

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

North American Electric Reliability Corporation     )     Docket No. RR13-2-000

**MOTION TO INTERVENE AND COMMENTS OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER  
ASSOCIATION, EDISON ELECTRIC INSTITUTE, ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS  
RESOURCE COUNCIL, ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY ASSOCIATION, LARGE  
PUBLIC POWER COUNCIL, NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
ASSOCIATION AND TRANSMISSION ACCESS POLICY STUDY GROUP**

The American Public Power Association (APPA), the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), the Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON), the Electric Power Supply Association (EPSA), the Large Public Power Council (LPPC), the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), and the Transmission Access Policy Study Group (TAPS) jointly on behalf of their respective member (collectively the “Trade Associations”) hereby respectfully move to intervene and submit these brief comments in support of a proposal filed by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) on February 28, 2013 in the above-referenced docket.<sup>1</sup> NERC’s proposal seeks Commission approval of various changes to the Standard Processes Manual, which governs the development of mandatory reliability standards for the planning and operation of the Bulk-Power System (BPS).

The Trade Associations support the standards development process changes proposed by NERC in its filing and request prompt Commission approval. If approved as proposed, the Trade Associations believe that the process changes will provide an important element in support of a broad strategy to improve the efficiency of the standards development process without sacrificing due process and transparency, the ability of subject matter technical expertise to shape

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<sup>1</sup> Notice of NERC’s filing was issued on March 1, 2013 with comments and motions to intervene due on or before March 21, 2013.

the actual requirements, and the quality of the resulting reliability standards developed under NERC's process and submitted to the Commission and regulators in Canada for approval.

NERC has previously filed for informational purposes a three-year reliability standards development plan that sets forth a very aggressive timetable for addressing a broad range of projects, and challenging stakeholders to work proactively in moving ahead with the significant work effort.<sup>2</sup> If approved as proposed, Trade Associations anticipate that the process changes will help facilitate stronger process management and timely completion of these projects, and filing at the Commission.

***Motion to Intervene and Description of the Trade Associations***

In accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR §§ 385.211 and 385.214), each of the Trade Associations move to intervene separately on behalf of their respective members. Collectively, the Trade Associations represent the vast majority of the registered entities that are both subject to NERC reliability standards and provide the industry subject matter experts and other affected entities that develop and approve new and revised electric reliability standards through application of the NERC Standard Processes Manual. In support of our separate interventions in this proceeding, we provide the following brief descriptions of each of the Trade Associations:

APPA is the national service organization representing the interests of not-for-profit, publicly owned electric utilities throughout the United States. More than 2,000 public power utilities provide over 15 percent of all kilowatt-hour sales of electricity to ultimate customers, and do business in every state except Hawaii. Three hundred twenty-eight public power utilities

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<sup>2</sup> See North American Electric Reliability Corporation Reliability Standards Development Plan 2013-2015 Informational Filing Pursuant to Section 310 of the NERC Rules Of Procedure, Docket Nos. RM05-17, RM05-25, and RM06-16, December 31, 2012. [http://elibrary.ferc.gov:0/idmws/file\\_list.asp?document\\_id=14078654](http://elibrary.ferc.gov:0/idmws/file_list.asp?document_id=14078654)

are now included on the NERC compliance registry and are thus directly subject to NERC reliability standards, pursuant to Section 215 of the Federal Power Act (FPA).

EEI is the association of the nation's shareholder-owned electric utilities, international affiliates, and industry associates world-wide. EEI member companies are required to comply with reliability standards approved under Section 215 of the FPA.

ELCON is the national association representing large industrial consumers of electricity. ELCON member companies produce a wide range of industrial commodities and consumer goods from virtually every segment of the manufacturing community. ELCON members operate hundreds of major facilities and are consumers of electricity in the footprints of all NERC Regional Entities. Many ELCON members also cogenerate electricity as a by-product to serving a manufacturing steam requirement.

EPSA is the national trade association representing competitive power suppliers, including generators and marketers. Competitive suppliers, which, collectively, account for 40 percent of the installed generating capacity in the United States, provide reliable and competitively priced electricity from environmentally responsible facilities. EPSA seeks to bring the benefits of competition to all power customers. The comments contained in this filing represent the position of EPSA as an organization, but not necessarily the views of any particular member with respect to any issue.

LPPC represents 25 of the largest state and municipal-owned utilities in the nation. Together, LPPC's members represent 90 percent of the transmission investment owned by non-federal public power entities.

NRECA is the not-for-profit national service organization representing approximately 930 not-for-profit, member-owned rural electric cooperatives, including 66 generation and transmission cooperatives that supply wholesale power to their distribution cooperative-owner members.

TAPS is an association of transmission-dependent utilities (TDUs) in more than 35 states, promoting open and non-discriminatory transmission access. As TDUs, TAPS members are users of the BPS, highly reliant on the reliability of facilities owned and operated by others for the transmission service required to meet TAPS members' loads. Many TAPS members participate in the development of and are themselves subject to compliance with NERC Reliability Standards.

Notices and communications regarding this filing may be addressed to:

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The Trade Associations respectfully request that the Commission grant our motion to intervene, consider these comments, and expeditiously approve NERC's proposed modifications to the Standard Processes Manual without changes or conditions.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_

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March 21, 2013



## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Rule 2010 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 C.F.R. § 385.2010, I hereby certify that I have on this day served the foregoing document by electronic or other means upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 21st day of March, 2013.

By /s/ Delia D. Patterson

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