

North American Transmission Forum External Newsletter

October 2017

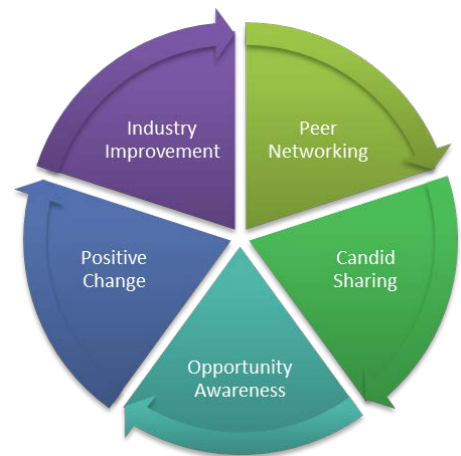
NATF Program Overview: Peer Reviews

The NATF Peer Review Program consists of evaluations of a member company’s procedures, practices, and processes by a group of subject-matter experts from other NATF members.

Each review consists of two to four days of interviews and observations, followed by a report to the host member’s executives and staff. Best practices are shared with the applicable NATF practice groups, and specific positive highlights and recommendations for improvement are provided to the host.

Peer review team members bring valuable information back to their own organizations after the review because of the discussions during the interviews. Team members exchange practices and lessons learned with one another and build new personal relationships in the process.

Peer Review Improvement Cycle



NATF Posts Documents for Industry Use

To benefit the industry and inform regulators of ongoing work, the NATF posts select [documents](#) on its public website (www.natf.net). We recently posted the following four documents:

Document	Description
NATF Practices Document for NERC Reliability Standard CIP-014-2 Requirement R4	Guidance for conducting evaluations of potential threats and vulnerabilities of a physical security attack against a Transmission station, Transmission substation, and/or a primary control center
NATF Practices Document for NERC Reliability Standard CIP-014-2 Requirement R5	Guidance for a physical security plan—includes a template to help with CIP-014 R5 documentation
NATF Document for Implementation and Use of Transient Cyber Assets (TCAs) – NERC Reliability Standard CIP-010-2 Requirement R4, Attachment 1, Sections 1 and 2	Implementation guidance for members and industry related to TCAs; developed on a template conducive to NERC’s compliance guidance initiative
Transmission System Resiliency – An Overview	An update to the NATF resiliency summary created in 2015

The CIP-014-2 documents are updates to previously posted NATF CIP-014-1 documents to align with the current version of the standard.

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NERC Compliance Implementation Guidance Submittals and Endorsement

On a case-basis, the NATF develops practice or guidance documents related to topics that are associated with NERC Reliability Standards. Below is an update of documents submitted to NERC for consideration as compliance “Implementation Guidance.”

Submittals

All three CIP-related documents mentioned in the article above have been submitted to NERC for consideration as Implementation Guidance.

Approval

NERC recently endorsed the “NATF MOD-033-1 Methodology Reference Document” as Implementation Guidance. The document, which provides guidance on model validation, is posted on the NATF [public documents](#) and NERC [compliance guidance](#) pages.

Business Plan and Budget

Members approved the NATF 2018 Business Plan and Budget, which lists planned activities and resource requirements for next year. The NATF will conduct activities in various program areas (e.g., peer reviews, practices, assistance, training, metrics, reliability initiatives, and operating experience sharing) and coordinate externally to promote reliability and resiliency excellence, with an increased focus on addressing issues and risks related to the scope and pace of electric-industry change.

Workshops

In addition to regular web meetings, NATF working groups hold annual workshops and in-person meetings. Recent and upcoming activities include:

- Operator Training Workshop (August)
- Substations and Asset Management Workshops (September)
- Operating Experience Workshop (October)
- Vegetation Management Workshop (October)
- Resiliency Summit (October)
- Security Workshop (November)
- System Operations Workshop (November)
- Transmission-Nuclear Power Plant Interface Workshop (November)