



Reliability Compliance Update

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January 28, 2026

Recommendation to Industry

Large Load Interconnection, Study, Commissioning, and Operations

Reporting required by January 28, 2026

NERC issued a Level 2 Alert Recommendation to Industry, *Large Load Interconnection, Study, Commissioning, and Operations*, to Distribution Providers (DP), Transmission Owners (TO), Transmission Planners (TP), Planning Coordinators (PC), Reliability Coordinators (RC), Resource Planners (RP), Transmission Operators (TOP), and Balancing Authorities (BA). The alert includes five primary recommendations regarding TO interconnection requirements, TP and PC interconnection and system-wide studies, TO load commissioning, TO operating protocols, and long-term forecasting for TPs, RPs, and PCs.

NERC registered entities should note that only entities registered as the above-mentioned functional groups will be able to view and respond to the alert in the NERC Alert System. However, the alert is public and may be viewed at the link below.

Click here for [Level 2 Alert Large Loads](#)

Emerging Large Loads Technical Conference (in-person)

February 24–25, 2026 | 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Eastern

The technical conference will focus on data centers and their characteristics that can impact bulk power system performance. The conference will also present an opportunity to discuss power system risks and potential mitigation strategies associated with these risks. High-level agenda items include the following:

- Data center industry initiatives to address grid reliability
- Utility approaches to sustain and improve reliability when integrating data centers
- NERC's reliability guideline highlights and preliminary findings from NERC's Level 2 Alert
- Pathways to address unmitigated risks from data center grid integration
- Data center co-location with existing and new generation from a reliability perspective
- Modeling and studying data center impact on power systems
- Group breakout activity: *Identification of the Appropriate NERC Functional Entity Responsible for Data Center Performance*
- *Open discussion for improving the large-load application / interconnection process*

NERC will also offer a limited virtual participation option including written Q&As. [Registration](#) is required for all participants

Save the Date - Milestone 4 Industry Engagement Workshop

Project 2025-03 – Operational Studies

Project 2025-04 – Planning Studies

May 19 - 20, 2026

Workshop Schedule

May 19, 2026:	9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Large Group Conference (in-person/virtual)
May 20, 2026:	9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Project Breakout Session (in-person only)
	1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.	Project Breakout Session (in-person only)

Additional detail once released by NERC

2025 Cold Weather Small Group Advisory Session FAQs

NERC has published a FAQ document from the 2025 Cold Weather Small Group Advisory Sessions (SGAS) conducted in August 2025. The focus of this SGAS was NERC Reliability Standard EOP-012-3, Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations, and this document provides ERO Enterprise responses to frequently asked questions received on this topic.

[2025 Cold Weather Preparedness FAQ](#)

Technical Workshop - Project 2024-02 Planning Energy Assurance

February 17, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Eastern

The focus of the Workshop will be to address major themes from the initial formal comment period that concluded on December 10, 2025. There will be three panels that will delve into energy assurance in the state and regulatory space, energy studies thresholds, and mitigation actions for energy shortfalls in the long-term planning horizon.

[Meeting Registration \(In-Person Only\)](#) *Register by **February 6, 2026**

[Join WebEx Meeting](#) | Access Code: 2305 248 6420

Recommendations for Transforming the Reliability Standard Development Framework

The Modernization of Standards Processes and Procedures Task Force (MSPPTF) has completed its strategic review of NERC's Reliability Standards development process and posted its final recommendations for transforming NERC's Reliability Standards framework. The NERC Board of Trustees (Board) invites stakeholders to submit comments by close of business Eastern on February 5, 2026. Comments, which will be taken into consideration during the Board's decision-making process, should be submitted to mspp@nerc.net.

Final Recommendations | Summary | Process Map

ReliabilityFirst (RF)

➤ Technical Talks with RF

➤ February: Internal Controls Workshop & ERO Woman's Leadership Conference	
➤ March 16, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ April 20, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ May 18, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ June 22, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ July 13, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ August 17, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ September: Fall Reliability & Security Summit	
➤ October 26, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ November 16, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
➤ December 14, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

<https://www.rfirst.org/events/list/>

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