

Multiple Circuit Tower Criteria Exceptions and Changes

January 2026

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Multiple Circuit Tower Criteria Today

- All Criteria Documents require evaluation of adjacent circuits on multi circuit towers
- NYSRC Reliability Rules & Compliance Manual v47 – Governs all BPTF

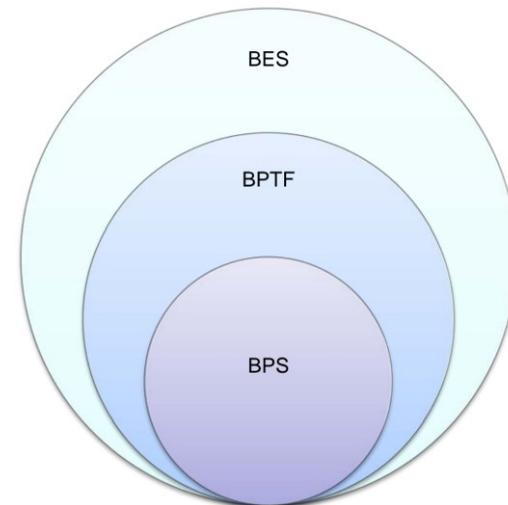
6. Simultaneous <i>fault</i> on two adjacent transmission circuits on a multiple circuit tower.	Phase to ground <i>faults</i> on different phases of each circuit, with normal <i>fault clearing</i> .
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- NPCC Directory 1, July 2024– Governs all BPS facilities

6. Simultaneous fault on two adjacent transmission circuits on a multiple circuit tower. ⁵	Phase to ground faults on different phases of each circuit, with normal fault clearing
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- NERC TPL-001-5 – Governs all BES facilities

P7 Multiple Contingency (Common Structure)	Normal System	The loss of: 1. Any two adjacent (vertically or horizontally) circuits on common structure ¹¹ 2. Loss of a bipolar DC line	SLG
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Each Document has Exclusions

- NYSRC Reliability Rules & Compliance Manual v47, July 2024
 - vii. Regarding contingency *no 6*, if multiple circuit towers are used only for station entrance and exit purposes and if they do not exceed five towers at each station, then this condition is an acceptable risk and therefore can be excluded. Other similar situations can be excluded on the basis of acceptable risk, provided that the NYSRC Executive Committee specifically accepts each request for exclusion.
- NPCC Directory 1, July 2024
 - vii. Regarding contingency event #6 if multiple circuits share common structures for a cumulative length of one mile or less, then this condition is an acceptable risk and therefore can be excluded. For instances where single (non-consecutive) structures are shared along the route, half of the length of the longest single span attached to the multiple circuit tower structure should be included for the purpose of determining the cumulative length. Other similar situations can be excluded on the basis of acceptable risk, provided that the Reliability Coordinating Committee specifically accepts each request for exclusion. (See Appendix E.)
- NERC Table 1, July 2023
 - 11. Excludes circuits that share a common structure (Planning event P7, Extreme event steady state 2a) or common Right-of-Way (Extreme event, steady state 2b) for 1 mile or less.
 - *Regions outside NPCC will allow circuits to be on the same multiple circuit structures at various points along the circuit, such as at multiple road crossings, and still be excluded from testing, as long as the total distance is less than one mile*

NPCC revised their exclusion to match NERC

- NPCC Directory 1:
- vii. Regarding **contingency** event #6 if multiple ~~circuit towers are used only~~ circuits share a common structure for ~~station entrance and exit purposes and if they do not exceed five towers at each station~~ one mile or less, then this condition is an acceptable risk and therefore can be excluded. ~~Other similar situations can be excluded on the basis of acceptable risk, provided that the Reliability Coordinating Committee specifically accepts each request for exclusion. (See Appendix E.)~~
- NERC TPL-001-5
11. Excludes circuits that share a common structure (Planning event P7, Extreme event steady state 2a) or common Right-of-Way (Extreme event, steady state 2b) for 1 mile or less.
- *Past experience has been that NYSRC would likely revise criteria to match NPCC and that individual TO's would subsequently revise their Planning Criteria Documents to match NPCC and NYSRC.*

Recommendation

- Revise the Multiple Circuit Tower exemption in NYSRC Reliability Rule Table B-1 “Performance Requirement vii” to match NPCC Directory #1 Table 1, “Performance Requirement vii.”
 - This also aligns with the exemption in NERC TPL-001-5.1a Table 1.

Benefits

- Change aligns Multiple Tower Planning Criteria between NERC/NPCC/NYSRC
- Change is at least as stringent as the NPCC/NERC criteria
- Avoids the complexity and potential confusion of maintaining a separate list of facilities that only trigger NYSRC criteria
- Avoids unnecessary Project construction costs and durations