# Implementation Plan

## Standards Authorization Request (SAR)

This project augments WECC-0141, FAC-501-WECC-3, Transmission Maintenance, Update to Attachment B, Major WECC Transfer Paths in the Bulk Electric System (Table).

SARs for WECC-0141/WECC-0149 are located [here](https://www.wecc.org/Standards/Pages/WECC-0141.aspx) and [here,](https://www.wecc.org/Standards/pages/wecc-0149.aspx) respectively.

*Note: Documentation templates and version references will be updated for final filing.*

This project:

1. Updates WECC-0141 FAC-501-WECC-3 (creating FAC-501-WECC-4) to include:
	1. Conforming the language throughout to incorporate the WECC-0149 Process.
	2. Updating the Compliance section to accept NERC’s newest boilerplate.
	3. Deleting FAC-501-WECC-3, Attachment B, Path Names Identified for Transmission Maintenance and Inspection, and migrating that list into the WECC-0149, Process, Attachment A, Major WECC Transfer Paths in the Bulk Electric System.
	4. Deleting FAC-501-WECC-3, Attachment C, Revision Process, and replacement of that process with the WECC-0149 Table Revision Process.
2. Creates a process for modifying the content of the Table Revision Process, Attachment A, major WECC Transfer Paths in the Bulk Electric System.

The WECC-0149 Table Revision Process creates a means of modifying the content the Table outside of the WECC Reliability Standards Development Procedures (Procedures).

## Approvals Required

* NERC Board of Trustees Pending
* FERC Pending

## Effective Date

The first day of the second quarter following regulatory approval of FAC-501-WECC-4, Transmission Maintenance plus approval of the Table Revision Process.

## Justification of Effective Date

On December 8, 2021, the WECC Board of Directors (Board) approved WECC-0141 FAC-501-WECC-3, Transmission Maintenance, with a request for approval and subsequent regulatory disposition, as needed.[[1]](#footnote-2)

On April 11, 2022, NERC informed WECC Standards staff that although NERC raised no specific concerns with WECC-0141, implementation at NERC could take an elongated period due to pre-existing NERC projects.[[2]](#footnote-3)

To remedy the concern, NERC/WECC agreed that WECC should file a subsequent Standard Authorization Request (SAR)(WECC-0149) shifting the implementation burden away from NERC to WECC.

## Impact on Reliability

Proposed changes have been fully vetted using the Procedures as well as peripheral ad hoc engagement of subject matter experts performed as part of WECC-0141. No reliability concerns were raised during either process.

## Impact on Other Standards

If approved, the following documents will be impacted in that they incorporate the Table by reference:

1. FAC-003-4, Transmission Vegetation Management referencing the “Major WECC Transfer Path in the Bulk Electric System by WECC”;
2. FAC-501-WECC-4, Transmission Maintenance referencing the “Major Paths Revision Process, Attachment A, Major WECC Transfer Paths in the Bulk Electric System.”
3. PRC-023-4, Transmission Relay Loadability referencing a “major transfer path within the Western Interconnection as defined by the Regional Entity”; and,
4. The NERC Glossary of Terms Used in Reliability Standards referencing a “major transfer path within the Western Interconnection.”

Although impacted by virtue of incorporation by reference, the DT concluded that the proposed Table Revision Process and proposed FAC-501-WECC-4 should have no impact on implementation of the aforementioned documents, except that the location of the Table has changed.

**Consideration of Early Compliance**

As to FAC-501-WECC-4, the drafting team sees no concerns with early compliance within the Western Interconnection. As mentioned above, changes to Table were vetted in multiple postings (WECC-0141/WECC-149) as well as peripheral ad hoc briefings with subject matter experts occurring outside of this project.

1. Step 11, Obtain Board Approval, WECC Reliability Standards Development Procedures. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. For example, due to pre-existing NERC projects, NERC/FERC approval to retire the WECC Regional Variance from WECC-0113 FAC-010/011 did not occur until six years after Board approval. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)