PRC-029 RIDE-THROUGH, OCTOBER 2026: PRC-029-2 IS THE STANDARD IN FORCE.

On September 30, 2026, FERC's Office of Electric Reliability issued a delegated letter order approving PRC-029-2, the revision of NERC's frequency and voltage ride-through standard for inverter-based resources (IBRs). Under its Implementation Plan the standard took effect on October 1, 2026, the same day PRC-029-1 was due to take effect, and PRC-029-1 was retired immediately before. The design compliance dates and the exemption clock were written against the PRC-029-1 date and do not move. This page sets out the record, what changed, and what to do now.

WHERE PRC-029-2 STANDS · THE RECORD

Adopted, filed, approved. Effective October 1.

- **Board adoption August 18, 2026.** Petition to FERC August 28, 2026, corrected September 1, under Docket No. RD26-10-000. Federal Register notice September 8. Comments filed by September 28 from trade associations and several IBR owners (in support) and from ERCOT. Letter order September 30, 2026, Office of Electric Reliability (eLibrary accession 20260930-3090).
- **Effective date, per the Implementation Plan:** the later of October 1, 2026 or "the first day of the first calendar quarter after the effective date of the applicable governmental authority's order approving the standard, or as otherwise provided for by the applicable governmental authority." PRC-029-1 is retired "immediately prior to the effective date" of PRC-029-2. A September 30 order makes that date October 1, 2026.
- The petition's narrative had said the quarter "that is twelve calendar months after" the order; the filed plan does not, and the plan is what NERC asked FERC to approve. Confirm the order's text before citing another date.
- **Requirements R1, R2 and R3 do not change in substance** ("IBR" is spelled out). Every edit of consequence sits in R4, M4 and Attachment 1. NERC describes the change as "narrowly expanding the exemption criteria" so that plants whose hardware was committed before the rule avoid "unnecessary retirement, abandonment, or delay."

WHAT CHANGED · R4, M4, ATTACHMENT 1

A wider door into the hardware exemption, with a sunset

- Under PRC-029-1, R4 reached only IBRs in service by October 1, 2026. PRC-029-2 adds later IBRs that hold an interconnection agreement executed by October 1, 2026 **and** a procurement contract for the limiting hardware executed before September 1, 2025.
- **The sunset.** Part 4.3.1: "When existing hardware causing the limitation is replaced, the exemption for that Ride-through criteria no longer applies." The limiting hardware is read as an integrated system of components.
- **Evidence named in M4.** "Equipment vendor documentation of the hardware limitation; Written engineering analysis; Test results; Operational data supported by an engineering analysis", replacing PRC-029-1's reference to OEM damage curves with these four categories. Later-in-service plants also evidence the two executed contracts.
- **Attachment 1, Item 12.** A VSC-HVDC connected IBR with an AC or DC chopper does not have to meet Items 7, 8 and 9 (the consecutive and cumulative disturbance criteria) once it reaches its designed thermal absorption limit, provided the chopper is rated for at least 2 seconds at rated power and the limitation is documented and coordinated with the Transmission Planner, Owner and Operator.
- An exempted IBR remains subject to every other criterion. The exemption is limited to the specific hardware limitation that is documented.

WHAT TO DO NOW · THREE CLOCKS

Cite PRC-029-2. The clocks are unchanged.

- **Design compliance.** BES IBRs: October 1, 2026, now passed. Non-BES IBRs: January 1, 2027. The ERO Enterprise's Practice Guide reads design to include field implementation: "'design' necessitates the physical implementation and configuration of these settings on active units."
- **The R4 filing clock.** An IBR in service and subject to compliance on October 1, 2026 that has a known hardware limitation documents it to its Planning Coordinator, Transmission Planner and Operator, Reliability Coordinator and Compliance Enforcement Authority within 12 months of the PRC-029-1 effective date: October 1, 2027. The clock is set against the PRC-029-1 date, so the revision does not move it. Any other IBR files by the later of 90 calendar days after its Generator Owner is required to comply with Reliability Standards for it or the standard's effective date.
- **The bridge NERC planned is not needed.** The petition told owners qualifying only under PRC-029-2 to "self-report and explain that they are awaiting the pending new version of the standard" during a gap between versions. Both carry the October 1, 2026 date, so there is no gap: a later-in-service IBR with the two contracts files under R4 directly, on the later-of clock above.
- **The resources clock, separately.** The CMEP Practice Guide (revised September 9, 2026) states the ERO Enterprise "will use such enforcement discretion" on the design aspects of R1 through R3 where an entity "seek[s], but [is] unable to secure, resources"; the Regional Entity is notified before the compliance date. It ends October 1, 2028 for BES and January 1, 2029 for non-BES IBRs.
- **Keep the version straight.** From October 1, 2026 the governing text is PRC-029-2. A design evaluation done against PRC-029-1 R1 through R3 still stands; a document naming PRC-029-1 as governing should note that PRC-029-2 superseded it on that date.

Sep 1, 2025
Procurement-contract cutoff for the R4 extension.

Aug 28 and Sep 30, 2026
NERC files PRC-029-2 (RD26-10-000); FERC letter order approves it.

Oct 1, 2026
PRC-029-2 effective; PRC-029-1 retired. BES design date. Interconnection-agreement cutoff for R4.

Jan 1, 2027
Non-BES design date.

Oct 1, 2027
R4 hardware-limitation documentation due for in-service IBRs.

Oct 1, 2028 / Jan 1, 2029
Resources enforcement discretion ends (BES / non-BES).

Sources (quotations verbatim): NERC, Petition for Approval of Proposed Reliability Standard PRC-029-2 (August 28, 2026), with its Exhibit A standard text and Exhibit B Implementation Plan · Implementation Plan, Project 2025-05 Ride-Through Revisions (August 2026) · FERC Combined Notice of Filings #1, 91 FR 57144 (September 8, 2026), Docket No. RD26-10-000 · FERC Order No. 909, 90 FR 35599 (July 29, 2025) · ERO Enterprise CMEP Practice Guide: PRC-029-1 Enforcement Discretion (revised September 9, 2026) · PRC-029-2 standard text · FERC eLibrary docket sheet RD26-10-000 (letter order 20260930-3090, September 30, 2026). Status as of October 2, 2026. Educational material, not compliance advice.

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