

NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

2021 ERO Work Plan Priorities

Board Approved: November 5, 2020

RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY



1. Expand Risk-Based Focus in Standards, Compliance Monitoring, and Enforcement
2. Assess and Catalyze Steps to Mitigate Known and Emerging Risks to Reliability and Security
3. Build a Strong E-ISAC-Based Security Capability
4. Strengthen Engagement across the Reliability and Security Ecosystem in North America
5. Capture Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Continuous Improvement Opportunities

2021 Key Objectives	
1.	<p>Prioritize and support the development of new and/or enhancement of existing Reliability Standards for the following risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource availability due to potential energy limitations in the operational timeframe • Transmission planning-related fuel scenarios for normal and extreme events • Supply chain risk mitigation for low impact BES Cyber Assets • Planning data, information exchange, and modeling of distributed energy resources • Inverter protection and control interactions during grid disturbances
2.	Consistently embed internal control activities within the compliance monitoring program
3.	Develop strategy for appropriate oversight of the emerging resource mix

2021 Key Objectives	
1.	<p>Assessment: Identify and assess performance trends and emerging factors impacting BPS reliability and make recommendations to address the following high-priority risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy storage technologies, applications, and use • Incorporating cybersecurity risks in BPS planning, engineering, and operations • Electromagnetic Pulse • Energy Management Systems • Supply Chain • Load loss recovery from extreme events (resilience measures)
2.	<p>Mitigation: Develop lessons learned, recommendations, and/or implement mitigations (e.g., guidelines, technical references, training, industry outreach)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unacceptable inverter performance • Increasing reliance on DER and resources below BES thresholds • Increased amounts of distributed energy resources • Energy Management Systems • Supply Chain: Implement report recommendations

	2021 Key Objectives
1.	<p>Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execute strategic plan • Develop OT technology risk mitigation strategy • Evaluate extension of services to downstream natural gas sector • Operationalize strategic partnerships • Maintain cost effectiveness
2.	<p>Information Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase overall information sharing by partners and industry through targeted outreach • Continue to expand CRISP participation and evaluate other sensor technologies • Improve coordination and connectivity to Intelligence Community • Continue to conduct threat workshops, webinars and develop products
3.	<p>Analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy automated information sharing tools, Leverage E-ISAC Data Platform and extend to membership • Refine performance metrics
4.	<p>Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance E-ISAC portal and develop robust feedback mechanisms • Continue Industry Engagement Program and increase membership • Execute GridEx VI • Maintain Canadian engagement

2021 Key Objectives

1. Enhance outreach to stakeholder/policy organizations
 - Implement State outreach initiative, including
 - Harmonized communications on reliability assessments
 - Serve as a trusted resource to the states on reliability and security matters.
 - Enhance relationships with Canadian entities and support information exchange with international entities on reliability and security matters.
2. Work with ERO Enterprise Communications Group (EROCG) to refine and further develop elements of the *ERO Enterprise Communication Strategy* to
 - Develop sharing platforms
 - Amplify initiatives and messages through expanded ERO Enterprise communication efforts.
 - Implement activities from Work Plan
3. Sustain and expand stakeholder outreach through in-person and virtual meetings using Webex conferences where possible.
4. Support corollary activities within industry, Forums, and trades, e.g. U.S. DOE’s North American Energy Resilience Model (NAERM), IEEE Standard 2800, EPRI, and NATF/NAGF.
5. Improve processes and presentation of Seasonal Assessments towards coordinated and quicker release with Regional Entities

2021 Key Objectives	
1.	<p>Complete the “Big 3”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll-out Align Release 1, 2 and 3 along with the ERO SEL , supported by stakeholder outreach and education, end-use training, and business unit readiness activities • Complete the CIP and Phase II of the O&P Standards Efficiency Reviews • Successful implementation of the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC)
2.	<p>NERC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish 2021 at or below budget and maintain at least \$3MM in operating reserves
3.	<p>Regional Entities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With Regional Entity and stakeholder feedback, continue evaluation of compliance monitoring and enforcement processes for efficiency • Implement opportunities to centralize and/or standardize processes
4.	<p>ERO Enterprise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformation achieves process alignment and shared resources