

North American Transmission Forum External Newsletter

January 2024

NATF Welcomes Missouri River Energy Services and ATCO Electric

Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) and ATCO Electric are the newest NATF members. MRES is a municipal utility providing energy to 61 member distribution systems in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. ATCO is an investor-owned utility operating approximately 6,000 circuit miles of transmission line rated at 100 kV and above in north and east-central Alberta. Click [here](#) to learn more about NATF membership.

Annual NERC-NATF-EPRI Transmission Planning and Modeling Seminar

The NATF, North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) conducted an annual transmission planning and modeling seminar on November 1–2, 2023. This virtual event focused on bulk power system load modeling, integrated system planning practices, inverter-based resource risk mitigation, and updates on the latest research and activities across the industry. Materials (for [day 1](#) and [day 2](#)) are posted on NERC's website.

NERC-NATF-EPRI Extreme Weather Transmission Planning and Modeling Seminar

On January 17, 2024, the NATF, NERC, and EPRI will host a seminar to focus on weather and climate data criteria and characteristics needed to establish network models for extreme weather per FERC Order 896 and cover how to identify and develop benchmark planning cases for extreme heat and cold. The standard drafting team for TPL-008 will release the draft standard for review in February 2024, and this event will provide context and the scientific basis for decisions included in the standard.

Additional topics include transmission planning practices for developing weather-impacted power flow cases and the science behind climate-impacted weather data in the long-term transmission planning timeframe (offered by climate experts from national labs and agencies).

[Registration](#) is open and a draft agenda is posted [here](#).

NATF Supplier Outreach and Coordination

The NATF continues to promote good supply chain security practices and examples through its collaborative work with industry suppliers. On November 6–7, 2023, the NATF hosted a virtual supplier sharing seminar covering national strategies and practical applications regarding supply chain. Stephanie Johnson (program manager of supply chain risk management at CESER/DOE) provided keynote remarks. Other topics included national strategy, international suppliers, regulations, risk management with customers, software bills of materials, certification, and cloud security. Materials are posted on the NATF's [Supply Chain Cyber Security Industry Coordination website](#).

Open Distribution

Copyright © 2024 North American Transmission Forum (NATF). All rights reserved. Not for sale or commercial use. The NATF makes no and hereby disclaims all representations or warranties (express or implied) relating to the content, including as to the accuracy or completeness of the information. No liability is assumed by the NATF for any damages arising directly or indirectly from the content or by the use or application thereof. Use of the content constitutes agreement to defend, indemnify, and hold the NATF harmless from and against all claims arising from such use.

Supply Chain Resources: Revision Process and Mapping Project

Revision Process Underway

The annual revision process for the *NATF Supply Chain Security Criteria* and the *Energy Sector Supply Chain Risk Questionnaire* is underway. The revision process, the criteria, and the questionnaire are posted on the NATF's public [Supply Chain Cyber Security Industry Coordination site](#). The process is open to industry, suppliers, regulators, and other stakeholders to provide the opportunity for input.

These tools are useful for risk management and compliance efforts. Both the criteria and the questionnaire are incorporated into the ERO Enterprise-endorsed implementation guidance documents for CIP-013 (available on the NERC website and the NATF public website):

- [NATF CIP-013 Implementation Guidance: Using Independent Assessments of Vendors](#)
- [NATF CIP-013 Implementation Guidance: Supply Chain Risk Management Plans](#)

These implementation guidance documents support using the criteria and questionnaire in a risk-based manner, where the entity determines which criteria or questions apply for a procurement.

Input on the criteria and questionnaire can be submitted to supplychain@natf.net until close of business January 26 for consideration in the 2024 review cycle. Revisions will be posted in redline format on March 8 for a 30-day comment period.

Coming Soon: Mapping of NATF Criteria and Questionnaire to Established Security Frameworks

The NATF has engaged subject-matter experts to update the mapping of the NATF criteria to established security frameworks (e.g., ISO 27000, ISA/IEC 62443, NIST, SOC2, CIP). The project will also include a mapping of the questionnaire to those same frameworks. The updates should be available this spring.

Upon completion and posting, these mappings will facilitate industry and suppliers' ability to leverage existing security certifications many suppliers obtain. This effort aligns with the NATF's supply chain objectives of convergence and efficiency by taking advantage of existing certifications rather than creating a new certification for establishing reasonable assurance of supplier security practices. The NATF plans to conduct a special webinar for its members, industry, and suppliers to provide an overview of the mapping and its potential applications.

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