, followed by submission to NERC
- WECC-0150 PRC-001-WECC-CRT-3, Governor Droop
  - Five-year review
  - Clarifications to Facilities, Background, and Overview section to address IBR
  - WECC BOD approval in March 2024

# WECC Filings

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- WECC-0148 VAR-501-WECC-4, Power System Stabilizers
  - Five-year review
  - No substantive changes
  - NERC filed a NERC/WECC informational filing with FERC
- WECC-0115 BAL-002-WECC-3, Compliance Filing
  - FERC required two years' worth of Contingency Reserve information from WECC
  - Data collected, analyzed, and provided to NERC
  - NERC filed a NERC/WECC compliance filing with FERC

# NERC Activities

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- NERC has roughly 24 active or new projects
- NERC recently prioritized all its projects as high, medium, or low priority
  - Projects with FERC-mandated completion dates or NERC BOT directed dates are prioritized as high
- Low and medium projects may not be posted for comment or ballot until at least mid-2024
- See prioritization on the NERC Standards Under Development page at <https://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Pages/Standards-Under-Development.aspx>

# Recent NERC Standards Committee Actions

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- NERC Standards Committee (SC) met December 13, 2023
  - Accepted two new Standard Authorization Requests (SAR)
    - Transmission Planning Energy Scenarios
    - Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services
  - Will post the SARs for a 30-day formal comment period and solicit drafting team members
  - WECC includes these announcements in the WECC Weekly newsletter
  - Please consider self-nomination if qualified

# NERC SC Actions (cont.)

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- NERC SC approved a slate of new drafting team members for Modifications to FAC-001 and FAC-002
  - Accepted all nominees
  - Representation from all six Regions
- NERC SC approved three additional drafting team members for CIP-002 (Project 2021-03)
  - Project 2021-03 has five assigned SARs
  - The drafting team identified the need for additional SMEs

# NERC SC Approves Five Waivers

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- The NERC SC was asked to approve five waivers of provisions of the Standard Process Manual
  - All five projects have FERC-mandated deadlines
  - NERC BOT and staff believe the waivers are necessary to meet the deadlines
  - Largest waiver request was to reduce the additional formal comment and ballot window from 45 days to as little as 10 days, with the ballot conducted during the last five days for the Extreme Cold Weather EOP-012
  - Considerable discussion on the first waiver request
  - All five waiver requests passed unanimously
  - Ample notice will be provided when these items are posted



# Section 800 Reliability Assessment Request Update

December 21, 2023

Mark Rogers  
Sr. Technical Advisor,  
Registration & Certification

# Section 800 Reliability Assessment

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- Operational Risks
- Purpose
- Data Collection
- Schedule

# Operational Risks

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- What are the risks?
  - When remote access to BPS Elements is used in an authorized manner, operators and maintenance personnel can address routine or urgent situations at one or more locations.
  - There may be additional unforeseen risks to grid reliability if remote access that originates in one geographical location crosses borders and manages systems or assets in areas with different governments.
  - These conditions have been described in anecdotal reports of the grid being controlled from locations outside the United States.

# Purpose

- The Why
  - This reliability assessment is being conducted to evaluate the extent to which Elements that support the reliability of the United States' Bulk Power System (BPS) are managed or controlled from a remote location, especially when that location is outside the United States
  - Access to an organizational information system by a user (or an information system) communicating through an external, non-organization-controlled network (e.g., the internet)
    - [https://csrc.nist.gov/glossary/term/remote\\_access](https://csrc.nist.gov/glossary/term/remote_access)
  - The data collected in this way will be used to determine the extent to which these conditions exist and to evaluate what, if any, follow-up activity is required. See NERC's Rules of Procedure, Section 800, for more information about reliability assessments
    - [https://www.nerc.com/AboutNERC/RulesOfProcedure/NERC%20ROP%20effective%2020220825\\_no%20appendicies.pdf](https://www.nerc.com/AboutNERC/RulesOfProcedure/NERC%20ROP%20effective%2020220825_no%20appendicies.pdf)

# Data Collection

- The How
  - Data is being collected through a web-based tool at the ERO portal
    - Registered Entities are asked to provide relevant information about these conditions wherever they exist:
      - An employee or authorized agent of the Registered Entity who has remote access and authority to provide operational control of BPS transmission and generation Elements
      - An external organization (i.e., “third party”), irrespective of location, with remote access to those Elements for operational control
      - Third parties with authorized remote access to provide other services (e.g., diagnostics, maintenance, security monitoring)
      - Any organization (Registered Entity, Registered Entity affiliate, or third party) outside the United States that can monitor or control BPS transmission or generation Elements within the U.S.

# Data Collection

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- Total Entities in the WECC Region
  - 378 GO, GOP, TO, and TOP
- Total completed to date (submitted and file locked)
  - 66
- Total in progress (not saved)
  - 10
- Total in draft (saved but not submitted)
  - 15

# Schedule

- The Schedule
  - September 21: A high-level overview with the Reliability Security Technical Committee (RSTC) to discuss the request
  - October 11: Presented to the Organization Registration and Certification Subcommittee
  - November 6: Industry webinar
  - November 7: "Go live" date for entities to begin completing questionnaires
  - January 12: Data collection closes



# CORES Training

December 21, 2023

Angela Shapiro

Manager, Oversight Analysis  
and Administration

# CORES

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- Centralized Organizational Registration ERO System
- Access CORES via ERO Portal
  - Register for a [NERC ERO Portal](#) account
- Tool for submitting a new entity registration request and managing your entity's registration information

# Entity Contact Info

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- Align uses entity contact info from CORES
- For BC entities only — maintain contact information in webCDMS and CORES
- Up-to-date info critical to ensure entities receive notifications

# ERO Portal

The screenshot shows the NERC ERO Portal interface. At the top left is the NERC logo (North American Electric Reliability Corporation). The top right shows a user profile for Angela Shapiro and a location dropdown for NCR. A navigation bar includes links for Home, My Profile, My Resources, My Applications, Research, My Groups, Entity Registration Requests, My Entity, NERC Membership List, NERC Help Desk, and NERC Membership. The main content area features a 'Welcome to the ERO Portal' message and three primary service tiles: 'SELF SERVICE ACCOUNT' (Change Password, Update Security Questions), 'VIEW MAILING LISTS & RESOURCES' (Access to Datastores and Applications), and 'REQUEST ACCESS' (Get Access to Resources & Mailing Lists). A 'My Entity' dropdown menu is open, listing 'My Entity', 'Manage Entity Users', 'CORES', 'Entity Application Access Requests', and 'Section 1600 Reporting Confirmation'. Red callout boxes with arrows point to 'New entity requests' (pointing to 'Entity Registration Requests'), 'Registration/contact updates' (pointing to 'Manage Entity Users'), 'User permissions' (pointing to 'Manage Entity Users'), and 'Select entity' (pointing to the user profile dropdown).

# Manage Entity Users

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- To grant access rights to other users, select Add User.
- To review Entity User(s) access permissions, click on name under User column.
- To remove access rights for a specific user, select Remove User.  
*Note: The user will be removed instantly.*

# User Permissions

- Align
- CORES
- GMD
- MIDAS

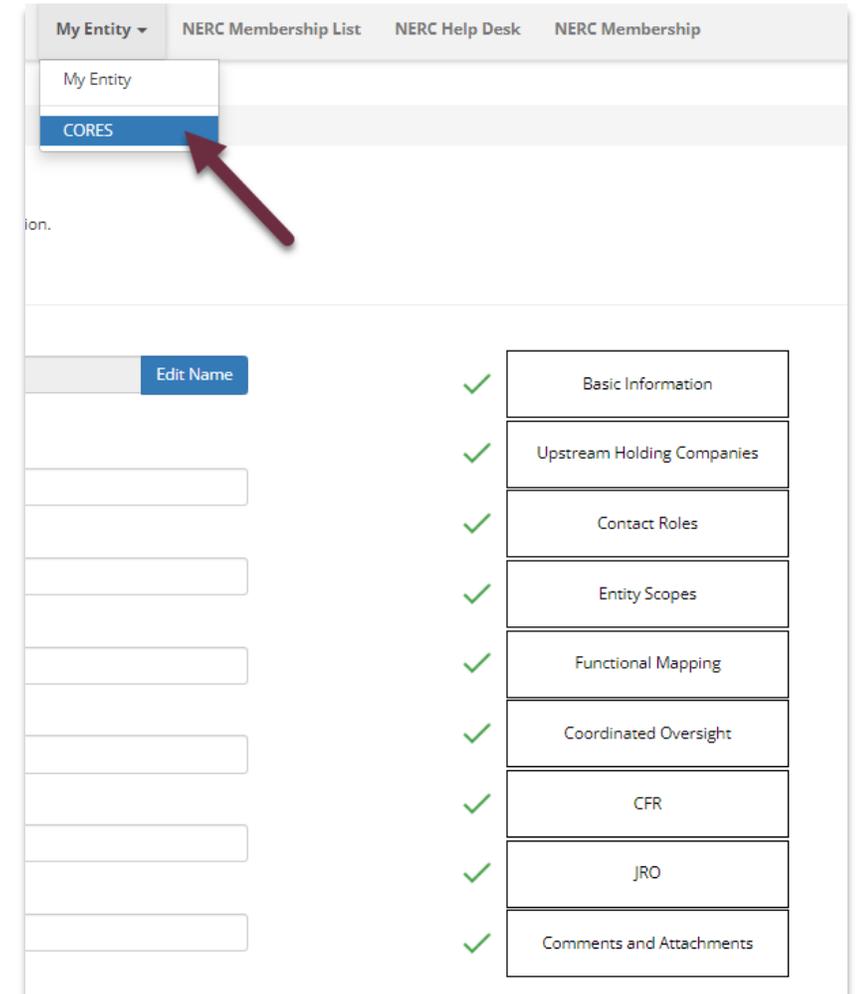
## Manage User Permissions

Manage **NCR55555 - Test Entity Name Change** Permissions for **Angela Shapiro**

- Align Registered Entity Editor
- Align Registered Entity Reader
- Align Registered Entity Submitter
- CORES User
- Entity Admin
- GMD Read-Only
- GMD User
- MIDAS Read-Only
- MIDAS User

# CORES

- Submit registration changes
  - Update Contacts
  - Name change
  - Add/Remove Function
  - Coordinated Functional Registration (CFR)
  - Footprint change



# Updating Contacts

- Contacts must have ERO Portal accounts associated with email address

Home / CORES / Contacts

- This form is used for updating the contacts for your registered entity. The two required contacts for registration are Primary Compliance Contact and Primary Compliance Officer.
- If you would like to update personal information associated with your contact record (name spelling, email address, phone, address, etc.), please click this [link](#) to edit your Profile.
- If you would like to request access to an application or manage a request for access to an application, please click this [link](#) to manage application requests.
- If you would like to manage the permissions associated with your contact record or the permissions of other contacts associated with your entity, please click this [link](#) to manage entity user permissions.
- [Training Link](#)

### Contact Roles

Active Contact Roles

[+ Create](#)

Contact	Entity ↑	Role Type	Username (Contact)	E-mail (Contact)

- Basic Information ✓
- Upstream Holding Companies ✓
- Contact Roles ✓

# Name Change

- Submit name changes from the Basic Information page
- Name changes are submitted to the Region(s) and NERC for acceptance

Entity Name (Do Not Use) \*

Test Entity Name Change Edit Name

Acronym Street 1 \*

Basic Information

Upstream Holding Companies

# Function Changes

- Add or remove functions from the Entity Scopes page
- Requests are submitted to the Region(s) and NERC for acceptance

The screenshot displays the 'Entity Scopes' interface. At the top left, there is a header 'Entity Scopes' and a sub-section 'Scopes' with a dropdown menu 'Portal - Active Entity Scopes'. A blue 'Add Scope' button is located in the upper right area of the table. The table below has columns for Status, Reason, Function, Region, Effective Date, Regulatory Jurisdiction, Inactive Date, and Submitted By. Three rows are visible, all with a status of 'Accepted'. To the right of the table is a sidebar with five function categories: 'Basic Information', 'Upstream Holding Companies', 'Contact Roles', 'Entity Scopes', and 'Functional Mapping'. Each category has a green checkmark to its left. A red arrow points from the 'Add Scope' button to the 'Entity Scopes' category in the sidebar. Another red arrow points from a dropdown menu (containing 'REQUEST CHANGE' and 'View Details') to the 'Entity Scopes' category. A third red arrow points from the 'Entity Scopes' category back to the table.

Status	Reason	Function	Region	Effective Date	Regulatory Jurisdiction	Inactive Date	Submitted By
Accepted	Generator Operator	WECC	1/1/2017	United States			
Accepted	Generator Owner	NPCC	1/2/2013	United States			
Accepted	Transmission Owner	MPO	8/5/2021	United States			

# Footprint Change Request

- Share description of footprint changes in the Comments and Attachments section
- Notify WECC by sending email to [registration@wecc.org](mailto:registration@wecc.org)

The screenshot displays the 'Entity Registration Requests' page. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Entity Registration Requests', 'My Entity', 'NERC Membership List', 'NERC Help Desk', and 'NERC Membership'. A dropdown menu is open under 'My Entity', showing 'My Entity' and 'CORES' (highlighted with a red arrow). Below the navigation, there is a section for 'to review as part of the application.' with an 'Edit Name' button. The main form contains several input fields with labels: 't 1', 't 2', 'Province', 'try', and 'ostal Code'. To the right of the form is a checklist of registration sections, each with a green checkmark: 'Basic Information', 'Upstream Holding Companies', 'Contact Roles', 'Entity Scopes', 'Functional Mapping', 'Coordinated Oversight', 'CFR', 'JRO', and 'Comments and Attachments'. A red arrow points to the 'Comments and Attachments' section.

# Resources

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- Questions: [registration@wecc.org](mailto:registration@wecc.org)
- [CORES End User Guide](#)
- NERC training site: [training.nerc.net](http://training.nerc.net)
- Technical support: [support.nerc.net](http://support.nerc.net)

# RELIABILITY & SECURITY

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## Oversight Monthly Update

January 17, 2024, 2:00 p.m. MT





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