

NERC Standards Numbering System

NERC has two main categories of enforceable reliability standards:

- Continent-wide standards
- Regional standards

Continent-wide Standards

Continent-wide standards may include up to six identifiers as described below.

1. *Standard Topic*: A three-letter acronym indicates the general topic area of the standard. Acronyms include:

BAL-002-1.1(i)a

Topic Area	Acronym
Resource and Demand Balancing	BAL
Critical Infrastructure Protection	CIP
Communications	COM
Emergency Preparedness and Operations	EOP
Facilities Design, Connections and Maintenance	FAC
Interchange Scheduling and Coordination	INT
Interconnection Reliability Operations and Coordination	IRO
Modeling, Data, and Analysis	MOD
Nuclear	NUC
Personnel Performance, Training, and Qualifications	PER
Protection and Control	PRC
Transmission Operations	TOP
Transmission Planning	TPL
Voltage and Reactive	VAR

2. *Standard Number*: A three-digit numeral indicates the standard number within that topic area. Standard numbers begin with “-001” and increase sequentially.

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3. *Version Number*: A one-digit numeral indicates the current version of that standard number. Version numbers begin with “-1”¹ and increase sequentially.

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¹ Exception - Standards in the initial set of reliability standards were assigned an initial “-0” extension.

4. *Errata*: A period followed by a number to the right of the version number indicates an errata change. Errata are numbered beginning with “.1” and increase sequentially if multiple errata are approved to the same version number.

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5. *Changes Within a Version*: A lowercase roman numeral in parentheses to the right of the version number indicates that a change has been approved to a standard, but the next version number in the sequence is in use or the change is only to Violation Risk Factors or Violation Severity Levels. The lowercase roman numeral will begin with “(i)” and increase sequentially.

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6. *Interpretations*: A lower case letter to the right of the version number indicates that a standard version has an applicable interpretation. Interpretations are identified beginning with “a” and increase in sequence through the alphabet if multiple interpretations are applicable to the same version number.

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Regional Standards²

Regional standards may include up to seven identifiers. In addition to the six listed above for continent-wide standards, regional standards also include:

7. *Regional Acronym*: A three or four-letter acronym identifies the region in which the regional standard applies. Acronyms include:

IRO-006-WECC-1

Regional Entity	Acronym
Midwest Reliability Organization	MRO
Northeast Power Coordinating Council	NPCC
ReliabilityFirst	RF
SERC Reliability Corporation	SERC
Texas Reliability Entity	TRE
Western Electricity Coordinating Council	WECC

² A number of regional standards predate this numbering system (ex. BAL-STD-002-0). As these standards are revised in the normal regional standards development process, the numbering will be revised to reflect the numbering system explained here

Version History

Version	Date	Owner	Change Tracking
1	September 14, 2009		
1	March 20, 2014	Standards Information Staff	Updated template
2	September 30, 2014	Standards Information Staff	Updated to include changes within versions and revised text to improve readability Added 'Changes Within a Version'
3	July 1, 2015	Standards Information Staff	Updated item 5 to clarify naming convention used for updates to Violation Risk Factors and Violation Severity Levels, as 'Changes Within a Version'
4	May 22, 2023	Standards Information Staff	Updated Regional Entity section and template.
5	May 1, 2026	Standards Information Staff	Updated to the current NERC template.