North American Transmission Forum External Newsletter
April 2022

ERO Enterprise Endorses NATF Implementation Guidance for CIP-013

On February 28, the ERO Enterprise endorsed two NATF Implementation Guidance documents, further signaling the ERO Enterprise's support of the NATF supply chain security model, criteria, and questionnaire. The endorsement provides entities confidence that using the security approach provided in the NATF model is one way to meet regulatory requirements. Obtaining the ERO endorsement is a major step forward for encouraging further adoption of these tools, and supports industry convergence and streamlined supply chain risk management.

About the Documents

"NATF CIP-013 Implementation Guidance: Using Independent Assessments of Vendors"
This guidance describes one way a Responsible Entity may meet the obligations in Requirements R1 and R2 when relying upon a qualified independent assessment of suppliers' security practices. It is an update to the existing ERO-endorsed NATF CIP-013 implementation guidance to include CIP-013-2 and to incorporate the NATF supply chain security model, criteria, questionnaire, and revision process.

"NATF CIP-013 Implementation Guidance: Supply Chain Risk Management Plans"
This guidance addresses how the use of the NATF supply chain security model, criteria, and questionnaire, if implemented appropriately, offers one method to meet compliance with CIP-013-1 and CIP-013-2 Requirements R1 and R2 to develop and implement supply chain cyber security risk management plans for high and medium impact Bulk Electric System (BES) Cyber Systems and their associated Electronic Access Control or Monitoring Systems (EACMS) and Physical Access Control Systems (PACS).

The documents are posted on the NATF Supply Chain Cyber Security Industry Coordination website and on the NERC website.

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NATF Criteria, Questionnaire, and Revision Process Updates Posted for Industry-Wide Comment through April 13

The NATF Criteria and Questionnaire Revision Team has reviewed suggestions for modifications to the "NATF Supply Chain Security Criteria," "Energy Sector Supply Chain Risk Questionnaire," and associated revision process. The proposed changes have been posted for industry-wide comment through April 13 on the NATF Supply Chain Cyber Security Industry Coordination page. Input can be submitted to supplychain@natf.net.

A summary of changes is available in the "Version History" notes section of each document. Please review the criteria, questionnaire, and revision process for changes indicated by red text. The redlines for the questionnaire are provided in the formatted version only; conforming final changes will be made to the unformatted version.

The revision team will review comments in April and May and provide a summary of its determinations. The updated documents will be posted following NATF board approval in June.

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FERC Order 881 (Ambient-Adjusted Ratings)

The NATF has initiated an effort to work with members towards implementation of FERC Order 881 ("Managing Transmission Line Ratings"), which is an important order for transmission. Elements include webinars and a multidisciplinary group to discuss challenges and identify potential work on best practices.

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NATF Resilience Work Continues with Roadmap

The NATF has been actively working to support and improve transmission system resilience for nearly a decade. We have worked internally with members and externally with industry and regulatory entities (e.g., EPRI, the ERO, DOE, FERC, and PNNL) on efforts such as grid security emergencies, a pandemic response plan, resilience summits and webinars, the RESTORE spare-sharing program, and the Transmission Resilience Maturity Model.

The recently completed resilience roadmap will help NATF members develop and sustain a holistic resilience program for the transmission business. The roadmap identifies crucial elements of comprehensive resilience program management and provides implementation examples. Many of the concepts can also be applied at the enterprise level. For more information about NATF resilience work, see our "[Transmission Resilience Overview](.)."

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Redacted Operating Experience Reports

We recently posted three new operating experience reports to the "[Documents](.)" section of our public site for members and other utilities to use internally and share with their contractors to help improve safety, reliability, and resilience.

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For more information about the NATF, please visit https://www.natf.net/.