

Terms of Reference

Reliability Standards Standing Committee

1. Introduction

The Electricity Act, 1998 requires the IESO to establish one or more processes by which consumers, distributors, generators, transmitters and other persons who have an interest in the electricity industry (collectively, stakeholders) may provide advice and recommendations for consideration by the IESO.

At an IESO Electricity Reliability Organization workshop in June 2006, stakeholders wanted to become more actively engaged in the development of new reliability standards in Ontario. As a result, the IESO has created a Reliability Standards Program (RSP).

This Terms of Reference is intended to provide guidelines for the Reliability Standards Standing Committee and should be considered a working document which can change based on stakeholder feedback.

2. Purpose of the Committee

The purpose is to better help stakeholder understand their reliability obligations by:

- (a) Notifying stakeholders of reliability related information on new and developing reliability standards;
- (b) Providing a forum to discuss, provide advice and to the extent possible develop consensus comments on new and developing reliability standards and;
- (c) Engaging stakeholders in the standard development process of Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) Inc. and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC).

This advice will be used to formulate the IESO's comments to the new and developing reliability standards. In addition, aid in establishing the IESO's ballot position once they are posted for ballot. The advice may also be used by the IESO to revise market manuals and other procedures, protocols and/or market rules as required.

The majority of stakeholder engagement will be by e-mail communications. This will be used to gauge the need for subsequent conference calls on particular issues which would be open to any stakeholder wishing to join.

Questions regarding the Reliability Standards Standing or its membership can be directed to the IESO at orcp@ieso.ca.

3. Scope

The Reliability Standards Standing Committee reviews and provides advice to the IESO on procedures and business processes as they affect stakeholders and their business in the domain NERC standards development and commenting process.

4. Composition of the Committee

Members of the Committee will be posted.

You are asked to apply for membership by sending a notice to the IESO, at orcp@ieso.ca.

A strong preference is given to those market participants who are directly impacted by NERC Reliability Standards and NPCC Directories & Criteria.

5. Organization and Administration of Meetings of the Committee

Meetings are scheduled to be quarterly, the dates to be determined by the RSSC membership annually. If there is insufficient material for a meeting, then one meeting can be cancelled (but not two consecutive meetings) by the chair after membership consensus has been given.

Unless otherwise noted, we will ensure all material is circulated in advance via e-mail, and posted. We will make our best effort to provide materials 2 weeks in advance of the due date in order for you to provide proper feedback. However, due dates are driven by the timelines established by FERC, NERC, and NPCC in most cases.

We will post all comments received and explain how these comments will be used in the process. All comments will be fully communicated to the responsible parties.