

194 FERC ¶ 61,170
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Laura V. Swett, Chairman;
David Rosner, Lindsay S. See,
Judy W. Chang, and David LaCerte.

PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Docket No. ER25-2687-000

ORDER ON COMPLIANCE AND REQUEST FOR WAIVERS

(Issued March 3, 2026)

1. On June 27, 2025, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. (PJM) filed revised tariff records¹ to its Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) to comply with the requirements of Order No. 676-K,² and a request for waiver of certain standards. In Order No. 676-K, the Commission revised its regulations to incorporate by reference Version 004 of the Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities (Business Practice Standards) adopted by the Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ) of the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) (WEQ Version 004) applicable to the wholesale electric industry.³ In this order, we accept PJM's revised tariff record implementing the cybersecurity standards in WEQ Version 004, effective February 27, 2026, and the tariff records implementing the remainder of the revisions in WEQ Version 004, effective August 27, 2026, subject to an additional compliance filing being submitted within 60 days of the date of this order, as described below. We also grant the requests for waivers.

I. Background

2. On February 19, 2025, the Commission issued Order No. 676-K, which amended the Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. §§ 2.27 and 38.1(b) to incorporate by reference, with certain exceptions, the WEQ Version 004 of the Business Practice Standards.⁴ The NAESB Business Practice Standards are designed to aid public utilities

¹ See Appendix for eTariff records accepted in this order.

² *Standards for Bus. Pracs. & Commc'n Protocols for Pub. Utils.*, Order No. 676-K, 190 FERC ¶ 61,116 (2025).

³ *Id.* P 1.

⁴ *Id.*

with the consistent and uniform implementation of requirements promulgated by the Commission as part of the *pro forma* OATT.⁵

3. Order No. 676-K amended the Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 38.1 to incorporate by reference the following WEQ Version 004 Business Practice Standards: WEQ-000 Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Definitions of Terms; WEQ-001 Open Access Same-Time Information System (OASIS); WEQ-002 OASIS Standards and Communication Protocol; WEQ-003 OASIS Data Dictionary; WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange; WEQ-005 Area Control Error Equation Special Cases; WEQ-006 Manual Time Error Correction; WEQ-007 Inadvertent Interchange Payback (unchanged from Version 003.3); WEQ-008 Transmission Loading Relief – Eastern Interconnection; WEQ-011 Gas/Electric Coordination (unchanged from Version 003.3); WEQ-012 Public Key Infrastructure; WEQ-013 OASIS Implementation Guide; WEQ-015 Measurement and Verification of Wholesale Electricity Demand Response; WEQ-021 Measurement and Verification of Energy Efficiency Products; WEQ-022 Electric Industry Registry; WEQ-023 Modeling; and WEQ-024 Cybersecurity (new standard added in Version 004).⁶ All of these standards update and replace standards that the Commission previously incorporated by reference in Order No. 676-J.⁷

4. In Order No. 676-K, the Commission directed that public utilities⁸ whose tariffs do not automatically incorporate by reference all new NAESB standards without modification must submit a single compliance filing that includes two separate tariff records in eTariff.⁹ For the first tariff record, the Commission directed transmission providers to include a reference to the NAESB cybersecurity standards in WEQ Version 004 with a proposed effective date 12 months after the date of publication of the final rule in the *Federal Register* and stated that the remainder of the standards would continue to refer to the existing WEQ Version. For the second tariff record, the Commission directed transmission providers to reference all the WEQ Version 004 Business Practice Standards adopted in Order No. 676-K with an effective date 18 months after the date of publication of the final rule in the *Federal Register*. The Commission directed public utilities to submit their

⁵ *Id.* P 53.

⁶ *Id.* PP 12-15, 54-71.

⁷ *Standards for Bus. Pracs. & Comm'n Protocols for Pub. Utils.*, Order No. 676-J, 175 FERC ¶ 61,139 (2021).

⁸ The Commission also required entities with reciprocity tariffs to modify their tariffs to include the WEQ Version 004 standards incorporated by reference in Order No. 676-K. Order No. 676-K, 190 FERC ¶ 61,116 at P 43 n.21.

⁹ *Id.* P 45.

compliance filings no later than 120 days after the date of publication of the final rule in the *Federal Register*.¹⁰

5. The Commission stated that, in their compliance filings, public utilities must specify in the tariff records a list of all the NAESB Business Practice Standards incorporated by reference by the Commission, and also must include: (1) whether the standard is incorporated by reference by the public utility; (2) for those standards not incorporated by reference, the tariff provision that complies with the standard; and (3) a statement identifying any standards for which the public utility has been granted a waiver, extension of time, or other variance with respect to compliance with the standard.¹¹ The Commission also stated that a public utility that makes any new waiver requests to comply with a part of the final rule or that makes any request to preserve any existing waivers must include such requests in its compliance filing.¹²

II. PJM's Filing

6. PJM proposes to incorporate the revisions in WEQ Version 004 into its OATT by reference, with the exception of certain standards for which PJM requests waivers, as set forth below.¹³ PJM requests that the proposed tariff revisions regarding the WEQ Version 004 cybersecurity standards become effective on February 27, 2026, and the proposed tariff revisions regarding the remaining WEQ Version 004 standards become effective on August 27, 2026.¹⁴

A. Requests for Waivers

7. PJM requests continued waivers of specified standards related to: (1) Service Across Multiple Transmission Systems (SAMTS) in WEQ-001; (2) Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS) within WEQ-000, WEQ-001, WEQ-002, and WEQ-003, which are designed to support the OASIS functionality associated with NITS; and (3) firm transmission service customers' right of preemption and right of first refusal

¹⁰ *Id.* P 44.

¹¹ *Id.* P 46.

¹² *Id.* P 47. Public utilities that are granted new or continued waiver(s) of any WEQ Version 004 standard(s) must make a second compliance filing to include the citation to the Commission order granting the waiver(s) of the relevant WEQ Version 004 standards no later than 60 days after waiver(s) are granted.

¹³ Transmittal at 3-14.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 1.

(ROFR) in WEQ-001 and WEQ-002. PJM states that the Commission previously granted waiver of these standards in response to its Order No. 676-J compliance filing.¹⁵ PJM states that good cause exists to continue these waivers because the circumstances under which the Commission granted these waivers to PJM have not changed.¹⁶ Specifically, PJM states that, without continued waiver of the standards addressing SAMTS in WEQ-001, PJM may experience considerable delay in evaluating transmission service requests with no discernable benefit to customers.¹⁷ PJM also states that good cause exists for the continued waiver of WEQ Version 004 standards related to NITS because PJM's Commission-approved Regional Transmission Expansion Plan, its capacity market model, and its wholesale energy market processes govern both the study and commitment of internal and external network resources and load designations as contemplated in the NITS Business Practice Standards in an open and nondiscriminatory manner.¹⁸ PJM further states that implementing the preemption and ROFR standards in WEQ Version 004 standards without the requested waivers would harm market participants' ability to participate in the PJM day-ahead and real-time energy market.¹⁹

III. Notice and Responsive Pleadings

8. Notice of PJM's compliance filing was published in the *Federal Register*, 90 Fed. Reg. 29001 (July 2, 2025), with interventions and protests due on or before July 18, 2025. None was filed.

IV. Discussion

9. We find that PJM's revised tariff records comply with the directives of Order No. 676-K, subject to the additional compliance filing discussed below. Thus, we accept PJM's Order No. 676-K revised tariff records implementing the WEQ Version 004 cybersecurity standards, effective February 27, 2026, and the remaining WEQ Version 004 standards, effective August 27, 2026. We also grant the requested waivers, and direct PJM to submit an additional compliance filing.

¹⁵ *Id.* at 5 (citing *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*, 185 FERC ¶ 61,068, at 10 (2023) (Order No. 676-J Compliance Order)).

¹⁶ *Id.* at 8, 10-11, 13-14.

¹⁷ *Id.* at 7-8.

¹⁸ *Id.* at 10-11.

¹⁹ *Id.* at 13-14.

10. Specifically, we grant PJM's request for continued waivers of the standards related to SAMTS in WEQ-001; NITS within WEQ-000, WEQ-001, WEQ-002, and WEQ-003; and firm transmission service customers' right of preemption and ROFR in WEQ-001 and WEQ-002. As PJM states in its transmittal letter, the circumstances under which the Commission previously granted these waivers have not changed.²⁰ We find that PJM has supported continued waiver of the foregoing standards for the reasons set forth in PJM's filing, and because the rationale used when the Commission previously granted these waivers has not changed. Therefore, consistent with the Commission's previous determination in the Order No. 676-J Compliance Order,²¹ and for good cause shown, we grant the request for continued waivers.

11. Finally, PJM's revised tariff records include a placeholder for the citation of this order granting waiver requests. Therefore, we require PJM to submit a compliance filing within 60 days of the date of issuance of this order to revise its tariff records to include the citation to this order granting the waiver requests.²²

The Commission orders:

(A) PJM's revised tariff records implementing the WEQ Version 004 cybersecurity standards are hereby accepted for filing, effective February 27, 2026, and PJM's revised tariff records implementing the remainder of the revisions in WEQ Version 004 are hereby accepted for filing, to be effective August 27, 2026, subject to an additional compliance filing, as discussed in the body of this order.

(B) PJM's requests for waivers are hereby granted, as discussed in the body of this order.

(C) PJM is hereby directed to submit a compliance filing within 60 days of the date of issuance of this order, as discussed in the body of this order.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Secretary.

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ Order No. 676-J Compliance Order, 185 FERC ¶ 61,068 at P 10.

²² For this compliance filing, we remind PJM to include a higher eTariff priority code for its revised tariff records effective February 27, 2026 and August 27, 2026.

Appendix – Tariff Records
PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Intra-PJM Tariffs

- [4.2, OATT 4.2 \(11.0.0\)](#)
- [4.2, OATT 4.2 \(12.0.0\)](#)