

Minutes

Technology and Security Committee Meeting

February 3, 2021 | 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Eastern

WebEx

Call to Order

Chair Suzanne Keenan 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” or the “Company”) on February 3, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern, and a quorum was declared present. The agenda is attached as **Exhibit A**.

Present at the meeting were:

Committee Members

Suzanne Keenan, Chair

Kenneth W. DeFontes, Jr.

Robin E. Manning

Jan Schori

Roy Thilly, *ex officio*

Board Members

Jane Allen

Robert G. Clarke

George S. Hawkins

Jim Piro

James B. Robb, NERC President and Chief Executive Officer

Colleen Sidford

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, Chief Administrative Officer

Stan Hoptroff, Vice President, Business Technology

Dee Humphries, Director, Project Management Office

Mark Lauby, Senior Vice President and Chief Engineer

Justin Lofquist, Director, Enterprise Application Architecture

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

Janet Sena, Senior Vice President, External Affairs

Andy Sharp, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Mechelle Thomas, Vice President, Compliance

Introduction and Chair’s Remarks

Ms. Keenan welcomed the Committee members and thanked the IT and cyber security professionals for their work amid COVID-19. She recognized Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) staff in supporting industry response to the recent supply chain compromise and thanked industry for their prompt response to the NERC Alert.

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.

Regular Agenda

Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the November 4, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as presented at the meeting.

Proposed Amendments to Committee Mandate

Mr. Elstein noted that the Committee is required to review its mandate on an annual basis. He highlighted that NERC is proposing revisions to the mandate to specifically reference the committee's role in: (1) reviewing NERC's cyber security posture at least once annually; (2) providing the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board with recommendations regarding the E-ISAC's budget as part of the annual business plan and budgeting process; and (3) serving as the Board's liaison with the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council's Member Executive Committee for the E-ISAC.

After discussion, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee recommended the revised mandate for approval by the Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee.

Supply Chain Compromise

Mr. Cancel provided an update on the recent supply chain compromise. He reviewed the timeline of events, noting that the supply chain attack targeted the SolarWinds Orion software suite. Mr. Cancel presented on NERC's activation of the Business Continuity Plan and ERO Crisis Action Plan in response to the event. He highlighted NERC's ongoing outreach and coordination with stakeholders, trade associations, and government agencies.

E-ISAC Operations

Mr. Cancel provided an overview of E-ISAC's operations. He highlighted: (1) increased membership; (2) the cyber and physical security threat landscape; (3) GridEx VI; (4) member and partner engagement; (5) the upcoming E-ISAC Portal upgrade; and (6) the 2022 budget cycle.

ERO Enterprise Align Project

Ms. Humphries and Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the ERO Enterprise Align project. Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the Align Project, noting that it will provide the ERO Enterprise with a secure, effective, and harmonized platform with which to execute its Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) responsibilities. Ms. Humphries highlighted: (1) the Align and ERO Secure Evidence Locker (SEL) timeline; (2) the change management process; (3) Release 2; and (4) current challenges.

ERO Enterprise Secure Evidence Locker

Mr. Hoptroff and Mr. Lofquist provided an update on the ERO SEL. Mr. Hoptroff provided an overview of the ERO SEL, noting that it will support the secure transfer, management, retention, and destruction of sensitive registered entity files used in CMEP activities. Mr. Lofquist presented on: (1) the ERO SEL's strategic approach to security; (2) the current status of the ERO SEL; and (3) potential risks.

ERO Enterprise Business Technology Projects

Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the ERO Enterprise business technology projects, referencing the materials included in the advance agenda package. He also presented on the Security Advisory Group, an advisory body established by NERC Management that represents all industry sectors.

Adjournment

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Mendonca', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Sonia Mendonca
Corporate Secretary

