

Reliability and Security Technical Committee Nomination and Election Process

This document provides information on the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) Sector election process, At-Large member selection process and the Chair and Vice Chair election process. The RSTC is a standing committee that strives to advance the reliability and security of the interconnected 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; and,
- 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.; and,
- Overseeing the implementation of subgroup work plans that drive risk-mitigating technical solutions.

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

- Sector members;
- At-Large members; and,
- Non-voting members.

Election of Sector Members

NERC members in each sector will annually elect members for expiring terms or open seats using a nomination and election process that is open, inclusive, and fair. If a sector has no nominations for one or both sector seats during the sector election period, the empty sector seat will remain open until the end of the term unless a late sector nomination for the recent election is received prior to the end of the at-large nomination period. The RSTC Executive Committee (RSTC EC) may also call a special election for an open sector seat if requested in writing by a member from relevant sector with an empty seat, accompanied by supporting rationale for the RSTC EC's consideration.

Sector elections will be completed in time for the Nominating Subcommittee to identify and nominate At-Large representatives as well as for the secretary to send the full RSTC membership list to the NERC Board for its approval at its annual February meeting.

For the Sector election cycle, one voting member shall be elected to each of the following membership sectors:

- Sector 1 - Investor-owned Utility;
- Sector 2 - State/Municipal Utility;
- Sector 3 - Cooperative Utility;

- Sector 4 - Federal or Provincial Utility/Power Marketing Administration;
- Sector 5 - Transmission-Dependent Utility;
- Sector 6 - Merchant Electricity Generator;
- Sector 7 - Electricity Marketer;
- Sector 8 - Large End Use Electricity Customer;
- Sector 9 - Small End Use Electricity Customer;
- Sector 10 - ISO/RTO; and,
- Sector 12 - Government Representatives.

Any Sector seat previously converted to an At-Large seat (Per the prior version of Section 3 of the RSTC Charter) with an expiring term will revert to the Sector seat for nominations and election.

A notice will be sent to industry with specific dates for individuals to self-nominate or nominate another individual for a specific Sector. Nominations will be vetted by NERC Staff to ensure that the nominees qualify for the stated Sector.

Sector elections will be conducted as follows:

1. Sector nominations will occur annually mid-October - mid-November.
2. NERC Staff will notify each RSTC member whose term is to expire in February for awareness prior to the nomination period.
3. NERC Staff shall provide any existing sector representative written notice approximately one week before the end of the sector election period if there have been no nominees
4. If more than one nominee is submitted for a Sector, elections will be held mid-to-late November. The election process is as follows:
 - a. An announcement is made identifying the candidates and the voting dates.
 - b. Each sector voter will rank order their preferences for the sector representatives. For example, if there are four candidates, a voter will assign a 1, 2, 3, or 4 to each candidate with 1 being their most preferred candidate and 4 being their least preferred candidate.

Once all votes are cast, the number assigned by sector voters for each candidate will be calculated as a weighted score. For example, there are three nominees in a sector. If 10 sector members vote, the results would be:

	1 st ranking	2 nd ranking	3 rd ranking	Total votes	Weighted Score
Nominee 1	5	4	1	10	2.40
Nominee 2	2	3	5	10	1.70
Nominee 3	3	3	4	10	1.90

$$\text{Weighted score} = (\# \text{ 1}^{\text{st}} \text{ ranking} * 3) + (\# \text{ 2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ ranking} * 2) + (\# \text{ 3}^{\text{rd}} \text{ ranking} * 1)$$

Total Votes

For Nominee 1, the weighted score is $2.4 = \frac{(5*3) + (4*2) + 1*1}{10}$

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The candidate with the highest weighted score will be elected.

- c. If there is a tie, there will be a runoff election between the tied candidates. This step will be repeated, if necessary, until there is a winner.
 - d. If a candidate is elected and withdraws their nomination prior to Board appointment, the second ranked candidate will be the elected candidate.
5. The sector nominations/elections will follow newly approved NERC Bylaws¹.

Selection of At-Large Members

After sector elections, the RSTC Nominating Subcommittee (NS) will evaluate the attributes of all sector reps to determine the additional expertise/diversity we need to seek for the At-Large nominees to meet the goals of the Charter:

- Selection of At-Large members will allow for better balancing of representation on the RSTC of the following:²
 - Regional Entity and Interconnection diversity (i.e., goal of having at least one representative from each Interconnection and Regional Entity footprint);
 - Subject matter expertise (Planning, Operating, or Security);
 - Organizational types (Cooperatives, Investor-Owned Utilities, Public Power, Power Marketing Agencies, etc.);
 - Sector balance and,
 - North American countries, consistent with the NERC bylaws (Canada, Mexico, and U.S.).

This evaluation will occur late November to early December. The number of At-Large seats will be determined by:

- At-Large members whose terms expire in February
- Any vacant At-Large seat up to the ten contemplated in the Charter

The NS will announce the expertise/diversity they are seeking via e-mail (industry-wide) and seek nominations for At-Large members. The nomination period will be in December.

Once the At-Large nomination period ends, the NS will review all nominations and develop a slate of recommended candidates by mid-January to be presented to NERC Board of Trustees for appointment. In developing the slate or recommendations, the NS will consider the following:

¹ <https://www.nerc.com/gov/Annual%20Reports/Amended%20and%20Restated%20Bylaws%204-5-21.pdf>

² See, NERC Sector 13 in the NERC Bylaws (2021).

- All nominations that are from the same company or affiliate of any sector representative will be discarded per RSTC Charter provisions. (Section 3, Affiliates: “A company, including its affiliates, may not have more than one member on the RSTC.”)
 - If there are two or more nominees from the same company or affiliate, they will be requested to coordinate on which one individual will be the At-Large nominee from that company.
- Review each nomination for the expertise/diversity as noted in the solicitation for At-Large nominations:
 - Ensure Regional Entity and Interconnection diversity (i.e., goal of having at least one representative from each Interconnection and Regional Entity footprint);
 - Ensure diverse subject matter expertise (Planning, Operating, or Security);
 - Ensure diverse representation of organizational types (Cooperatives, Investor-Owned Utilities, Public Power, Power Marketing Agencies, etc.);
 - Sector balance and,
 - Ensure appropriate level of Canadian representation
- Review each nomination for any additional information that is submitted with their nomination such as:
 - Current or prior technical committee membership
 - Current or prior ERO committee membership
 - Current or prior standard drafting team membership

Further, the selection process shall be consistent with Section 1302 of the NERC Rules of Procedure (“ROP”) as stated in the Charter. 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

At the February Board meeting, sector and At-Large members will be appointed. The first RSTC meeting for newly appointed Sector and At-Large members will be in March (specific dates TBD).

Selection of Officers

The RSTC will have two officers – one chair and one vice-chair. Officers shall be selected per the procedure in Section 5 of the RSTC Charter.