

# NEWSLETTER

November 2024

RSTC Business

## Risks Prioritization

Based on the Risk Priorities identified by the Reliability Issues Steering Committee (RISC), the RSTC has identified four strategic priorities: 1) energy assurance, 2) inverter-based resources, 3) distributed energy resources, and 4) supply chain security. Cybersecurity is integral to each of these strategic priorities. More information can be found in Chapter 3 of the [RSTC Strategic Plan](#).

## Reliability and Security Technical Committee Charter Update

During the September RSTC Meeting the revisions to the RSTC Charter were approved. The revision to the charter the RSTC Charter were done to address concerns with respect to balanced sector membership based on such lessons learned. These revisions were discussed on June 11, 2024 and sent to the RSTC for comment between June 12 - July 22, 2024.

Based on comments provided, the revised RSTC Charter (i) eliminates the At Large conversion process and provides an opportunity for a Sector to seek a special election in writing if it has an open seat; (ii) provides the clarifications requested; (iii) removes the numerical cap on the number of representatives from a certain sector that may be recommended for At Large membership; and (iv) includes a reference and citation to Section 1302 of the NERC Rules of Procedure ("ROP") stating that the recommended slate would not cause any two stakeholder Sectors to control the vote on any matter, and that no single Sector is able to defeat a matter. This ensures that the RSTC Charter memorializes the existing expectations from the ROP to help safeguard balanced stakeholder representation.

The RSTC Nomination and Election Process that supports the RSTC's practical execution of the Charter's nomination and election requirements has also been updated for conforming changes, as well as to: (i) reflect NERC Staff notice to existing sector representatives if there has been no nomination during the election cycle for an open sector seat as this was thought to be more appropriate in the process document; and (ii) to help give color to the reference to Section 1302 of the NERC ROP by explaining that "For purposes of the ROP Section 1302 calculation, this means that if the Committee has a total of 34 voting members as contemplated in the Charter, no two sectors (when all seats, including at-large seats, are combined) should have more than 11 votes."

The updated RSTC Charter can be found [here](#) on the RSTC's Web page.

## TOP NEWS

### THE RSTC HELD ITS THIRD QUARTER MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2024

#### LINKS TO ALL ACTIONS

[RSTC MEETING AGENDA PACKAGE - SEPTEMBER 11, 2024](#)

[RSTC INFORMATIONAL SESSION - SEPTEMBER 12, 2024](#)

[APPROVED | ENDORSED | ACCEPTED - AGENDA ITEMS  
SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2024](#)



## OUR STRATEGY

The RSTC is a standing committee that strives to advance the reliability and security of the interconnected bulk power system (BPS) of North America by:

- Creating a forum for aggregating ideas and interests, drawing from diverse industry stakeholder expertise, to support the ERO Enterprise's mission.
- Leveraging such expertise to identify solutions to study, mitigate, and/or eliminate emerging risks to the BPS for the benefit of industry stakeholders, the NERC Board of Trustees (Board), and ERO Enterprise staff and leadership.
- Coordinating and overseeing implementation of RSTC subgroup work plans.



At the September RSTC Meeting, we were honored to host Ms. Sophie Giner, the Deputy Director General of Monitoring and Special Projects at the Energy Board. Ms. Giner delivered an insightful presentation on the Mandatory Reliability Regime in Québec, shedding light on its importance and implications for the energy sector. For those interested in exploring her presentation further, it is available on our RSTC web page. Additionally, we've included some background information to help you gain a deeper understanding of Ms. Giner's expertise and professional journey.



### **SOPHIE GINER - DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL – MONITORING AND SPECIAL PROJECTS, ENERGY BOARD**

Deputy Director General – Monitoring and Special Projects, Energy Board

Sophie joined the Régie de l'énergie, Québec energy regulator, in 2002 as an Economic Regulation Specialist. Due to her skill, dedication and work, she was promoted to various management positions: Assistant Secretary of the courts administration service, as well as General Manager-Transmission in the regulatory dockets.

Since 2016, Sophie is the Assistant general manager – monitoring and special projects. In this leadership position she supervises the activities of various professionals and technicians carrying out the following: roll out of the Reliability Standards compliance monitoring annual implementation plan for the electric power transmission system, with the support of Northeast Power Coordinating Council Inc., monitoring and publication of daily data on prices of petroleum products, planning and implementation of annual activities of the Committee on the use of the amounts collected as monetary penalties, and technical support provided to commissioners in the consumers' complaint dockets as well as in the regulatory dockets, and notices regarding the petroleum products.

Before joining the Régie, she worked for Hydro-Québec and the Ministère de l'énergie et des ressources naturelles. Sophie graduated from Université Laval, in Québec, with a degree in mechanical engineering.



## RSTC PANEL ON SHORT-TERM LOAD FORECASTING

During the September RSTC meeting, a panel discussion took place that specifically focused on the load forecasting recommendations made in previous reports. The panelists reviewed the strategies and improvements that various companies have implemented to enhance their forecasting capabilities. They also examined how these changes address the lessons learned from the impacts of Winter Storm Elliott. The discussion provided insights into best practices and highlighted the importance of accurate load forecasting in mitigating the challenges posed by extreme weather events.



### **MATTHEW LEWIS - MANAGER OF EVENT ANALYSIS , NERC**

Matthew Lewis joined the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) on March 24, 2014, and currently serves as the Manager of Event Analysis and previously served as the Manager of Training and Education.

Matt retired with over twenty-five years of service as a U.S. Army officer. He served in a variety of leadership and staff positions in the fields of operations, special weapons effects and response, technical intelligence, and joint exercises/training. During his military service, he participated in combat tours in Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom.

Matt has a Bachelor of Science in Physics from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and a Master of Science in Applied Physics from the Air Force Institute of Technology.



### **DEREK HAWKINS - DIRECTOR, SYSTEMS OPERATIONS SOUTHWEST POWER POOL**

Derek Hawkins is the Director of Systems Operations at Southwest Power Pool where he oversees real-time operations for reliability coordination, balancing authority, markets, and tariff administration functions across the Eastern and Western interconnections.

Since joining SPP in 2008 as an Operations Engineer, he has held pivotal roles including Manager of Reliability Coordination and Supervisor of Real-Time Engineering Support. Derek provides executive management for the development and support of operations staff and systems vital to SPP's mission and collaborates with SPP's members on technical solutions for real-time operational challenges. He also serves as Vice Chair of the NERC Real-Time Operating Subcommittee.

Derek has held a NERC System Operator Certification since 2010 and holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Arkansas Tech University.



### **JIMMY HARTMANN -SENIOR DIRECTOR, CONTROL ROOM OPERATIONS AND OPERATIONS TRAINING, ERCOT**

Jimmy Hartmann is Senior Director, Control Room Operations and Operations Training at Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT). His teams are responsible for the reliable day-to-day operations of the ERCOT bulk power system, system operator training, and development of operating procedures. The teams are highly trained individuals who operate the bulk power system in accordance with NERC and ERCOT policies.

Jimmy joined ERCOT as a System Operator in 2000 after 14 years in power generation and 4½ years in generation and transmission operations. He has also held multiple roles in system operations and outage coordination for ERCOT.

Additionally, Jimmy is currently a member of the NERC Real-Time Operating Subcommittee (RTOS) and served as the past chair and vice-chair of the NERC RTOS.



### **TODD LUCAS -VICE PRESIDENT OF TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS & POLICY AT SOUTHERN COMPANY**

Todd Lucas is Vice President of Transmission Operations & Policy at Southern Company. In this role, he ensures reliable operations across Southern's Bulk Electric System (BES) territory which encompasses Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi Power companies, Georgia System Operations Company, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia, Southeastern Power Administration, and Power South Energy Cooperative.

Todd provides oversight of real-time system operations including several NERC Reliability Functions. In addition to these core reliability functions; his responsibilities include engagement in federal policy and regulatory matters advancing industry positions to ensure reliable operation of the Bulk Power System.

Todd has served on the NERC Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) since its formation in 2020 and he currently serves on the RSTC Executive Committee. Todd held the Vice Chair position on the Essential Reliability Services Working Group contributing to NERC's efforts ensure a reliable grid

transition. He also served as the IOU sector representative on NERC's Operating Committee (2015-2016). Additionally, Todd is a board member of the Eastern Interconnection Data Sharing Initiative (EIDSN),

With a career spanning over 40 years, Todd holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and is a graduate of the Harvard Business School General Management Program.



## RSTC PANEL ON SHORT-TERM LOAD FORECASTING



### **AHMED MARIA - SENIOR DIRECTOR – SYSTEM INTEGRATION IESO**

Ahmed Maria is the Senior Director, System Integration at the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). He leads the division responsible for ensuring changes to the IESO-controlled grid do not adversely affect reliability, and for updating operating procedures and tools to reflect those changes. This includes carrying out System Impact Assessments, updating power system models, registering new facilities, developing operating limits and instructions, and verifying through performance testing that new facilities meet IESO requirements.

Prior to this role, he served as the IESO's Director of Transmission Planning, and led the Division responsible for identifying the electricity transmission infrastructure needed to meet future electricity needs in Ontario, which included transmission infrastructure to support the growing agricultural sector in western Ontario, new mining development in northern Ontario, growth of major load centers, economic development and electrification across the province, and to support changes in Ontario's generation supply mix.

Ahmed has worked at the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) for almost 20 years and is a registered Professional Engineer in the Province of Ontario. He holds an undergraduate degree and two post-graduate degrees in Electrical Engineering, and an MBA from the Rotman School of Management.



### **AMBER MOTLEY - DIRECTOR, SHORT TERM FORECASTING CALIFORNIA ISO**

Amber Motley is the Director of Short-Term Forecasting at California ISO. In her current role, Amber is accountable for leading a team to perform daily forecasting responsibilities for 37,000 MWs of solar energy, 7,000 MWs of wind energy, a peak demand of over 52,000 MWs for the CAISO, and approximately 78,000 MWs for the participating WEIM entities.

Amber's roles and responsibilities expand into forecasting and advancing the California ISO formulation of regulation requirements, flexible resource adequacy, flexible ramp requirements, including the avenue to integrate probabilistic forecasting into the market optimization.

Prior to joining the ISO in 2016, Amber worked for Xcel Energy Services for nearly 9 years, where she held various positions in trading and market operations for the different operating companies within Xcel energy's portfolio.

Amber holds a Bachelor of Science in Meteorology, with a minor in Hydrology.





### **ROBERT REINMULLER - VICE PRESIDENT OF TRANSMISSION SYSTEM PLANNING AND LARGE CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS**

Robert Reinmuller is Vice President of Transmission System Planning and Large Customer Accounts at Hydro One Networks, Inc. He is a passionate and recognized industry leader in Transmission and Distribution Engineering, Planning and Operations.

At Hydro One, Robert is responsible for the overall Transmission Planning process, including system renewal and system development plans across Ontario. He leads a team of planning engineering and customer professionals in managing transmission load and generation connection projects from initiation to ongoing support. Managing a nearly \$1.6-2.0B/ year planning investment envelope to prepare the system for the future electrification and decarbonization needs, including the largest transmission expansion in decades.

Robert is an industry leader with appointments in key roles in IESO, NERC, NATF, Electricity Canada

Robert graduated from Polytechnic University of Timisoara Romania, with an Engineering Degree in Power Systems, and obtained Master of Business Administration from Schulich Exec Ed School of Business, York University.



### **RYAN ROZNOVSKY - DIRECTOR, FORECASTING & RENEWABLE OPTIMIZATION**

Ryan Roznovsky serves as the Director, Forecasting & Renewable Optimization in the Fuels & Systems Optimization Department for the Duke Energy Regulated Generation Fleet in the Carolinas, Florida, Indiana and Kentucky.

Ryan has been with Duke Energy since 2006. He is currently responsible for the short-term load and solar forecasting models as well as short-term unit commitment optimization models and associated software applications.

Prior to his current role, Ryan served as the Manager of Unit Commitment for Duke Energy Florida and various other roles at Duke Energy in Fuels & Systems Optimization, Cyber Security Compliance and Nuclear.

Ryan graduated from West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical & Computer Engineering and obtained a Master of Business Administration from Gardner-Webb University.



## RSTC PANEL ON SHORT-TERM LOAD FORECASTING



### **STEPHANIE SCHWARZ - MANAGER, MARKETS COORDINATION**

Stephanie Schwarz has been in the electric power industry since 2000 beginning her career as a management consultant.

Stephanie has worked in System Operations for much of her career holding several leadership roles including PJM Liaison to the President and CEO.

Stephanie worked for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation for several years leveraging her operations knowledge to manage the Regional Reliability Standards program.

Currently, at PJM, Stephanie leads a team of engineers and meteorologists that develop short term forecasts and perform real-time Markets focused support to Dispatch operations.

Stephanie holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the Cooper Union.

**FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT STEPHEN CRUTCHFIELD AT:  
[STEPHEN.CRUTCHFIELD@NERC.NET](mailto:STEPHEN.CRUTCHFIELD@NERC.NET)**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

RSTC DECEMBER 11-12, 2024 VIRTUAL MEETING | DAY 1 [MEETING REGISTRATION](#) | DAY 2 [MEETING REGISTRATION](#)

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (SC) | DECEMBER 10, 2024 | LOCATION: ROAM – PERIMETER CENTER 1151 HAMMOND DRIVE NE ATLANTA, GA 30346 | [IN-PERSON REGISTRATION](#) | [VIRTUAL REGISTRATION](#)

COMPLIANCE AND CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE (CCC) MEETING | DECEMBER 12, 2024 | CHECK THE NERC CALENDAR FOR MORE DETAILS

### WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

INDUSTRY WEBINAR: EQUIPMENT FAILURE MODES AND MECHANISMS | NOVEMBER 18, 2024 | [VIRTUAL REGISTRATION](#)

2024 NERC-NATF-EPRI ANNUAL TRANSMISSION PLANNING AND MODELING WORKSHOP | NOVEMBER 19 - 20, 2024 | [VIRTUAL REGISTRATION](#)

SAVE THE DATE RELIABLE IBR INTEGRATION AND MILESTONE 3 OF FERC ORDER NO. 901 WORKSHOP | JANUARY 15 - 16, 2025 | PHOENIX, AZ | [VIRTUAL REGISTRATION](#)

2024 FALL STANDARDS, SECURITY, AND RELIABILITY WORKSHOP NOVEMBER 20, 2024 | [REGISTRATION](#)

### OTHER MEETINGS

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES (CGHRC) COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2024 | CHECK THE NERC CALENDAR FOR MORE DETAILS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OPEN MEETING | DECEMBER 10, 2024 | CHECK THE NERC CALENDAR FOR MORE DETAILS

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE UPCOMING EVENTS PLEASE VISIT OUR [NERC.COM](#) CALENDAR