

A. Introduction

1. **Title:** Qualified Path Unscheduled Flow (USF) Relief
2. **Number:** IRO-006-WECC-3
3. **Purpose:** To mitigate flows on Qualified Paths to reliable levels during Real-time operations.
4. **Applicability**
 - 4.1. Reliability Coordinator
 - 4.2. Balancing Authority
5. **Effective Date:** The first day of the second quarter following applicable regulatory approval. See Implementation Plan.

B. Requirements and Measures

- R1.** Each Reliability Coordinator receiving a request for Curtailments for unscheduled flow transmission relief on a Qualified Path within its Reliability Coordinator Area shall either approve or deny that request within five minutes of receipt. *[Violation Risk Factor: Medium] [Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]*
- M1.** Each Reliability Coordinator receiving a request for Curtailments for unscheduled flow transmission relief on a Qualified Path within its Reliability Coordinator Area, per requirement R1, will have evidence that it approved or denied that request within five minutes of receipt. Evidence may include, but is not limited to documentation of either an active or passive approval.
- R2.** Each Balancing Authority receiving an approved request for unscheduled flow transmission relief on a Qualified Path per Requirement R1, shall perform any of the following actions to meet that request: *[Violation Risk Factor: Medium] [Time Horizon: Real-time Operations]*
 - Approve curtailment requests to the schedules as submitted
 - Implement alternative actions
- M2.** Each Balancing Authority receiving an approved request for unscheduled flow transmission relief on a Qualified Path per Requirement R1, will have

evidence that it performed the actions allowed in Requirement R2, to meet that request.

C. Compliance

1. Compliance Monitoring Process

1.1. Compliance Enforcement Authority:

As defined in the NERC Rules of Procedure, “Compliance Enforcement Authority” means NERC or the Regional Entity in their respective roles of monitoring and enforcing compliance with the NERC Reliability Standards.

1.2. Evidence Retention:

The following evidence retention period(s) identify the period of time an entity is required to retain specific evidence to demonstrate compliance. For instances where the evidence retention period specified below is shorter than the time since the last audit, the Compliance Enforcement Authority may ask an entity to provide other evidence to show that it was compliant for the full time period since the last audit.

The applicable entity shall keep data or evidence to show compliance as identified below unless directed by its Compliance Enforcement Authority to retain specific evidence for a longer period of time as part of an investigation.

- Each Reliability Coordinator and each Balancing Authority shall keep data or evidence to show compliance with Requirements R1 and R2 for three calendar years or for the duration of any Compliance Enforcement Authority investigation, whichever is longer.
- If the Reliability Coordinator or Balancing Authority is found noncompliant, it shall keep information related to the noncompliance until found compliant or for the duration specified above, whichever is longer.

1.3. Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program

As defined in the NERC Rules of Procedure, “Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program” refers to the identification of the processes that will be used to evaluate data or information for the purpose of assessing performance or outcomes with the associated Reliability Standard.

Violation Severity Levels

	Time Horizon	VRF	Violation Severity Levels			
			Lower VSL	Moderate VSL	High VSL	Severe VSL
R1	Real-time Operations	Medium	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	There shall be a Severe level of noncompliance if there is one instance during a calendar month in which the Reliability Coordinator approved (actively or passively) or denied a request for unscheduled flow transmission relief on a Qualified Path greater than five minutes after receipt that request.
R2	Real-time Operations	Medium	There shall be a Lower Level of noncompliance if there is less than 100% relief requirement provided but greater than or equal to 90% relief requirement provided or the relief requirement was less	There shall be a Moderate Level of noncompliance if there is less than 90% relief requirement provided but greater than or equal to 75% relief requirement provided.	There shall be a High Level of noncompliance if there is less than 75% relief requirement provided but greater than or equal to 60% relief requirement provided.	There shall be a Severe Level of noncompliance if there is less than 60% relief requirement provided.

	Time Horizon	VRF	Violation Severity Levels			
			Lower VSL	Moderate VSL	High VSL	Severe VSL
			than 5 MW and was not fully provided.			

D. Regional Variances

None.

E. Associated Documents

Western Interconnection Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan (WIUFMP).

Version History

Version	Date	Action	Change Tracking
1	April 16, 2008	Permanent Replacement Standard for IRO-STD-006-0	
1	February 10, 2009	Adopted by NERC Board of Trustees	
1	March 17, 2011	FERC Order 746 issued by FERC approving IRO-006-WECC-1 (FERC approval effective on May 24, 2011)	
1	May 2, 2012	Updated the requirements to R1. and R2. instead of R.1. and R1.2.	
1	July 1, 2011	Effective Date	No Change
2	February 7, 2013	Adopted by NERC Board of Trustees	
2	May 13, 2014	FERC letter order issued approving IRO-006-WECC-2 (effective July 1, 2014).	
3	TBD		Five-year review. Defined term “Qualified Transfer Path” changed to “Qualified Path” as included in the Western Interconnection Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan, as approved by FERC. The following defined terms were retired: 1) Qualified Transfer Path, 2) Contributing Schedule, 3) Qualified Controllable Device, 4) Relief Requirement, 5) Transfer Distribution Factor, and 6) Qualified Transfer Path Curtailment Event.