Supporting Statement

**FERC-725P, Mandatory Reliability Standards for PRC-005-3**

for the Final Rule in Docket Number RM14-8-000 (issued on 1/22/2014)

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) requests that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review FERC-725P (Mandatory Reliability Standards for the Bulk-Power System: PRC[[1]](#footnote-1) Reliability Standards). The requirements for this information collection are referenced in the Commission’s regulations at 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 40.

In this Final Rule, the Commission approves a revised Reliability Standard PRC-005-3[[2]](#footnote-2). Consistent with Commission Order No. 758, the Reliability Standard requires applicable entities to test and maintain certain auto-reclosing relays as part of the protection system maintenance program. Additionally, the Commission approves one new definition and six revised definitions referenced in the Reliability Standard, the assigned violation risk factors/violation severity levels, and NERC’s implementation plan.

Some of the existing information collection requirements in the approved Reliability Standard (PRC-005-3) are approved by OMB under FERC-725A (OMB Control No. 1902-0244).

The Commission submits the changes due to the Final Rule in Docket No. RM14-8-000 under the FERC-725P information collection (OMB Control No. 1902-0269) which contains information collection requirements approved in Commission Order No. 793. As part of that last approval of the FERC-725P information collection (ICR# 201312-1902-004, February 27, 2014), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) included terms of clearance regarding record retention. We address OMB’s terms of clearance in Question #7 below.

1. **CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MAKE THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION NECESSARY**

On August 8, 2005, The Electricity Modernization Act of 2005, which is Title XII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct 2005), was enacted into law. EPAct 2005 added a new Section 215 to the Federal Power Act (FPA), which requires a Commission-certified Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) to develop mandatory and enforceable Reliability Standards, which are subject to Commission review and approval. Once approved, the Reliability Standards may be enforced by the ERO, subject to Commission oversight.

On March 16, 2007, in Order No. 693, pursuant to section 215(d) of the FPA, the Commission approved 83 of 107 proposed Reliability Standards, six of the eight proposed regional differences, and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Glossary of Terms used in Reliability Standards (NERC Glossary), including the initial versions of four protection system and load-shedding related maintenance standards:

* PRC-005-1
* PRC-008-0
* PRC-011-1
* PRC-017-0

In approving these protection system-related Reliability Standards, the Commission directed NERC to develop or to consider a number of modifications. Specifically, the Commission directed NERC to (1) develop a revision to PRC-005-1 incorporating a maximum time interval during which to conduct maintenance and testing of protection systems, and (2) consider combining into one standard the various maintenance and testing requirements for all of the maintenance and testing-related Reliability Standards for protection systems, underfrequency load shedding (UFLS) equipment and undervoltage load shedding (UVLS) equipment.**[[3]](#footnote-3)**

The Commission issued Order No. 758 in February 2012, in response to NERC’s request for approval of its interpretation of Requirement R1 of the then-current version of the protection system maintenance standard, PRC-005-1. The Commission accepted NERC’s interpretation of PRC-005-1, which identified the types of protection system equipment to which the Reliability Standard applied. In addition, the Commission directed NERC to develop modifications to the standard to address gaps highlighted by the proposed interpretation, including the need to address reclosing relays[[4]](#footnote-4) that may affect the reliability of the Bulk-Power System.**[[5]](#footnote-5)**

In the discussion surrounding that directive, the Commission described certain scenarios where reclosing relays might impact reliability,**[[6]](#footnote-6)** but recognized that it may not be appropriate to include all applications of autoreclosing relays in the protection system maintenance standard:

The NOPR raised a concern that excluding the maintenance and testing of reclosing relays that can exacerbate fault conditions when not properly maintained and coordinated will result in a gap affecting Bulk-Power System reliability. We agree with MidAmerican that while there are only limited circumstances when a reclosing relay can actually affect the reliability of the Bulk-Power System, there are some reclosing relays, e.g., whose failure to operate or that misoperate during an event due to lack of maintenance and testing, may negatively impact the reliability of the Bulk-Power System.

In the NOPR we stated that a misoperating or miscoordinated reclosing relay may result in the reclosure of a Bulk-Power System element back onto a fault or that a misoperating or miscoordinated reclosing relay may fail to operate after a fault has been cleared, thus failing to restore the element to service. As a result, the reliability of the Bulk-Power System would be affected. In addition, misoperated or miscoordinated relays may result in damage to the Bulk-Power System. For example, a misoperation or miscoordination of a reclosing relay causing the reclosing of Bulk-Power System facilities into a permanent fault can subject generators to excessive shaft torques and winding stresses and expose circuit breakers to systems conditions less than optimal for correct operation, potentially damaging the circuit breaker.**[[7]](#footnote-7)**

Prior to issuance of Order No. 758, NERC had begun development of revisions to its initial maintenance standards for protection systems and underfrequency and undervoltage load shedding equipment in response to the Order No. 693 directives. Those revisions, reflected in a consolidated Reliability Standard, PRC-005-2, were approved by the Commission on December 24, 2013.**[[8]](#footnote-8)** In the order approving PRC-005-2, the Commission found that the revised standard represented an improvement over the four standards it would replace because it incorporated specific, required minimum maintenance activities and maximum time intervals for maintenance of individual components of the protection systems and load shedding equipment affecting the bulk electric system.**[[9]](#footnote-9)**

On February 14, 2014, NERC submitted a petition seeking approval of Reliability Standard PRC-005-3, developed in response to the Order No. 758 directive to include maintenance and testing of reclosing relays that can affect the reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System.**[[10]](#footnote-10)** In its petition, NERC maintained that the approved standard promotes reliability by making certain reclosing relays subject to a mandatory maintenance program, including adding detailed tables of minimum maintenance activities and maximum maintenance intervals for the reclosing relays. NERC explained that the purpose of PRC-005-3 is to “document and implement programs for the maintenance of all Protection Systems and Automatic Reclosing affecting the reliability of the Bulk Electric System so that they are kept in working order.”**[[11]](#footnote-11)**

1. **HOW, BY WHOM, AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE THE INFORMATION IS TO BE USED AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT COLLECTING THE INFORMATION**

Reliability Standard PRC-005-3 applies to entities registered with NERC as distribution providers (DP), generation owners (GO), and transmission owners (TO). However, the changes to the standard as compared to the one previously approved only affect TOs and GOs.

Reclosing relays are utilized on transmission systems to restore transmission elements to service following automatic circuit breaker tripping. There are several types of reclosing relays, including electromechanical, solid state, and microprocessor-based, which may be applied in a variety of scenarios. Most reclosing relays share three main functions: supervisory, timing, and output. According to NERC, a relay failure is most likely to occur as part of one of these functions. Reclosing relays are typically installed to lessen the burden on transmission operators of manually restoring transmission lines. Relays of this type also provide improved capability in restoration of overhead transmission lines. The degree to which such capability is improved depends on the nature of the fault—permanent or temporary—and on transmission operator practices regarding manual restoration.

While more efficient restoration of transmission lines following temporary faults does provide an inherent reliability benefit, certain applications of reclosing relays can result in undesired relay operation or operation not consistent with relay design, leading to adverse reliability impacts. Because certain applications of reclosing relays can have the potential to impact the Bulk-Power System, it is beneficial to reliability that those relays be included under the applicability of Reliability Standard PRC-005-3.

Reliability Standard PRC-005-3 will require all GOs and TOs to perform a one-time review of existing plant substation sites to determine if they have reclosing relays that meet the inclusion criteria of the standard. If a GO or TO has sites or subsites with reclosing relays that meet the inclusion criteria then they have to review their existing reclosing scheme maintenance program to ensure that it contains at a minimum the maintenance activities listed in Table 4 in Reliability Standard PRC-005-3, and that the activities are performed within the applicable maximum interval listed in Table 4. If the existing reclosing scheme maintenance program does not meet the criteria in Reliability Standard PRC-005-3, the entity will have to make certain adjustments to the program.

The new information collection requirements in PRC-005-3 help to ensure that protection systems are well maintained and tested. Without these new requirements there is an increased chance of protection systems not functioning properly.

1. **DESCRIBE ANY CONSIDERATION OF THE USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE THE BURDEN AND TECHNICAL OR LEGAL OBSTACLES TO REDUCING BURDEN**

The use of current or improved technology and the medium are not covered in Reliability Standards, and are therefore left to the discretion of each respondent.

In general, the Commission supports the use of information technology to reduce burden.

1. **DESCRIBE EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION AND SHOW SPECIFICALLY WHY ANY SIMILAR INFORMATION ALREADY AVAILABLE CANNOT BE USED OR MODIFIED FOR USE FOR THE PURPOSE(S) DESCRIBED IN INSTRUCTION NO. 2**

The Commission periodically reviews filing requirements concurrent with OMB review or as the Commission deems necessary to eliminate duplicative filing and to minimize the filing burden. Under this proceeding, Reliability Standard PRC-005-3 does not duplicate any filing requirements since the Final Rule revises an existing standard to improve clarity and efficiency.

1. **METHODS USED TO MINIMIZE THE BURDEN IN COLLECTION OF INFORMATION INVOLVING SMALL ENTITIES**

FERC estimates that there are 197[[12]](#footnote-12) small entities applicable to this rule. FERC considers the impact of the rule to be very minimal. In general, small entities may reduce their burden by taking part in a joint registration organization or a coordinated functional registration. These options allow a small entity to share the compliance burden with other entities and, thus, to minimize their own compliance burden. Detailed information regarding these options is available in NERC’s Rule of Procedure at Sections 507 and 508[[13]](#footnote-13).

In this Final Rule, the approved changes are estimated to cost small entities approximately $730 which Commission staff considers minimal.

1. **CONSEQUENCE TO FEDERAL PROGRAM IF COLLECTION WERE CONDUCTED LESS FREQUENTLY**

The additional burden imposed by this Final Rule is one-time only and cannot be conducted less frequently. The record retention requirements are either existing requirements or considered usual business practice. The record retention requirements are not modified by this Final Rule.

1. **EXPLAIN ANY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO THE INFORMATION COLLECTION**

There is one special circumstances as described in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2) related to this information collection:

The data retention requirement in the Reliability Standard PRC-005-3 says:

For Requirement R2, Requirement R3, Requirement R4, and Requirement R5, the Transmission Owner, Generator Owner, and Distribution Provider shall each keep documentation of the two most recent performances of each distinct maintenance activity for the Protection System or Automatic Reclosing Component, or all performances of each distinct maintenance activity for the Protection System or Automatic Reclosing Component since the previous scheduled audit date, whichever is longer.

Based on the above passage, entities may have to retain some documentation for as long as 24 years which is significantly longer than the 3-year maximum period allowed by OMB. Recognizing and acknowledging OMB’s requirements, NERC provides the following explanation about the maintenance intervals in the proposed standard:

Proposed PRC-005-3 continues to require entities to maintain documentation for the longer of: (1) the two most recent performances of each distinct maintenance activity for the Protection System or Automatic Reclosing Component; (2) all performances of each distinct maintenance activity for the Protection System or Automatic reclosing Component since the previous scheduled audit date. The Standard Drafting Team explains that this requirement assures that documentation is available to show that the time between maintenance cycles correctly meets the maintenance interval limits. Maintaining elements according to these intervals is a critical aspect of properly maintaining a covered Component. Because some maintenance intervals in proposed PRC-005-3 (and the predecessor Reliability Standard PRC-005-2) are up to twelve years, it is possible that an entity may need to retain records for up to twenty-four years.

The evidence retention periods in proposed Reliability Standard PRC-005-3 continue to be reasonable for this type of activity. The type of evidence entities will retain to demonstrate that maintenance was last completed within a given interval are the usual and customary documents maintained by these entities today to document maintenance internally of various components. While the time intervals may seem longer than an entity may reasonably retain such records, the lengthy periods are necessary to establish maintenance has occurred according to the mandated intervals. Retaining records for the two most recent performances of each distinct maintenance activity, where the interval is twelve years, is how the twenty-four year retention period arises. Shortening the time period for retention would require that the maintenance intervals be reduced as well, which would significantly increase capital maintenance costs since entities would need to maintain Components under tighter time constraints.

The Measures in the proposed Reliability Standard provide examples of acceptable types of evidence for each Requirement, but the Measures do not mandate specific records be kept. Therefore, entities will have the flexibility to determine the level of documentation needed to verify this limited element of the proposed Reliability Standard. Generally, entities will likely only maintain summaries of their maintenance activities pertaining to the prior period in order to establish that the proper intervals were met. Therefore, the burden will be minimal compared to the increased capital costs that would result from shortening the intervals to create a shorter maximum retention time.

Recognizing that the period is long, NERC has requested that the Standard Drafting Team consider possible alternatives or refinements to the evidence retention periods in the PRC-005 Reliability Standard for all covered Component Types as part of NERC Project 2007-17.3 – Protection System Maintenance and Testing (Sudden Pressure Relays).

In response to OMB’s current terms of clearance for this collection (ICR# 201312-1902-004, February 27, 2014), FERC included the following in the proposed rule:[[14]](#footnote-14)

We agree with NERC that the data retention obligations appear to be negligible as compared to the benefit and reduced cost of a longer maintenance interval for the highly reliable components that are subject to such lengthy data retention requirements, and note that the data retention provisions were developed by industry experts and subject to approval by stakeholder vote. However, we seek comment regarding the reasonableness of the proposed data retention obligations. Specifically, for relays with a 12-year maintenance cycle, the Commission seeks comment from NERC and other interested entities whether: (a) there is substantial need to keep the maintenance records for two cycles, and (b) retaining these types of records for 24 years is overly burdensome or costly. In addition, we seek comment as to whether entities would keep maintenance records for a similar time frame even if it were not required under PRC-005-3. Finally, we seek comment on any alternatives to the two maintenance cycle/24 year record retention approach which could prove to be less costly and burdensome, or more effective. To the extent such alternatives are identified, we seek information on the associated costs and benefits of the alternative approach.

1. **DESCRIBE EFFORTS TO CONSULT OUTSIDE THE AGENCY: SUMMARIZE PUBLIC COMMENTS AND THE AGENCY’S RESPONSE**

The ERO process to establish Reliability Standards is a collaborative process with the ERO, Regional Entities, and other stakeholders developing and reviewing drafts and providing comments. The reliability standard was submitted to the FERC for review and approval. In addition, each FERC rulemaking (both proposed and final rules) is published in the Federal Register thereby providing public utilities and licensees, state commissions, Federal agencies, and other interested parties an opportunity to submit data, views, comments or suggestions concerning the approved collection of data. The Final Rule was published in the Federal Register on 1/28/2015 (80 FR 4195).

The Commission did not receive any comments pertaining either to paperwork (i.e. respondent) burden. However, the Commission received comments pertaining the reduction of the record retention requirements. Specifically, comments argue how the next version will propose a record retention requirement that reduces how long the documentation period will be by more than half and asked the Commission not to act on this section under this rule. Other comments received pertained to informational filings and methods to verify the efficiency of the reliability standards to cover the reclosing relays propose in NOPR. These comments argue for a better way to measure the efficiency of the standard by engaging NERC in informal conversation and data collection.

Comments pertaining to the reduction of the record retention requirements are uploaded to the ROCIS clearance package.

1. **EXPLAIN ANY PAYMENT OR GIFTS TO RESPONDENTS**

There are no payments or gifts to respondents associated with this collection.

1. **DESCRIBE ANY ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY PROVIDED TO RESPONDENTS**

According to the NERC Rules of Procedure[[15]](#footnote-15), “…a Receiving Entity shall keep in confidence and not copy, disclose, or distribute any Confidential Information or any part thereof without the permission of the Submitting Entity, except as otherwise legally required.” This serves to protect confidential information submitted to NERC or Regional Entities.

Responding entities do not submit the information collected under the approved Reliability Standard to FERC. Rather, they maintain it internally. Since there are no submissions made to FERC, FERC provides no specific provisions in order to protect confidentiality.

1. **PROVIDE ADDITIONAL JUSTIFICATION FOR ANY QUESTIONS OF A SENSITIVE NATURE, SUCH AS SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES, RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE COMMONLY CONSIDERED PRIVATE.**

There are no questions of a sensitive nature in the reporting requirements.

1. **ESTIMATED BURDEN OF COLLECTION OF INFORMATION**

According to the NERC Compliance Registry as of 5/28/2014, there are 937 generator owners and transmission operators are required to comply with this reliability standard. The Commission bases individual burden estimates on the time needed for an entity to conduct a one-time review of existing plant and substation sites to determine which ones fall under PRC-005-3. These burden estimates are consistent with estimates for similar tasks in other Commission-approved Reliability Standards.

The existing one-time, OMB-approved reporting burden for FERC-725P [due to a Final Rule in Docket RM13-7 (published by FERC on 7/24/2013)[[16]](#footnote-16)] is contained within the following table:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Requirement** | **Number of Affected Entities**  **(1)** | **Number of PSMP[[17]](#footnote-17) Reviewed Per Entity**  **(2)** | **Average**  **Number of Hours per Review**  **(3)** | **Total Burden Hours**  **(1)\*(2)\*(3)**  **=(4)** | **Total Cost  (4)\*$70**[[18]](#footnote-18) |
| **One time review and adjustment of existing protection system maintenance program** | 867 | 1 | 8 | 6,936 | **$485,520** |

1. **ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS**

There are no non-labor costs currently associated with either FERC-725P or this rulemaking. Commission staff assumes that the information collection requirements associated with this rulemaking can be completed by entities using existing hardware and/or software.

All of the costs in the Final Rule are associated with burden hours (labor) and described in #12 and 15.

1. **ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The Regional Entities and NERC do most of the data processing, monitoring and compliance work for Reliability Standards. Any involvement by the Commission is covered under the FERC-725 collection (OMB Control No. 1902-0225) and is not part of this request or package.

The estimated annualized cost to the Federal Government for FERC-725P as related to the requirements in the Final Rule in RM14-8-000 follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Number of Employees (FTE)** | **Estimated Annual Federal Cost** |
| FERC-725P Analysis and Processing of filings | 0 | $0 |
| PRA[[19]](#footnote-19) Administrative Cost[[20]](#footnote-20) |  | $5,092 |
| **FERC Total** |  | $5,092 |

1. **REASONS FOR CHANGES IN BURDEN INCLUDING THE NEED FOR ANY INCREASE**

The one- time change in burden is the result of new provisions related to reclosing relays in the approved PRC-005-3 Reliability Standard. The burden is necessary so that respondents review and update their protection system maintenance programs according to the new standard.

Our estimate below regarding the number of respondents is based on an analysis of the generating plants within the footprint of the PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM) that meet the inclusion criteria of the reliability standard. There are an estimated 23 generating plants in PJM that meet these criteria. These generating plants represent approximately 47,000 MWs of the approximately 184,000 MWs within PJM. Based on 2012 data, total installed capacity in the continental United States is 1,153,000 MWs.**[[21]](#footnote-21)** Applying the PJM ratio to this total results in 144 plant sites nationwide to which PRC-005-3 would be applicable. We also assume that a substation will be located within 10 miles of each plant site, resulting in an estimated total number of entities that meet the inclusion criteria of 288.**[[22]](#footnote-22)** Finally, we assume that all GOs and TOs must review their existing plant and substation sites to determine applicability under the approved standard. We estimate that the burden on GOs and TOs to review their existing plant and substation sites is two hours. We assume that a portion of the two hours are spent by an engineer examining facility data to determine if specific sites meet the applicability of the standard. We assume that the remaining portion of the burden is for a manager to review and sign off on the engineer’s analysis.

Entities that do have facilities that meet the applicability of the standard must perform a one-time review of their existing reclosing scheme maintenance program to ensure that it contains at a minimum the activities listed in Table 4 in Reliability Standard PRC-005-3, and that the activities are performed within the applicable maximum interval listed in Table 4. If the existing reclosing scheme maintenance program does not meet the criteria in Reliability Standard PRC-005-3, the entity will have to make certain adjustments to the program. We assume that the work to examine, adjust and get approval for program documentation will require an engineer and a manager a total of eight hours or one whole work day. This estimate is based on Commission staff experience. The record retention requirements are considered usual and customary for this industry.

The estimate one-time public burden due to the revisions in RM14-8-000 Final Rule ( and the FERC-725P information collection) are included in the following table:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **RM14-8-000 (Mandatory Reliability Standards: Reliability Standard PRC-005-3)** | | | | | | |
|  | **Number of Respondents (1)** | **Annual Number of Responses per Respondent**  **(2)** | **Total Number of Responses (1)\*(2)=(3)** | **Average Burden & Cost Per Response[[23]](#footnote-23)**  **(4)** | **Total Annual Burden Hours & Total Annual Cost**  **(3)\*(4)=(5)** | **Cost per Respondent**  **($)**  **(5)÷(1)** |
| One-time review of existing plant and substation sites to determine which ones fall under PRC-005-3 | 937**[[24]](#footnote-24)** | 1 | 937 | 2  $146 | 1,874  $136,802 | $146 |
| One-time review and adjustment of existing program | 288**[[25]](#footnote-25)** | 1 | 288 | 8  $584 | 2,304  $168,192 | $584 |
| **TOTAL** |  | | **1,225** |  | **4,178**  **$304,994** |  |

Please note that the response and burden amounts (1,225 responses and 4,178 burden hours respectively) stated in the previous table are one-time burdens imposed by the Final Rule in RM14-8-000. However, the previously approved burden in FERC-725P (due to RM13-7-000; ICR No. 201312-1902-004) was a one-time burden as well due to the implementation of a previous version of this reliability standard, PRC-005-2. The response and burden amounts of PRC-005-2 (867 responses and 6,936 burden hours respectively) no longer apply since all entities have complied with the provisions of the standard and, thus, are no longer burdened by its requirements. In the following table, the column labeled “Change due to Agency Discretion” are figures representing differences between the response and hourly burden amounts due to RM13-7-000 (Reliability Standard PRC-005-2) and RM14-8-000 (Reliability Standard PRC-005-3). Effectively, the one-time responses and burden due to PRC-005-2 has been removed and is replaced by the one-time responses and burden due to PRC-005-3.

More simply stated, in the following table, the following points apply:

* the column labeled “Total Request” contains figures representing the one-time responses, time burden, and cost for RM14-8-000 (Reliability Standard PRC-005-3);
* the column labeled “Previously Approved” contains figures representing the one-time responses, time burden, and cost for RM13-7-000 (Reliability Standard PRC-005-2); and
* the column labeled “Change due to Agency Discretion” contains net differences between the responses, time burden, and cost of both previous (PRC-005-2) and current (PRC-005-3) one-time burdens.

The estimated revised totals after the one-time changes in FERC-725P (RM14-8-000) follow:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FERC-725P** | **Total Request** | **Previously Approved** | **Change due to Adjustment in Estimate** | **Change Due to Agency Discretion** |
| Annual Number of Responses | 1,225 | 867 | 0 | 358 |
| Annual Time Burden (Hr) [[26]](#footnote-26) | 4,178 | 6,936 | 0 | -2,758 |
| Annual Cost Burden ($) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

The one-time burden due to the RM14-8-000 Final Rule will be removed once Commission staff has ensured that all entities have complied.

1. **TIME SCHEDULE FOR PUBLICATION OF DATA**

FERC does not publish any data associated with this collection.

1. **DISPLAY OF EXPIRATION DATE**

It is not appropriate to display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collected pursuant to this rulemaking affecting FERC-725P because there are no specific instruments used in the collection.

The expiration date is displayed at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/info-collections.asp>.

1. **EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

The data collected for this reporting requirement are not used for statistical purposes.

1. PRC is not an acronym. Rather, it is a prefix that denotes reliability standards related to “Protection and Control”. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Protection System and Automatic Reclosing Maintenance [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. In Order No 763, the Commission approved Reliability Standard PRC-006-1 pertaining to “underfrequency load shedding” which also encompasses “undervoltage load shedding.” *Automatic Underfrequency Load Shedding and Load Shedding Plans Reliability Standards*, Order No. 763, 139 FERC ¶ 61, 098 (2012). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. NERC’s petition (at 9) states, “Reclosing relays are utilized on transmission systems to restore transmission elements to service following automatic circuit breaker tripping”. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. The approved interpretation stated:

   *Request R3: Does R1 require maintenance and testing of transmission line re-closing relays?*

   Response: No. ‘Protective Relays’ refer to devices that detect and take action for abnormal conditions. Automatic restoration of transmission lines is not a ‘protective’ function.

   Order No. 758, 138 FERC ¶ 61,094 at P 7. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. The Commission referred to one incident involving the misoperation or poor coordination of reclosing relays that ultimately resulted in the loss of over 4,000 MW of generation and multiple 765 kV lines, to illustrate the effect reclosing relays can have on the reliability of the Bulk-Power System. *See* Order No. 758, 138 FERC ¶ 61,094 at P 23 and n.32. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. *Id.* PP 23-24 (footnotes excluded). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. *Protection System Maintenance Reliability Standard,* Order No. 793, 145 FERC ¶ 61,253 (2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. *Id.* P 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. *See* NERC Petition at 2, 7. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. *Id.* at 8. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. 68.2% of affected entities [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. <http://www.nerc.com/FilingsOrders/us/RuleOfProcedureDL/NERC_ROP_Effective_20140701_updated_20140602%20(updated).pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. *See* the proposed rule document at P 36. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Section 1502, Paragraph 2, available at NERCs website. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. 78 FR 44475 [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. PSMP = Protection System Maintenance Program [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. This figure is the average of the salary plus benefits for a manager and an engineer. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. The PRA Administrative Cost is a Federal Cost associated with preparing, issuing, and submitting materials necessary to comply with the PRA for rulemakings, orders, or any other vehicle used to create, modify, extend, or discontinue an information collection.   This average annual cost includes requests for extensions, all associated rulemakings (not just the Final Rule in Docket No. RM14-8), and other changes to the collection. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. *See* <http://www.eia.gov/electricity/annual/html/epa_08_07_a.html>. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. This estimate conservatively assumes that the proximate substation would be owned by a different entity than the generating plant. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. The estimates for cost per response are derived using the following formula: Average Burden Hours per Response \* $73 per Hour = Average Cost per Response. The hourly cost figure comes from the average of the salary plus benefits for a manager and an engineer (rounded to the nearest dollar). The figures are taken from the Bureau of Labor Statistics at (http://bls.gov/oes/current/naics3\_221000.htm). [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. This figure reflects the generator owners and transmission owners identified in the NERC Compliance Registry as of May 28, 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. This figure is a subset of GOs and TOs, as discussed in P 41 and n. 44. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. The new, additional, one-time burden discussed in this supporting statement and imposed by Reliability Standard PRC-005-3 (in Docket No. RM14-8-000) is 4,178 hours.

    In reginfo.gov and ROCIS, the previous annual burden inventory shows 6,936 hours (attributable to the one-time burden imposed by the previous version of the standard, Reliability Standard PRC-005-2, in Docket No. RM13-7-000). That one-time requirement under PRC-005-2 has been completed and is being removed from the inventory as part of this supporting statement.

    Therefore, the net change to annual burden inventory is shown as -2,758 hours [or +4,178 hrs. -6,936 hrs.]. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)