# Terms of Reference

## IESO Reliability Standards Standing Committee (RSSC)

### 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 (RSSC) and should be considered a working document which can change based on stakeholder feedback.

### 2. Purpose of the Committee

The purpose is to assist stakeholder understanding of 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, this will in turn 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 through the quarterly meeting forum and by e-mail communications. This will be used to gauge the need for further communications on particular issues which would be open to any stakeholder wishing to join.

Questions regarding the Reliability Standards Standing Committee 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



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procedures and business processes as they affect stakeholders and their business in the domain of the NERC standards development and commenting process and the development and modification of NPCC Directories and Criteria.

### 4. Composition of the Committee

Members of the Committee will be registered with the IESO and an active membership list will be maintained by the IESO. Potential members are asked to apply for membership by sending a notice to the IESO, at orcp@ieso.ca. Membership is open to all Ontario Market Participants and stakeholders. A strong preference is given to those parties 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 at least 3 times per year, 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, all material will be circulated in advance via e-mail, and posted on the RSSC webpage of the IESO website. Every effort will be made to provide meeting materials 2 weeks in advance of the scheduled meeting date in order for members to provide informed feedback.

We will discuss all comments submitted and post all comments received. An explanation of how these comments will be used in the materials and process being discussed will be provided. All comments will be fully communicated to the membership.

### 6. CIP Standards Sub Committee (CSSC)

The Reliability Standards Standing Committee's (RSSC) CIP Standards Sub Committee (CSSC) supports the RSSC's purpose "to assist market participants to develop a more comprehensive understanding of their reliability obligations".

The CSSC is a forum designed to provide Market Participants, including the IESO, an opportunity to promote communication, provide mutual assistance and coordinate areas of mutual concern with regard to the development of NERC CIP Standards affecting Market Participants. The CSSC supports the RSSC in furthering the goals and purposes of the RSSC member's issues or concerns related to the NERC CIP Standards. Through networking and sharing of information, the goal is to assist and support each other in a mutually beneficial manner.

The CSSC is a collaborative body and is not a decision making body.

The CSSC is accountable to the RSSC and will take direction from the RSSC on any NERC CIP standards related issues or concerns. The CSSC will; provide expert advice, recommend actions



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or provide recommended position(s) on NERC CIP related regulatory concerns to the RSSC. The CSSC Terms of Reference can be found here.

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