

Case-by-Case Non-Compliance Notifications Related to Coronavirus

March 20, 2020

SAINT PAUL, MINN.

On March 18, 2020, NERC and FERC provided industry guidance on specific [regulatory discretions](#) related to the coronavirus outbreak that included the following:

- The effects of the coronavirus will be considered an acceptable reason for case-by-case non-compliance with Reliability Standard requirements involving periodic actions that would have been taken between March 1, 2020, and July 31, 2020. Registered entities should notify their Regional Entities of any periodic actions that will be missed during this period.

For any intentional non-compliance performed in response to the coronavirus outbreak, including periodic requirements, MRO registered entities should utilize the HEROS@mro.net email for these notifications. MRO will be flexible with regard to the timing of these notifications from registered entities to allow owners and operators of the bulk electric system to focus their resources on critical operations.

In addition, MRO understands the COVID-19 health emergency to be a situation that may warrant the declaration of a CIP Exceptional Circumstance (CEC) due to certain conditions, such as large scale workforce impediment, mutual assistance, or other conditions defined in a responsible entity's CIP-003-7 policy. CIP requirements having CEC consideration would not require notification when a CIP Exceptional Circumstance is enacted.

Questions regarding this announcement should be directed to HEROS@mro.net

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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.