

# WIRAB Monthly Meeting

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September 4, 2025



# Introductions



# Outline



## WECC Activities:

WECC Update



## WIRAB Activities:

Technical Resources for State Regulators and Commissioners:  
Oversight of Inverter-based Resources  
NERC's Modernization of Standards Processes and Procedures Task  
Force Comments



## Upcoming WIRAB Meetings

# **WECC Update**

**Matt Evans**

*Stakeholder Engagement Specialist*

**Electric Reliability  
& Security for the West**

September 4, 2025

# Board of Directors Meeting

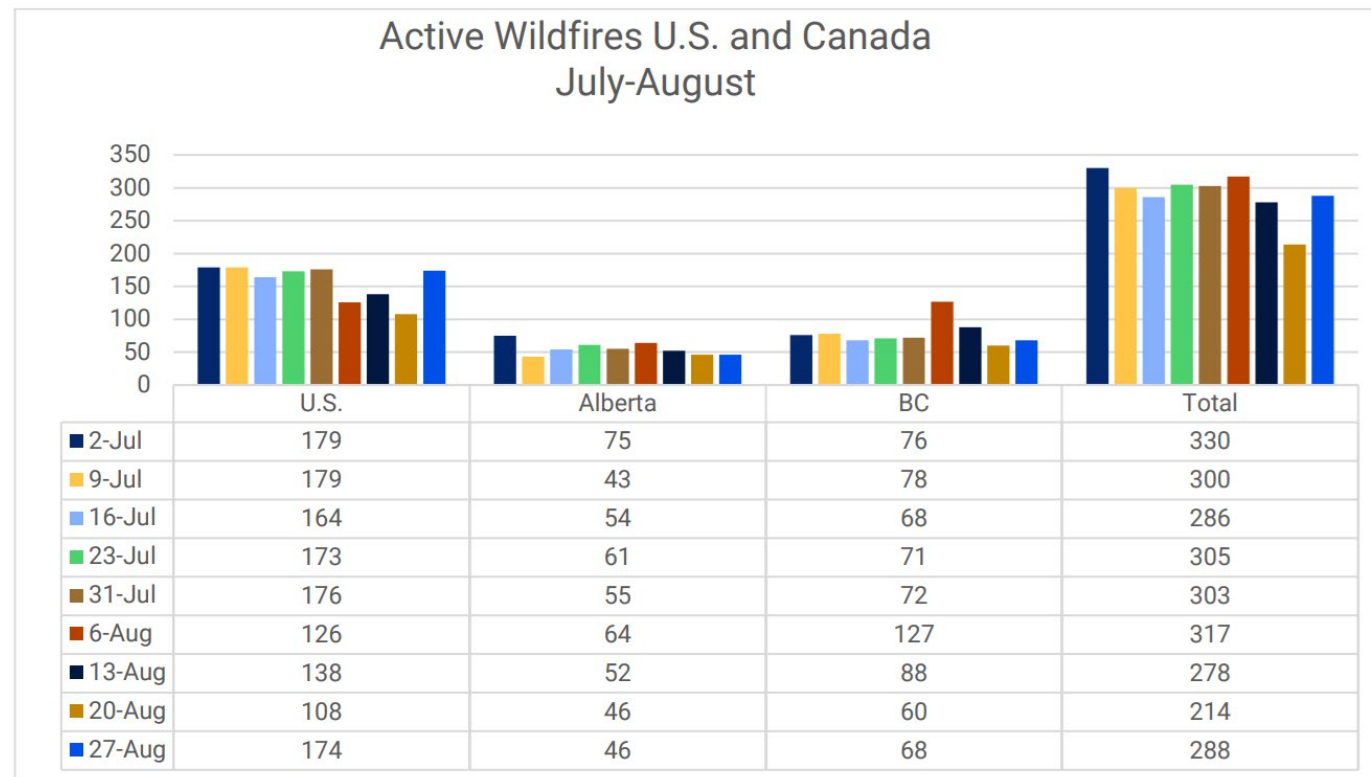
- Board of Directors Meeting, September 17
- Annual Member Meeting and Interactive Session, September 18
  - 8:00–9:45 a.m. MT
  - Natural Gas-Electric Interdependencies
  - Conversation with Gary Venz with Williams' Northwest Pipeline
  - [Register](#)





# News and Upcoming Events

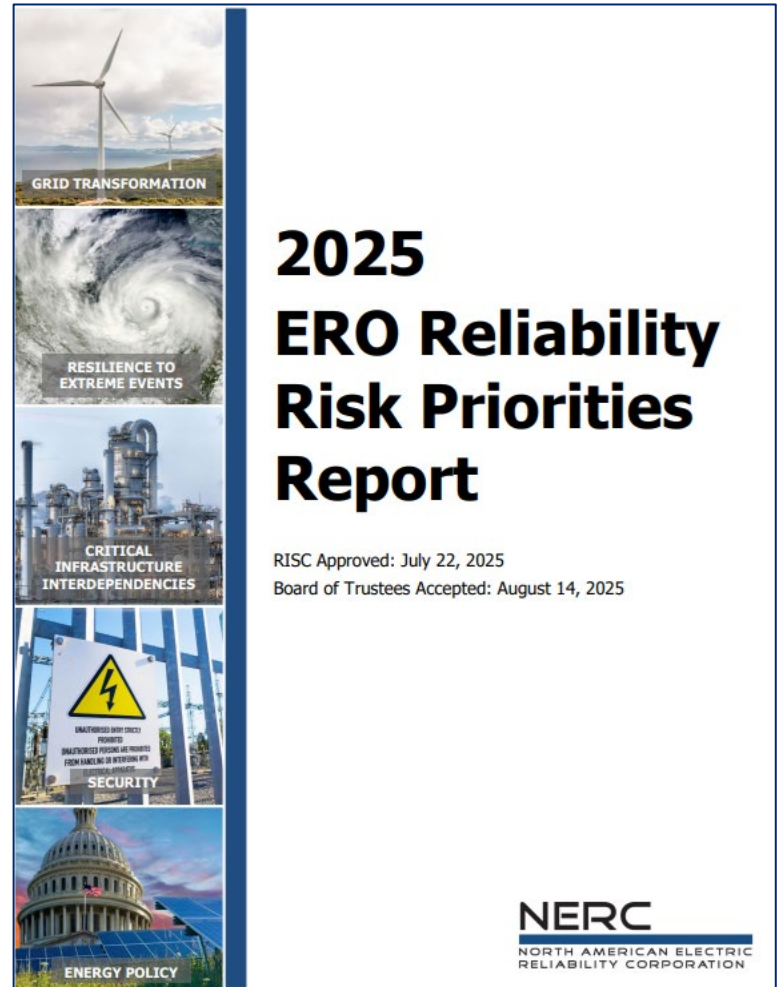
- Western Interconnection Weekly Wildfire Update
  - Available at [wecc.org](http://wecc.org)
- Reliability in the West Discussion Series canceled for October
  - Back on November 5 at 11:00 a.m. MT
  - Ideas for Topics?
    - Please let us know at [engage@wecc.org](mailto:engage@wecc.org)





# NERC 2025 ERO Reliability Risk Priorities Report

- Identifies key risks to the Bulk Power System that merit attention
- Recommends mitigating actions aligning with those risks
- Complements NERC’s Long-Term Reliability Assessment, a data-driven assessment of potential future scenarios over the next 10 years
- Risk profiles identified:
  - Grid transformation
  - Resilience to extreme events
  - Critical infrastructure interdependencies
  - Security
  - Energy policy
- Report available [here](#)
- WECC is updating its risk management process
  - Details coming soon





[WWW.WECC.ORG](http://WWW.WECC.ORG) | (801) 582-0353



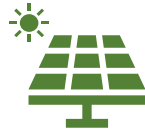
155 N 400 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84103, USA

# WIRAB's 2025 Strategic Initiatives



## Transmission Planning (WestTEC)

**Initiative 1:** Advise WECC to work collaboratively with the Western Power Pool and Western stakeholders to develop an investment-grade transmission plan that effectively improves reliability in the Western Interconnection.



## Inverter-based Resource Risk

**Initiative 2:** Advise WECC to work collaboratively with Western regulators and stakeholders to address and proactively mitigate risks associated with the uncoordinated interconnection of inverter-based resources in the Western Interconnection.



## Inter-regional Transfer Capability

**Initiative 3:** Advise WECC regarding a process for ongoing assessments and prudent upgrades for inter-regional transfer capabilities in the Western Interconnection to ensure reliable power flow when the system is stressed.



## Extreme Weather Event Analysis

**Initiative 4:** Advise WECC to conduct a systematic review of recent extreme weather events that have tested the grid, focusing on the challenges of maintaining grid reliability during increased demand, unexpected outages, system stress, and near-miss incidents in the Western Interconnection.



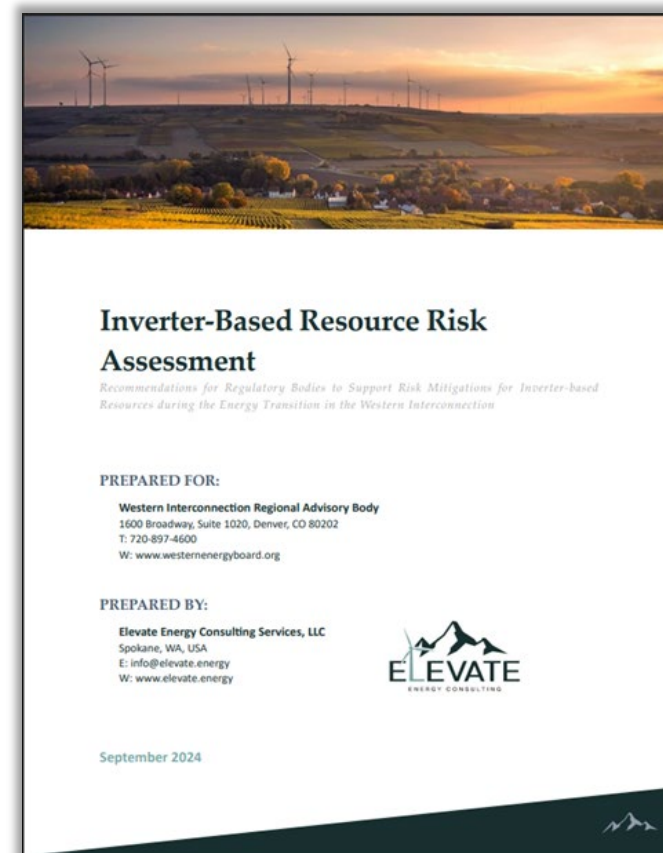
## Grid Enhancing Technologies for Reliability

**Initiative 5:** Advise WECC to assess the reliability implications of innovative grid solutions used to maximize the potential of the existing transmission system as utilities modernize the grid in the Western Interconnection.

# Inverter-Based Resource Risk Assessment Report



- Developed by Elevate Energy Consulting
- **Report** and Recommendations Endorsed by WIRAB.
  - WIRAB to collaborate with WECC and other key stakeholders to prioritize and implement the recommendations outlined in this report.
- **Key Recommendation:** State utility commissioners and staff should engage in the discussion to emphasize the need for proactive enhancement of interconnection requirements for IBRs



# Technical Resources for State Regulators on IBR Oversight



## Technical Resources Document



Developed by:  
Elevate Energy Consulting

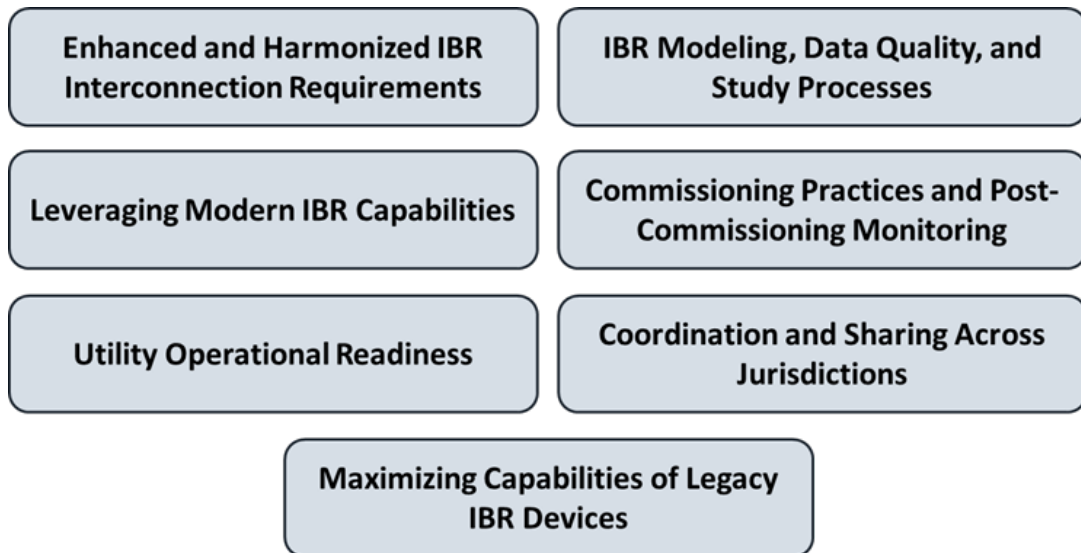
### Structure:

- Purpose
- Applicability
- Background
- Recommendations
- Key Areas of Focus
- Detailed Questions for State Regulators

# Technical Resources for State Regulators on IBR Oversight



## Key Focus Areas



## Detailed Questions

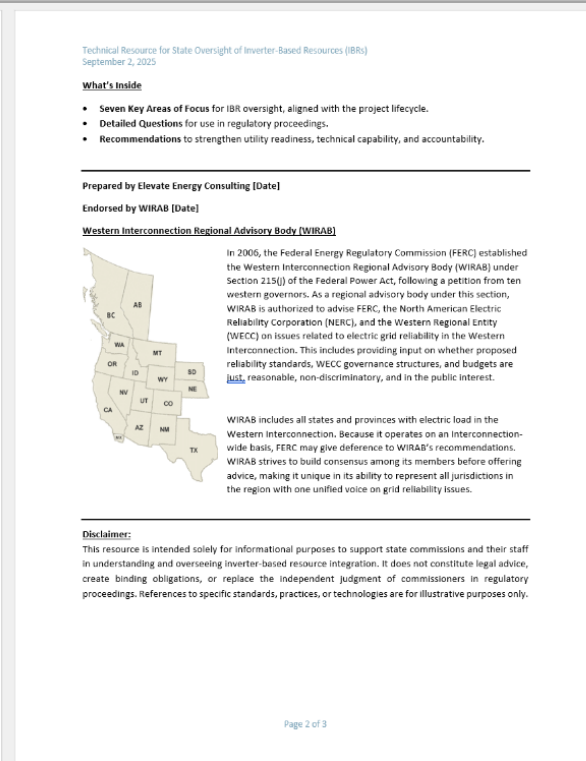
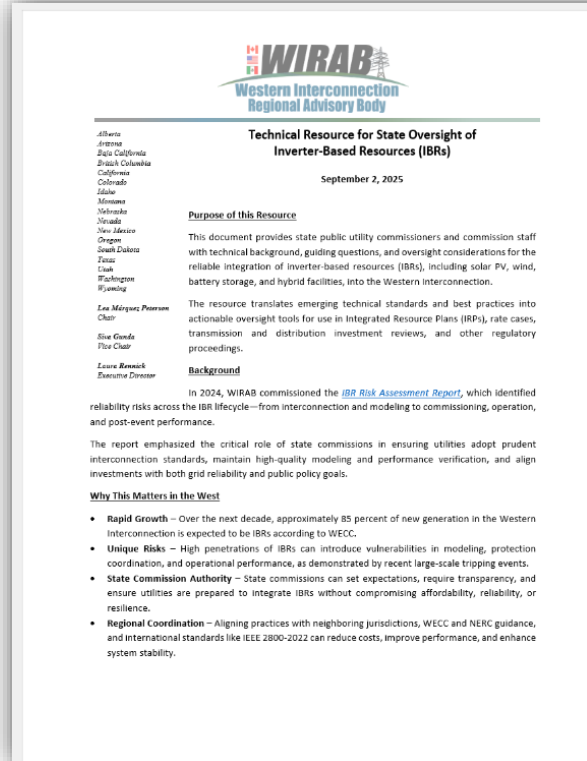
- Has the utility adopted IEEE 2800-2022 for IBR interconnection?
- Are utilities engaging with developers and OEMs to understand evolving IBR capabilities?
- Does the utility have the tools, staffing, and training to manage high IBR penetrations?

# IBR Technical Document Cover Pages



## Developed by WIRAB Staff

- Purpose
- Background
- Endorsement
- Disclaimer
- Quick Reference for Commissioners



# Next Steps



Leadership Review

- September 13

WIRAB Review

- September 26

WIRAB Endorsement

- October 1

Outreach Presentation

- November 6

# NERC MSPP Task Force

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September 4, 2025



# NERC



Designated by FERC as the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) under Section 215 of the Federal Power Act.

Develop Reliability Standards  
Monitor and Enforce  
Assess Grid Reliability



# NERC Reliability Assessments



**NERC**  
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

## 2025 State of Reliability

Technical Assessment of 2024 Bulk Power System Performance

June 2025

[2025 SOR Infographic](#)  
[2025 SOR Overview](#)  
[2025 SOR Video](#)

RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY

3353 Peachtree Road NE  
Suite 600, North Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30326  
404-446-2560 | www.nerc.com

[Full Report](#)



## 2025 ERO Reliability Risk Priorities Report

RISC Approved: July 22, 2025  
Board of Trustees Accepted: August 14, 2025



[Full Report](#)

### 2025 Summer Reliability Assessment

SRA Report | SRA Video

NERC's 2025 Summer Reliability Assessment (SRA) finds an elevated risk of supply shortfalls during wide-area heat waves and abnormal weather conditions like those that have occurred in recent summer. As a result, system operators in many parts of North America could face challenges meeting peak electricity demand. Reserve shortages can occur during a range of conditions that include above-normal electricity demand, periods of low wind and solar output, and wide-area heat events that disrupt available transfers and generator availability. New resource additions—primarily solar and some batteries—are helping to meet surging load growth that continues to strain resources. However, these additions are offset by ongoing generator retirements and introduce more complexity and energy limitations to the resource mix.

**Summer Reliability Risk Area Summary**

Potential for insufficient operating reserves in above-normal peak conditions  
Insufficient operating reserves expected

**Surging load growth:** Load growth has increased by 20 GW more than during the increase from 2023–2024, further straining parts of the system.

**Summer Peak Demand**

Year	Peak Demand (GW)
2023	~800
2024	~850 (+5 GW)
2025	~900 (+10 GW)

**Influx of solar and batteries:** These resources are effective in summer. The addition of 30 GW of new solar and 13 GW of new batteries is helping to meet summer peak demand.

**Solar and Battery Resources Installed Capacity**

Resource	2024 (GW)	2025 (GW)
Solar	180	210
Battery	23	36

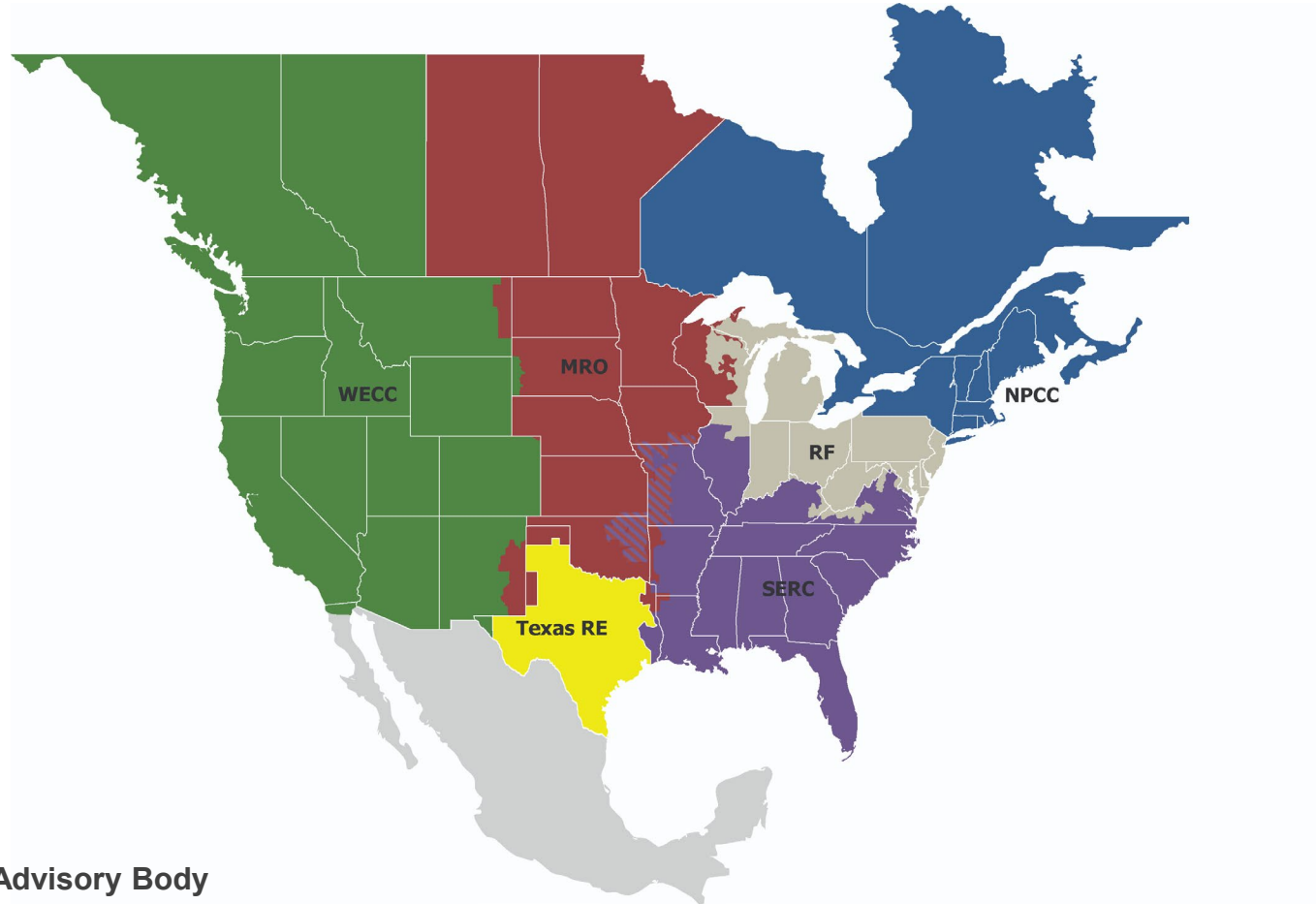
**Generator Retirements Since September 1, 2024**  
Totalled 7.4 GW of Installed Capacity

Resource	Capacity (GW)
Coal	1.6
Natural Gas and Other Gases	2.1
Nuclear	2.5
Other	1.2

NERC NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION  
WWW.NERC.COM  
RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY

[Full Report](#)

# ERO Enterprise



# Reliability Standards

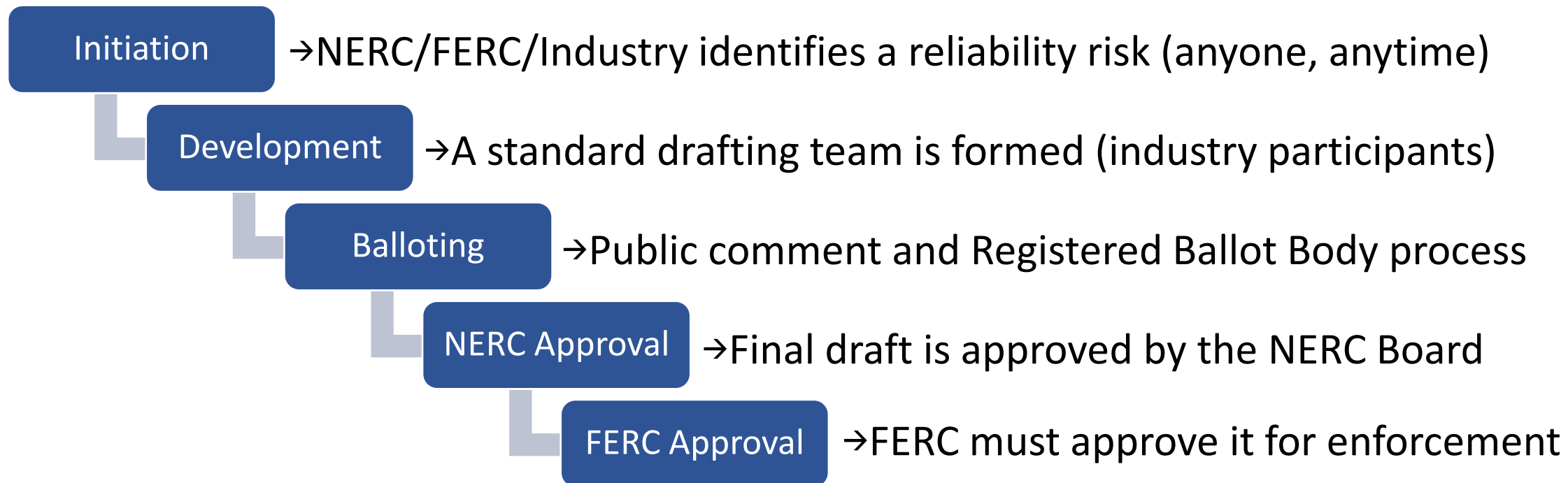


Codified rules that define how entities must **plan, operate, and protect** the BES

NERC Develops – FERC Approves

Examples: IBR Ride-Through Requirements; Cold Weather Preparedness

# Reliability Standards Development



# Reliability Standards



## Process for Urgent Matters

NERC has special authority under Section 321 of the NERC Rules of Procedure to streamline the Reliability Standard development process (e.g., FERC Order 901, immediate threats)

## WECC's Role

NERC Standards apply within the Western Interconnection.  
WECC also develops Regional Reliability Standards and Criteria.  
Changes that occur to NERC's standards development process may invoke changes to WECC's standards development process.

# MSPP Task Force



## Modernization of Standards Processes and Procedures (MSPP) Task Force



Created by NERC BOT in Feb. 2025 to fundamentally reform the standards framework.



Whitepaper - identifies opportunities for transformational change to NERC's traditional processes and procedures for standards initiation, drafting, and balloting.



Goal is to make the process more agile, efficient, and responsive to evolving BPS risks

# Reliability Standards



## Standards Initiation

1. Implement a Biannual Review and Prioritization Process
2. Centralize the process through the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RISC)

## Standards Development

1. Form a new group/panel to coordinate standards drafting with AI assistance
2. Outsource standards drafting
3. Implement incremental process changes

## Standards Balloting

1. Create a Standing Ballot Body
2. Implement a notice and comment process for proposed standards
3. Implement incremental changes to Registered Ballot Body framework

# Standards Initiation



## Standards Initiation

1. Implement a Biannual Review and Prioritization Process
2. Centralize the process through the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RISC)

**Current Problem:** Inefficient; Unclear prioritization; Too many entry points; Limited early industry input

### WIRAB Staff Input:

- Support processes that enable early stakeholder awareness and engagement
- Support the Biannual Review and Prioritization Process; Discourage expanding RTSC scope
- Requests NERC solicit stakeholder input when determining membership criteria and scope of Stakeholder Council

# Standards Development



## Standards Development

1. Form a new group/panel to coordinate standards drafting with AI assistance
2. Outsource standards drafting
3. Implement incremental process changes

**Current Problem:** Time-consuming; Resource intensive; Relying on volunteers; Inefficient

### **WIRAB Staff Input:**

- Requests substantial human oversight and mitigation protocols to prevent inaccurate or misleading information
- Requests NERC develop criteria for forgoing a drafting team and provides justification on a case-by-case basis
- Requests additional options for earlier and more informal stakeholder engagement during the drafting phase

# Standards Balloting



## Standards Balloting

1. Create a Standing Ballot Body
2. Implement a notice and comment process for proposed standards
3. Implement incremental changes to Registered Ballot Body framework

**Current Problem:** Votes are diluted via single member vote in multiple segments; Low engagement; One-time ballot pool sign up period; Accountability (voting “no” in lieu of reading the standard)

### Standing Ballot Body Option – Sectors

1. Investor-Owned Utility Sector
2. State/municipal Utility Sector
3. Cooperative Utility Sector
4. Federal (FPMA) or Provincial Utility Sector
5. Transmission-dependent Utility Sector
6. Merchant Electricity Utility Sector
7. Electricity Marketer Sector
8. End-User Sector
9. ISO/RTO Sector
10. Government Representative Sector
11. Canadian Sector

# Standards Balloting



## Standards Balloting

1. Create a Standing Ballot Body
2. Implement a notice and comment process for proposed standards
3. Implement incremental changes to Registered Ballot Body framework

### WIRAB Staff Input:

- Generally supports effort to resolve current issues
- Recommends aligning representative selection mechanism with other NERC committee selection processes, including considerations for geographical diversity
- Concerned with identifying minority opinions or disputes within sectors on balloting standards, recommends robust dispute resolution mechanism and opportunity to formally express concurrence of dissent regarding representative's vote.
- Recommends the establishment of a clear, timely, and structured process for gathering stakeholder input prior to sector representative voting.

# WIRAB Staff Comments



## WIRAB Staff Comments

Primarily support the direction of the proposal

Cautions against the relying too much Artificial Intelligence

Encourages the process to consider how minority opinions or disputes within sectors are captured in the balloting process.

## Next Steps

Draft recommendations aimed for end of October

The MSPP Task Force will deliver final recommendations to the NERC Board in February 2026.

NERC Board will then consider the recommendations and ultimately submit any changes to the process to FERC for approval.

# Thank You!

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# Upcoming Meetings



## WIRAB Monthly Meeting

October Meeting Canceled

Next Meeting: November 6, 2025 at 2:00 PM MT

## Fall 2025 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting

October 1-3, 2025 in Portland, OR

WIRAB Lunch for Members and Invited Guests: October 1, 2025

<https://www.westernenergyboard.org/meeting-calendar/>

# Thank You!

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