

North American Transmission Forum External Newsletter

July 2025

Supply Chain Security Criteria and Risk Questionnaire Posted

The <u>NATF Supply Chain Security Criteria</u> and <u>Energy Sector Supply Chain Risk Questionnaire</u> version 6.0 documents have been posted for industry use on the <u>Supply Chain Industry Coordination</u> page of the NATF public website. The <u>Version History</u> link on that site includes prior versions and redlines. In addition, the <u>NATF</u> <u>Criteria and Questionnaire Revision Process</u> (formerly known as the *Revision Process for the Energy Sector Supply Chain Risk Questionnaire and NATF Supply Chain Security Criteria*) has been updated.

Revisions to the NATF criteria and questionnaire include updated mappings for NIST's Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) 2.0, the addition of artificial intelligence to several items, and edits to enhance clarity. The layout has been updated slightly to facilitate navigation and readability, with a new "Area of Focus" drop-down box added to the questionnaire to conserve space and improve specificity when using the optional scoring feature.

These updates were reviewed and accepted by the ERO Enterprise to ensure its continued endorsement of the two NATF CIP-013 Implementation Guidance documents: *NATF CIP-013 Implementation Guidance: Using Independent Assessments of Vendors* and *NATF CIP-013 Implementation Guidance: Supply Chain Risk Management Plans*.

On June 9, the NATF hosted a joint meeting of our Industry Organizations Forum and Supply Chain Practice Group. In the meeting, we discussed revisions to the criteria, questionnaire, and supporting documents. Representatives from NEMA and Exiger also presented on the potential impact of tariffs on energy sector supply chains. The event drew about 215 participants from a diverse range of industry sectors.

Resilience

NATF President and CEO Tom Galloway has led the Resilience subgroup drafting the 2025 *ERO Reliability Risk Priorities Report.* The report will be recommended for NERC Board of Trustees approval in August.

The NATF and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) held a transmission resilience summit on May 7–8 in Austin, Texas, hosted by Lower Colorado River Authority. The theme of the summit was the five elements of the <u>NATF-EPRI definition of resilience</u>: prepare, anticipate, absorb, adapt, and recover. EPRI presented on design, grid-enhancing technologies, cyber security, artificial intelligence, communications, Climate READi, operations, and emergency management. NATF member topics included discussions of wildfire mitigation plans, system planning studies, supply chain issues and mitigating strategies, building resilience into drills/exercises, and lessons learned from recent hurricane events.

The NATF is also developing several documents to improve our members' resilience posture. Our *Design Basis Resilience Event Practices* document and tool were finished in 2024 and provide guidance for an organization to develop an appropriate suite of design basis resilience events (DBRE). Our *Common Operating Picture Practices* document is currently under development. This document is designed to guide our members when responding to an event or problem by providing relevant information on one display that is shared by all. Lastly, our *Critical Entities Practices* document is also in progress. It will explain how to identify and coordinate with critical entities that are integral to the successful operation of the transmission grid and that provide essential services/products to society at large.

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

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