

Agenda

Technology and Security Committee

August 11, 2021 | 12:45-1:45 p.m. Eastern
Virtual Meeting

Attendee WebEx Link: [Join Meeting](#)

Introduction and Chair's Remarks

NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines*

Agenda Items

- 1. Minutes* — Approve**
 - a. May 12, 2021 Meeting
- 2. E-ISAC Operations* — Update**
- 3. ERO Enterprise Business Technology Projects Update* — Update**
- 4. ERO Enterprise Align Project Update* — Update**
- 5. Other Business and Adjournment**

*Background materials included.

Antitrust Compliance Guidelines

I. General

It is NERC's policy and practice to obey the antitrust laws and to avoid all conduct that unreasonably restrains competition. This policy requires the avoidance of any conduct that violates, or that might appear to violate, the antitrust laws. Among other things, the antitrust laws forbid any agreement between or among competitors regarding prices, availability of service, product design, terms of sale, division of markets, allocation of customers or any other activity that unreasonably restrains competition.

It is the responsibility of every NERC participant and employee who may in any way affect NERC's compliance with the antitrust laws to carry out this commitment.

Antitrust laws are complex and subject to court interpretation that can vary over time and from one court to another. The purpose of these guidelines is to alert NERC participants and employees to potential antitrust problems and to set forth policies to be followed with respect to activities that may involve antitrust considerations. In some instances, the NERC policy contained in these guidelines is stricter than the applicable antitrust laws. Any NERC participant or employee who is uncertain about the legal ramifications of a particular course of conduct or who has doubts or concerns about whether NERC's antitrust compliance policy is implicated in any situation should consult NERC's General Counsel immediately.

II. Prohibited Activities

Participants in NERC activities (including those of its committees and subgroups) should refrain from the following when acting in their capacity as participants in NERC activities (e.g., at NERC meetings, conference calls and in informal discussions):

- Discussions involving pricing information, especially margin (profit) and internal cost information and participants' expectations as to their future prices or internal costs.
- Discussions of a participant's marketing strategies.
- Discussions regarding how customers and geographical areas are to be divided among competitors.
- Discussions concerning the exclusion of competitors from markets.
- Discussions concerning boycotting or group refusals to deal with competitors, vendors or suppliers.

- Any other matters that do not clearly fall within these guidelines should be reviewed with NERC's General Counsel before being discussed.

III. Activities That Are Permitted

From time to time decisions or actions of NERC (including those of its committees and subgroups) may have a negative impact on particular entities and thus in that sense adversely impact competition. Decisions and actions by NERC (including its committees and subgroups) should only be undertaken for the purpose of promoting and maintaining the reliability and adequacy of the bulk power system. If you do not have a legitimate purpose consistent with this objective for discussing a matter, please refrain from discussing the matter during NERC meetings and in other NERC-related communications.

You should also ensure that NERC procedures, including those set forth in NERC's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Rules of Procedure are followed in conducting NERC business.

In addition, all discussions in NERC meetings and other NERC-related communications should be within the scope of the mandate for or assignment to the particular NERC committee or subgroup, as well as within the scope of the published agenda for the meeting.

No decisions should be made nor any actions taken in NERC activities for the purpose of giving an industry participant or group of participants a competitive advantage over other participants. In particular, decisions with respect to setting, revising, or assessing compliance with NERC reliability standards should not be influenced by anti-competitive motivations.

Subject to the foregoing restrictions, participants in NERC activities may discuss:

- Reliability matters relating to the bulk power system, including operation and planning matters such as establishing or revising reliability standards, special operating procedures, operating transfer capabilities, and plans for new facilities.
- Matters relating to the impact of reliability standards for the bulk power system on electricity markets, and the impact of electricity market operations on the reliability of the bulk power system.
- Proposed filings or other communications with state or federal regulatory authorities or other governmental entities.
- Matters relating to the internal governance, management and operation of NERC, such as nominations for vacant committee positions, budgeting and assessments, and employment matters; and procedural matters such as planning and scheduling meetings.

DRAFT Minutes Technology and Security Committee Meeting

May 12, 2021 | 12:30-1:45 p.m. Eastern

Conference Call

Call to Order

Ms. Suzanne Keenan, Chair, called to order a duly noticed open meeting of the Technology and Security Committee (the “Committee”) of the Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) on May 12, 2021 at approximately 12:30 p.m. Eastern, and a quorum was declared present.

Present at the meeting were:

Committee Members

Suzanne Keenan, Chair

Jane Allen

Robin E. Manning

Susan Kelly

Kenneth W. DeFontes, Jr., *ex officio*

Board Members

Robert G. Clarke

George S. Hawkins

Jim Piro

Roy Thilly

Colleen Sidford

James B. Robb, NERC President and Chief Executive Officer

NERC Staff

Tina Buzzard, Assistant Corporate Secretary

Manny Cancel, Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the E-ISAC

Shamai Elstein, Assistant General Counsel

Howard Gugel, Vice President, Engineering and Standards

Kelly Hanson, Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer

Jeff Hicks, Director, IT Solutions Architecture

Stan Hoptroff, Vice President, Business Technology

Mark Lauby, Senior Vice President and Chief Engineer

Sônia Mendonça, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

Andy Rodriguez, Director, Business Process Improvement

Janet Sena, Senior Vice President, External Affairs

Andy Sharp, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Mechelle Thomas, Vice President, Compliance

NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines

Ms. Buzzard directed the participants' attention to the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines included in the agenda, and indicated that all questions regarding antitrust compliance or related matters should be directed to Ms. Mendonça.

Introduction and Chair's Remarks

Ms. Keenan welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new members of the Committee. She stressed the relentlessness of cyber security environment and the need to stay focused and vigilant. She highlighted the E-ISAC's role in helping industry be prepared for and respond to cyber security incidents. She also encouraged stakeholders to participate in the E-ISAC's feedback survey to be issued later this year. Ms. Keenan noted that the Committee was briefed on NERC's and the Regional Entities' security posture, commending the coordination occurring under Mr. Robb's leadership.

Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the February 3, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as presented at the meeting.

E-ISAC Operations

Mr. Cancel presented on the Director of National Intelligence Annual Threat Assessment, Microsoft Vulnerabilities Report, the Department of Energy's 100 Day Plan, the threat landscape, the E-ISAC's strategic partnerships and industry coordination, upgrades to the E-ISAC portal, upcoming E-ISAC events, including GridSeCcon and GridEx, and the E-ISAC's plans for a stakeholder feedback survey. The Committee discussed staffing needs to address the amount of patches being released.

ERO Enterprise Align Project

Ms. Keenan emphasized the significance of the initial release of the Align tool and commended the coordination and effort to do so. Mr. Hoptroff presented on the benefits of the Align tool and the timeline for future releases. Mr. Rodriguez presented on the plans for and features of releases 2 and 3 of the Align tool.

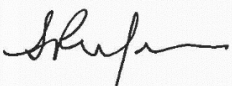
ERO Enterprise Business Technology Projects

Mr. Hoptroff and Mr. Hicks provided updates on various business technology projects and initiatives including: cyber protection initiatives, upgrading aging infrastructure, E-ISAC projects, including the portal upgrade and data platform project, hybrid meeting technologies, and the Security Advisory Group.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,



Sônia Mendonça
Corporate Secretary

Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) Operations

Action

Update

Background

Management will provide the Technology and Security Committee an update regarding E-ISAC operations. The update will include a discussion of the threat landscape; the Department of Energy's 100 Day Plan; the joint FERC/NERC whitepaper on the recent supply chain compromise; engagement with the public power segment; Cyber Risk Information Sharing Program operational technology pilots; updates to the E-ISAC Portal; GridSecCon and GridEx VI; and results from the stakeholder feedback surveys, among other items.

ERO Enterprise Business Technology Projects

Action

Update

Background

NERC Information Technology continues in its mission to deliver technology solutions supporting an effective and efficient use of resources for registered entities and across the ERO Enterprise. Management will provide an update on significant infrastructure projects, NERC's disaster recovery capabilities, and priorities looking ahead.

ERO Enterprise Align Project

Action

Update

Background

Management will provide an update on the status of the Align Project. The Align tool, together with the ERO Secure Evidence Locker (ERO SEL), will provide the ERO Enterprise with a secure, effective, and harmonized platform with which to execute its Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) responsibilities. These new tools will allow the retirement of existing legacy systems in use at NERC and the Regional Entities, and substantially increase the security of registered entity data and ERO Enterprise work products. Further, it will enable better oversight of Regional Entity processes, improve the quality and security of reporting, and provide substantial registered entity convenience with the integration to the Align tool (but not to the ERO SEL) of the Centralized Organization Registration ERO System registry and the Reliability Standards repository.

Since the last meeting of this Committee, NERC launched Release 1 of the Align tool and the ERO SEL for NPCC, ReliabilityFirst and SERC as of May 24, 2021. NPCC, ReliabilityFirst and SERC joined MRO, NERC, Texas RE and WECC, which have already begun using the Align tool and the ERO SEL. Release 1 includes self-reporting/self-logging, enforcement processing, and mitigation functionality in Align, as well as the use of the ERO SEL to collect registered entity-provided evidence as part of the ERO Enterprise's CMEP activities. Management will provide an update on the July 19, 2021 second release and plans for subsequent releases that will introduce new functionalities to the platform throughout 2021.