

NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Reliability Issues Steering Committee Charter

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Approved by the NERC Board of Trustees
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RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY



3353 Peachtree Road NE
Suite 600, North Tower
Atlanta, GA 30326
404-446-2560 | www.nerc.com

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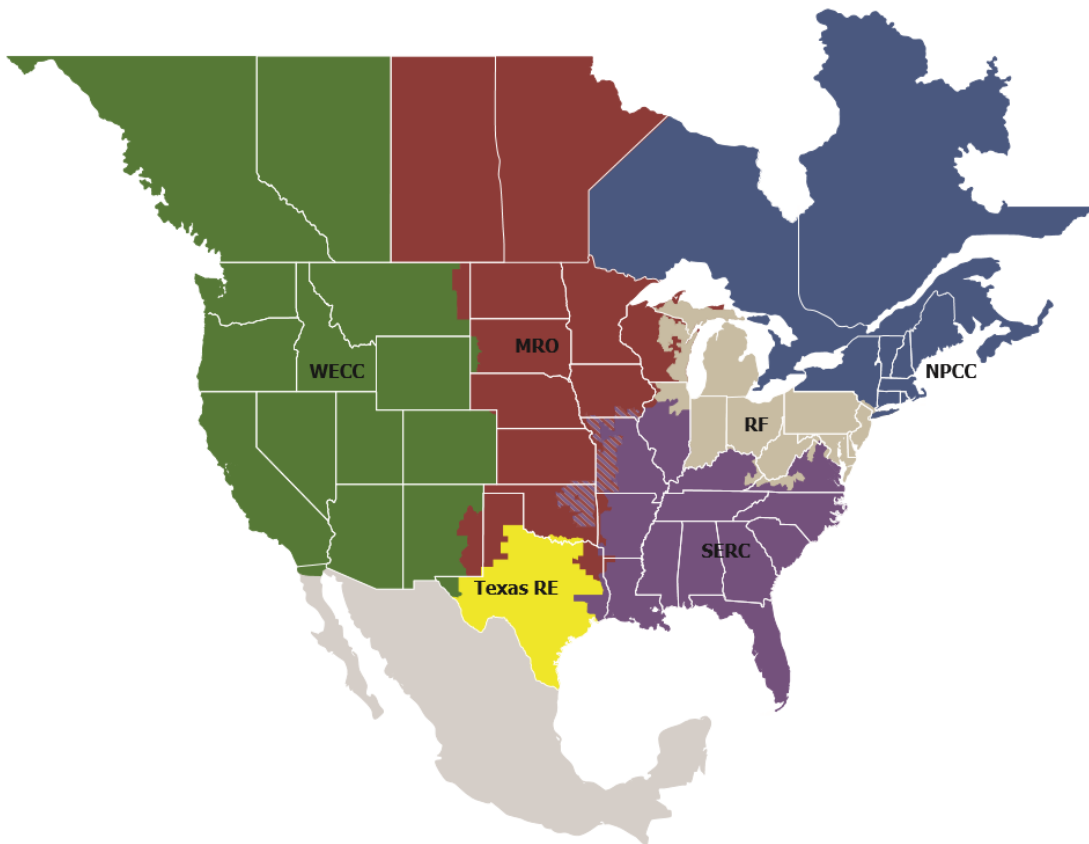
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Preface

Electricity is a key component of the fabric of modern society and the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) Enterprise serves to strengthen that fabric. The vision for the ERO Enterprise, which is comprised of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the six Regional Entities (REs), is a highly reliable and secure North American bulk power system (BPS). Our mission is to assure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the grid.

Reliability | Resilience | Security
Because nearly 400 million citizens in North America are counting on us

The North American BPS is divided into six RE boundaries as shown in the map and corresponding table below. The multicolored area denotes overlap as some load-serving entities participate in one RE while associated Transmission Owners (TOs)/Operators (TOPs) participate in another.



MRO	Midwest Reliability Organization
NPCC	Northeast Power Coordinating Council
RF	ReliabilityFirst
SERC	SERC Reliability Corporation
Texas RE	Texas Reliability Entity
WECC	WECC

RISC Charter

Purpose

The Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC or Committee) is an advisory committee that triages and provides front-end, high-level leadership for issues of strategic importance to bulk power system (BPS) reliability and offers high-level stakeholder leadership engagement and input on issues that impact bulk-power system reliability. The RISC advises the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Board of Trustees (Board), NERC standing committees (including the Standards Committee, Compliance and Certification Committee, and Reliability and Security Technical Committee), NERC staff, regulators, Regional Entities, and industry stakeholders to establish a common understanding of the scope, priority, and goals for the development of solutions to address these issues, including the use of solutions other than the development of new or revised reliability standards. In doing so, the RISC provides a framework for steering, developing, formalizing, and organizing recommendations to help NERC and the industry effectively focus their resources on the critical issues needed to best improve the reliability of the BPS.

Reporting

The RISC reports directly to the Board. The Board shall approve this Charter and any amendments to this Charter pursuant to Section 1300 of the NERC Rules of Procedure.

Overview and Functions

The RISC performs two primary functions for the Board.

The first function of the RISC is evaluating BPS reliability issues and risks. The RISC provides strategic leadership and advice to the NERC Board of Trustees and others to triage key reliability risks and propose solutions to manage those risks.

Second, the RISC provides an bi-annual analysis of risks to the BPS, and produces a relative prioritization of the risks. The prioritization is designed to advise:

- Annual ERO action planning, resource allocation, budgeting and strategic planning processes; and
- Standing committee planning, including the development of the Reliability Standards Development Plan and coordination with the Reliability and Security Technical Committee.

In addition, the RISC performs such other functions that may, from time to time, be delegated or assigned by the Board.

Membership

The RISC has a hybrid representation model consisting of the following types of memberships:

- At-large Members;
- Member Representatives Committee Members (MRC);
- Committee-based members; and
- Non-voting members.

At-large Members – Selection of at least ten (10) At-large members who provide a balanced representation on the RISC of the following:

- Geographic and International diversity, including international, such that Eastern, Western, and Texas

Interconnections, along with Canada are represented on the RISC;

- Sector, size, and asset (transmission, distribution, load, generation, etc.) diversity;
- High-level understanding and perspective on reliability risks;
- Experience in a leadership role or background in an executive-level position is strongly preferred; and
- Balanced consideration of these criteria, across the entire membership of the RISC.

MRC Members – Selection of four (4) members as presented by the MRC leadership and in consultation with the RISC Nominating Subcommittee.

Committee-based Members—Selection of three (3) committee-based members—one (1) from each of the standing committees: Standards (SC), Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) and Compliance and Certification (CCC). These members will be the chair or vice chair unless otherwise recommended by the standing committee leadership and agreed to by the RISC Nominating Committee.

Non-voting members. The Committee Chair, Nominating Subcommittee Chair or RISC secretary will coordinate with entities entitled to non-voting membership to identify representatives for the non-voting seats.

Non-Voting Membership	
Non-Voting Member	Number of Members
Committee Secretary	1
United States Federal Government	1
Canadian Federal Government	1
Provincial Government	1
Former Chair	1
Total	5

The Board is responsible for appointing the MRC, At-Large and committee-based members to the RISC. At the February Board meeting each year (or as needed), the RISC NS shall present to the Board a recommended slate of all RISC member candidates as appropriate for consideration and approval.

All MRC and At-Large members will be appointed by the Board to serve for two-year terms, Membership terms will be staggered to ensure continuity. Committee-based and non-voting member appointments will serve a one-year term.

Nominating Subcommittee

The Nominating Subcommittee (RISC NS) will consist of seven (7) members (the RISC vice-chair and six (6) members).

The RISC NS members are nominated by the RISC chair and voted on by the full RISC membership. The term for members of the RISC NS is one (1) year. The RISC NS is responsible for (a) selecting and recommending a full membership slate to the Board for consideration and approval and (b) managing the process to select the chair and/or vice-chair of the RISC. The RISC vice-chair shall recuse him or herself from this process (a) unless he or she is not seeking re-election, or (b) until the RISC NS has concluded a vote to recommend the vice-chair for subsequent RISC election to the chair position. At-large members on the RISC NS shall recuse themselves from recommendations for at-large representative seats if they are seeking reappointment.

Vacancies on the Nominating Subcommittee

The Committee Chair will nominate, and the full Committee will approve, a RISC member to fill a vacancy on the Nominating Subcommittee.

Officers

1. **Selection of the Chair** - The Board shall appoint a chair of the RISC to serve a two-year term and direct the activities of the RISC, and work toward reaching consensus on all recommendations and actions.
2. **Selection and Duties of the Secretary** - NERC will appoint one senior staff person to serve as a secretary with the responsibility of overseeing the effective management of:
 - a. The day-to-day operations and business of the RISC;
 - b. The preparation, distribution, and posting notices of Committee meetings, recording meeting proceedings, and preparation, distribution, and posting of meeting minutes.
 - c. The facilitation of the election/selection process for RISC members; and,
 - d. The maintenance of Committee membership records.

Meetings

1. **Open Meetings** - Meetings shall occur at least once every quarter and can be in person or by conference call as determined by the chair. All meetings of the RISC will be open to all interested parties (except as noted in the paragraph below for confidential sessions). Only members may act on items before the Committee. Meeting notices shall be publicly posted on the NERC website on the same day they are distributed to Committee members. Notices shall describe the purpose of meetings and shall identify a readily available source for further information about the meeting.
2. **General Requirements** - The Committee shall hold meetings as needed and may use conference calls or email to conduct its business.
3. **Notice** - The RISC secretary shall announce its regularly scheduled meetings with a written notice (letter or e-mail) to all Committee members not less than ten and no more than sixty calendar days prior to the date of the meeting.
4. **Agenda** - The RISC secretary shall provide an agenda with a written notice (letter, facsimile, or e-mail) for Committee meetings no less than five business days before a proposed meeting.
 - a. The agenda shall include, as necessary, background material for agenda items requiring a decision.
 - b. The agenda shall be posted on the NERC website the same day it is distributed to Committee members.
 - c. Items not in the agenda that require a decision cannot be added at a meeting without the consensus of the members present. If such a matter comes up, it may also be deferred to the next meeting so that Committee members have time to consult with others.
5. **Quorum**. The quorum necessary for the transaction of business (*i.e.*, formal actions) at meetings of the committee is a majority of the members currently on the committee roster (*i.e.*, not including vacancies). The committee may engage in discussions without a quorum present.
6. **Voting Procedures for Motions In-Person**
 - a. The default procedure is a voice vote.
 - b. If the chair believes the voice vote is not conclusive, the chair may call for a show of hands.

- c. The chair will not specifically ask those who are abstaining to identify themselves when voting by voice or a show of hands. If the chair desires a roll call, the secretary will call each member's name. Members answer "yes," "no," or "present" if they wish to abstain from voting. As provided above, an abstention does not count as a vote cast.
 - d. Conference Call / Virtual
 - i. All voting shall default to being conducted through use of a poll.
 - ii. Where a need to record each member's vote is requested or identified, the RISC may conduct voting via a roll call vote.
7. **Proxies.** Regular participation at meetings is expected of the approved Committee membership and the need to send a proxy should occur only on rare occasions. A voting member may select a proxy who attends and votes during all or a portion of a committee meeting in lieu of a voting member, provided that the absent voting representative notifies the RISC chair, vice chair, or secretary of the proxy. A proxy may not be given to another RISC member. A proxy must meet the RISC's membership eligibility requirements, including affiliate restrictions. To permit time to determine a proxy's eligibility, all proxies must be submitted to the secretary in writing at least one week prior to the meeting (electronic transmittal is acceptable) for approval by the chair. Any proxy submitted after that time will be accepted at the chair's discretion.
8. **Observers.** Non-members may observe RISC meetings, either in person or via conference call.
9. **Confidential Sessions.** The chair of the RISC may limit attendance at a meeting or portion of a meeting, based on confidentiality of the information to be disclosed at the meeting. Such limitations will be applied sparingly and on a nondiscriminatory basis as needed to protect critical energy infrastructure information and other information that is sensitive to one or more parties. Confidential Information will only be disclosed as provided by Section 1500 of the NERC Rules of Procedure. Confidentiality agreements may also be applied, as necessary, to protect Confidential Information.