

Testimony of Brian J. Hancock
Director, Voting System Testing and Certification
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Review and Rollout of the Next Iteration of the VVSG

This morning I would like to present to the Commission the staff plan for the review, editing and adoption of the recommendations for the new VVSG recently received from the TGDC and NIST.

Our top priority is getting as much input as possible from as many different sections of our constituency as possible, including voters, academics, technology experts, election officials, voting system manufacturers.

The road to final adoption will be thorough and transparent – every comment received in both public comment periods will be posted on our Web site. As was the case with the 2005 VVSG review, every comment will be considered.

It is important that all of us to remember that the requirements contained in this iteration of the VVSG **will not** impact systems used in the 2008 election.

The road to adoption will consist of four distinct phases:

Phase I – TDGC version posted. Includes a public meeting in which the National Institute of Standards and Technology will discuss this draft. Goal: last time, we received more than 6,500 comments. Our goal is to receive even more input from the public by reaching out to as many people as possible. We will focus on getting the word out about the public's opportunity to comment and be a part of the process.

- Post TDGC draft on www.eac.gov. Describe public comment process to all stakeholders.
- Publish TDGC draft in *Federal Register*.
- Launch an interactive public comment feature on the EAC web site. 120-day comment period officially begins. All comments will be posted; all comments will be considered.
- Continue to remind stakeholders to provide input via EAC newsletter and other outreach opportunities.
- Create a downloadable toolkit of materials for stakeholders to use to encourage their constituencies to provide input. Toolkit will include an FAQ document as well

as information about the history of voting system standards and information about the EAC's voting system certification program.

- NIST will make a presentation about the TGDC version at an EAC public meeting. We will use this opportunity to encourage the public to utilize the online comment tool.

Phase II – EAC publishes its draft version. Goal: Consideration of every comment submitted during the first public comment period to reach consensus on an EAC draft version.

- Public comment period for TDGC version ends. EAC updates the public about how many comments received, begins the process of developing the draft EAC version of the VVSG.
- Internal review and consideration of public comments begins.
- EAC returns specific technical issues to TGDC and NIST for assistance, policy considerations continue.
- EAC issues its draft VVSG. All stakeholders will be notified. EAC draft will be posted on the Web site and in the *Federal Register*.

Phase III – EAC seeks comment for its draft version. Goal: Encouraging the public to participate in second comment period. Educating and seeking input from the public about EAC policy proposals.

- Online comment tool for EAC draft is launched – Second 120-day public comment period begins.
- Update and Redistribute Stakeholder Toolkit: Update content to educate the public about the work that has transpired and the remaining steps in the process. Seek public input on EAC draft version.
- Hold public meetings and hearings about draft VVSG.
- Public comment period ends.

Phase IV – Adoption of final VVSG

- Consideration of all comments submitted regarding EAC draft version.
- Adoption of final VVSG at public meeting.