



# NERC Reliability Standards Compliance Services

*ICF has staffed the NERC Reliability Standards Compliance Services group with key individuals who led in the development of the NERC compliance program for North America. Our team is uniquely qualified to assist you.*



All users of the bulk electric system, including transmission owners, load serving entities, and generator owners and operators, are responsible for acting in accordance with compliance elements and meeting the terms of standards measurement.

ICF brings a full spectrum of preparedness and compliance tools:

- Standards Education & Training
- Readiness & Risk Assessments
- Critical Infrastructure Identification
- Standards Development Support
- Development of Self-Certification Process
- Reporting and Response Support
- Violation Settlement and Support
- Due Diligence Support for Asset Procurement
- Mapping of business processes to NERC requirements
- Compliance Program development and identification of internal controls

One of the key features of the Energy Policy Act (EPAct) of 2005 empowered the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to enforce mandatory reliability standards. FERC approved the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) to fulfill the role of the Electric Reliability Organization under the EPAct to develop these standards which apply to all users of the bulk electric system and are enforced via monetary penalties and mitigation measures.

All users of the bulk electric system, including transmission owners, load serving entities, and generator owners and operators, are responsible for complying with the compliance elements and measures of the standards.

## Our Approach

ICF International believes an integrated and ongoing compliance effort best serves the responsible entities now in the spotlight of these new measures. We have deep experience with the history of the reliability standards, including their development, scope, and intent. Compliance entails a broad spectrum of activities on the part of the responsible entities, and ICF has designed a comprehensive approach to compliance activities. ICF brings a full spectrum of preparedness and compliance tools to manage and avoid the risks, and capitalize on the benefits of an excellent record of compliance. These include risk analysis, readiness assessments, reporting tools, applicability evaluations, training, and advice and technical assistance on issues of concern inherent in developing standards.

## Our Capabilities

### Risk Based Assessments

As part of the cyber security set of standards, each responsible entity must define a risk-based assessment to determine if their assets are critical under the standard. ICF, with its well documented ability and experience in assessing the characteristics of the interconnected transmission systems, is uniquely positioned to provide efficient and effective assessments.

### Training

ICF has extensive experience in developing, delivering, and administering on-line, Web-based training solutions. Responsible entities will have a broad range of resources involved in compliance efforts, including operations, legal, regulatory, and senior staff personnel. We provide

customized approaches where various disciplines can access the most vital and relevant data they need to fulfill their roles in the compliance activities.

### Compliance

ICF provides ongoing advice on the content and applicability of the self-certification forms and other requirements for the regional entities, including what they mean and what levels of risks are embedded in the standards. Each regional entity has distinct needs and expectations of responsible entities, with their own set of actively monitored standards, self-certification schedules, and verification of procedures. ICF assists in the timely submission of the self-certification forms and tracking the schedules of the expected submittals in each region.

# Our Capabilities (continued)

## Compliance (continued)

ICF has developed a NERC Knowledge Portal, an on-line, subscription-based tool which consists of a dynamic repository of the latest standards revisions, along with the necessary procedures and methods of documentation for each standard requiring these items. This database of documents is template based for consistency, contains explanatory comments as required, and is constantly updated as needed due to changing requirements and newly developed standards.

## Development

The NERC standards development process is very open and inclusive to anyone who wants to comment on or participate in the process. For companies that find they may not have sufficient resources to devote to the processes, drafting teams, ballot bodies and evaluations of developing standards, ICF can facilitate their participation. ICF is

substantially engaged in the standards development and compliance issues at NERC. We monitor and evaluate risk points inherent in the standards under development, and the FERC process of approving the standards for enforcement. We can provide updates directly to clients or through our NERC Knowledge Portal, keeping them up to speed and engaged in the development process.

## Readiness Assessments & Compliance Audit Support

ICF can support your compliance effort by performing a Readiness Assessment (designed to identify gaps in your compliance program & processes) or a pre-audit review of your compliance documentation (designed to identify potential violations). Additionally, ICF can assist you in determining your options and strategy should you find yourself facing an alleged violation.



## About ICF International

ICF International (NASDAQ: ICFI) partners with government and commercial clients to deliver consulting services and technology solutions in the energy, climate change, environment, transportation, social programs, health, defense, and emergency management markets. The firm combines passion for its work with industry expertise and innovative analytics to produce compelling results throughout the entire program life cycle, from analysis and design through implementation and improvement. Since 1969, ICF has been serving government at all levels, major corporations, and multilateral institutions. More than 3,000 employees serve these clients worldwide. ICF's Web site is [www.icfi.com](http://www.icfi.com).

For more information, please visit [www.icfi.com/energy](http://www.icfi.com/energy) or contact:

Jimmy Glotfelty  
+1.713.445.2002  
[jglotfelty@icfi.com](mailto:jglotfelty@icfi.com)

James Stanton  
+1.713.445.2019  
[jstanton@icfi.com](mailto:jstanton@icfi.com)

Pamela Dautel  
+1.713.445.2038  
[pdautel@icfi.com](mailto:pdautel@icfi.com)

Cherie Broadrick  
+1.713.445.2003  
[cbroadrick@icfi.com](mailto:cbroadrick@icfi.com)

ICF International  
1331 Lamar, Ste 660  
Houston, TX 77010