NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

# Panel Discussion on Cyber Security for Synchrophasors

Jeff Dagle on behalf of Mike Assante

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# Synchrophasors and the CIP standards

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- Synchrophasor systems traversing electronic security perimeters may be subject to the CIP standards
- Synchrophasor applications that are critical to the bulk power system reliability could be considered critical cyber assets, and thus subject to the CIP standards
- The asset owner is ultimately responsible for appropriately making these determinations
- The CIP standards themselves are undergoing revision
- Synchrophasor technology is rapidly emerging, and best practices for cyber security are being developed

# What do the CIP standards say today?

- **If** a SynchroPhasor is associated with a Critical Asset, **and**:
  - **If** the SynchroPhasor is designated as a Critical Cyber Asset by the Registered Entity in the future, **or**
  - **If** the SynchroPhasor is on the same LAN as Critical Cyber Assets designated by the Registered Entity
- Then it will be subject to the NERC Cyber Security Standards

# What should I consider doing?

- *Assume* that the SynchroPhasors will achieve their potential and entities *will designate them as* Critical Cyber Assets in the future
- Consider a business strategy to minimize future cost by treating them as Critical Cyber Assets when installing new SynchroPhasors
  - Even if there are no audits or other compliance actions associated with them at this time
- Analyze and plan for “upgrading” existing implementations to make them compliant with the CIP Standards to anticipate future need
  - Good business planning function