



ESCC Issues Guidance on Assessing and Mitigating COVID-19

March 11, 2020

SAINT PAUL, MN. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) is very active with the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC)* and participates in joint, biweekly ESCC calls with key government partners (Department of Energy, Department of Homeland Security, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Department of Health and Human Services) in addressing a novel Coronavirus known as COVID-19. This effort began last week to provide general situational awareness and share best practices. As part of that effort, NERC worked with trade organizations and other entities to help develop and distribute a guidance document designed to support industry leaders in making informed, localized decisions in response to this evolving global health emergency.

The document—[Assessing and Mitigating the Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)—is posted on the ESCC website, the E-ISAC portal, and has been shared with other sectors and government partners. The guide will evolve as additional information and recommended practices are identified.

Questions on the guidance document should be directed to secretariat@electricitysubsector.org.

** Background on the ESCC: The CEO-led Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC) serves as the principal liaison between the federal government and the electric power industry, with the mission of coordinating efforts to prepare for, and respond to, national-level disasters or threats to critical infrastructure. The ESCC focuses on actions and strategies that help protect the energy grid, prevent various threats from disrupting electricity service, and develop capabilities that help the sector quickly respond and recover when major incidents impact the grid.*

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Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the reliability and security of the bulk power system in the central region of North America, including parts of both the United States and Canada. MRO is one of six regional entities in North America operating under authority from regulators in the United States through a delegation agreement with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and in Canada under similar arrangements. The primary focus of MRO is developing and ensuring compliance with reliability standards and assessing the grid's ability to meet the demands for electricity.