

## Minutes

# Member Representatives Committee

February 10, 2022 | 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Eastern

Outgoing Chair Paul Choudhury, with incoming Chair Roy Jones and incoming Vice Chair Jennifer Flandermeyer present, called to order a duly noticed meeting of the Member Representatives Committee (MRC) of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) via teleconference on February 10, 2022, at 11:00 a.m., Eastern, and a quorum was declared present. The agenda and MRC members and their proxies in attendance are attached as **Exhibits A** and **B**, respectively.

### **Introduction and Chair's Remarks**

Mr. Choudhury welcomed attendees and thanked the NERC Board of Trustees (Board), MRC members, and NERC for their support. He acknowledged a great year of collaboration in spite of not being able to meet in person. Mr. Jones presented Mr. Choudhury with a plaque, thanking him for his leadership on the MRC and commitment to the reliability and security of the bulk power system (BPS).

Mr. Jones welcomed new and returning MRC members, acknowledging the Board, David Ortiz and others from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Pat Hoffman from the Department of Energy, State Commissioners Matt Schuerger and CJ Manthe, CAMPUT representative David Morton, and Tab Gangopadhyay from the Canada Energy Regulator.

### **NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines and Public Announcement**

Ms. Iwanechko directed the participants' attention to the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines included in the agenda package, and indicated that all questions regarding antitrust compliance or related matters should be directed to Sonia Mendonca, senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary at NERC.

### **Minutes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the MRC approved the minutes of the November 4, 2021, and January 12, 2022, meetings as presented at the meeting.

### **Election of NERC Trustees**

Roy Thilly, chair of the Board Nominating Committee (BOTNC), provided a report and recommendation for the election of four Board members. The MRC unanimously approved the re-election of Jane Allen, Bob Clarke, Ken DeFontes, and Colleen Sidford for three-year terms ending in 2025. Mr. Jones thanked the four trustees for their continued service.

Mr. Jones noted that MRC members are encouraged to volunteer to participate on this year's BOTNC. Interested MRC members should notify Mr. Jones, Ms. Flandermeyer, and Ms. Iwanechko.

## **Future Meetings**

The schedule of future meeting dates, including the pre-meeting and informational webinars for 2022, was included in the agenda package. Mr. DeFontes noted that the Board plans to hold the May meetings in-person in Arlington, VA.

## **Business Plan and Budget Input Group Update**

Sylvain Clermont, chair of the Business Plan and Budget (BP&B) Input Group, provided an update on the group's activities. He noted changes to the upcoming BP&B process, including the creation of a three-year business plan, more focus on input at the front-end of the process, and removal of the second draft posting. Mr. Clermont worked with MRC leadership and NERC staff to develop guiding principles for the BP&B Input Group, identifying desired membership and outcomes. Ms. Flandermeyer will chair the group this year and she and Mr. Jones will seek MRC volunteers to participate on group.

Mr. Jones recognized Mr. Clermont's upcoming retirement. MRC and Board members congratulated Mr. Clermont on his retirement and thanked him for his leadership, dedication, and professionalism as a member of the MRC and many other groups over the years. Mr. Clermont thanked the Board, MRC, and NERC management for their support and encouragement during his twelve years on the MRC.

## **Regulatory Update**

Ms. Mendonca invited questions or comments regarding the regulatory report, which highlights Canadian affairs, as well as past and future significant FERC filings.

## **Responses to the Board's Request for Policy Input**

Mr. Jones acknowledged the MRC's responses to Mr. DeFontes' January 5, 2022, letter requesting policy input on fuel assurance with energy-constrained resources, in addition to the preliminary agenda topics for the February meetings. Responses to the letter are [posted](#) on the NERC website.

## **Fuel Assurance with Energy-Constrained Resources**

Mark Lauby, senior vice president and chief engineer at NERC, and Peter Brandien, Energy Reliability Assessment Task Force (ERATF) Chair, discussed activities and challenges related to fuel assurance with energy-constrained resources. Mr. Lauby highlighted the *Ensuring Energy Adequacy with Energy-Constrained Resources* whitepaper, which outlines challenges in energy assurance and availability in the operations, operations planning, and mid- to long-term planning timeframes. The whitepaper describes that unassured fuel supplies can result in insufficient amounts of energy on the system to serve electrical demand and ensure the reliable operation of the BPS due to the following factors: (1) variable renewable energy resources; (2) fuel transportation, logistics, and location; and (3) volatility in forecasted load.

The ERATF was formed under the Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) to provide a formal process to analyze and collaborate with stakeholders to address the issues identified in the whitepaper. Mr. Brandien noted that the ERATF conducted a stakeholder survey to understand how stakeholders are evaluating their energy constraint and fuel availability issues. The ERATF also reviewed the existing NERC Reliability Standards to determine if there is a requirement to complete energy reliability assessments. Based on the review of the survey results and existing NERC Reliability Standards, the ERATF developed a

draft Standard Authorization Request (SAR) that recommends either enhancing an existing, or developing a new, NERC Reliability Standard to address energy deficiencies.

Mr. Lauby and Mr. Brandien summarized the policy input received, acknowledging broad support to move forward with the activities to address the issue. Policy input focused on suggestions in the following areas: (1) regional differences and market-based approaches; (2) varying jurisdictional responsibilities; and (3) more technical support and specificity on risk mitigation and the scope of proposed requirements and metrics for energy assessments.

Mr. Brandien acknowledged an industry workshop being held on February 16, 2022, as an additional opportunity for stakeholder input. The ERATF will update the SAR based on input received from the RSTC, MRC policy input, and the industry workshop. The ERATF plans to seek RSTC endorsement of the SAR in March or June of 2022. Once endorsed by the RSTC, the SAR will be presented to the Standards Committee (SC) for acceptance and follow the standards process upon acceptance.

- MRC members acknowledged the importance of the energy adequacy issue and expressed support for the ERATF's work in addressing it.
- MRC members encouraged the ERATF to seek RSTC endorsement in June 2022 (rather than March).
- An MRC member encouraged the ERATF to not let perfection around metrics get in the way of addressing the issue and to focus on putting a framework in place with an opportunity to reassess at an appropriate time.
- An attendee asked that upon SC acceptance of the SAR, NERC staff consider the timeline of other important standards projects (e.g., cold weather standard) to minimize overlap and avoid any projects getting delayed.

### **Additional Policy Discussion of Key Items from Board Committee Meetings**

Mr. Jones reminded attendees that full presentations were conducted at the Board committee meetings and would not be repeated during the MRC meeting. Attendees did not have any additional comments related to the Board's Finance and Audit, Compliance, Technology and Security, Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee meetings.

### **MRC Input and Advice on Board Agenda Items and Accompanying Materials**

An MRC member highlighted the CIP-014 compliance evidence agenda item, noting appreciation for the emphasis on security, but expressing concern around aggregating all evidence into a single data repository. Attendees did not have any other comments on the topics included on the Board's agenda for its meeting following the MRC meeting.

### **Opportunities for Improving ERO Enterprise Agility**

In the fourth quarter of 2021, the Board requested policy input from the MRC on opportunities for improving ERO Enterprise agility. Mr. Lauby, Mechelle Thomas, vice president and chief compliance officer at NERC, and Howard Gugel, vice president, engineering and standards at NERC, provided an update on activities related to ERO Enterprise agility. Activities are outlined in the posted presentation

package and are focused on the following areas: (1) processes; (2) collaboration; (3) Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program; (4) standards/standards development; and (5) supply chain.

- An MRC member expressed support for maintaining the framework of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) process.

### **Update on FERC Reliability Matters**

David Ortiz, acting director of the Office of Electric Reliability at FERC, acknowledged the confirmation of Commissioner Willie L. Phillips, bringing the Commission to five sitting Commissioners. He highlighted actions related to the changing resource mix, extreme weather, and cybersecurity, which are priorities for both FERC and NERC.

Mr. Ortiz provided an update on the following FERC reliability activities: joint FERC-NERC inquiry into the February 2021 cold weather event and related actions, including the April 28, 2022, FERC, NERC, and Regional Entities Technical Conference on improving winter-readiness of generating units; joint federal-state task force on electric transmission; September 30, 2021, Reliability Technical Conference; Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on building for the future through electric regional transmission planning and cost allocation and generator interconnection; Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on internal network security monitoring for high and medium impact Bulk Electric System cyber systems; December 16, 2021, Order regarding managing transmission line ratings; and December 7, 2021, Designated Letter Order approving CIP-004-7 and CIP-011-3.

### **Bulk Power System Situation Awareness**

This agenda item was delayed until the next meeting.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,



Kristin Iwanechko  
Secretary

# Agenda

## Member Representatives Committee

February 10, 2022 | 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Eastern

Attendee WebEx: [Click to Join](#)

### Introduction and Chair's Remarks

### NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines and Public Announcement\*

### Consent Agenda

1. **Minutes - (Approve)**
  - a. November 4, 2021 Meeting\*
  - b. January 12, 2022 Conference Call\*

### Regular Agenda

2. **Election of NERC Trustees\* - (Elect)**
3. **Future Meetings\***
4. **General Updates and Reports**
  - a. Business Plan and Budget Input Group Update\*
  - b. Regulatory Update\*
5. **Policy and Discussion Items**
  - a. Responses to the Board's Request for Policy Input\*
    - i. Fuel Assurance with Energy-Constrained Resources\*
  - b. Additional Policy Discussion of Key Items from Board Committee Meetings\*
    - i. Finance and Audit Committee
    - ii. Compliance Committee
    - iii. Technology and Security Committee
    - iv. Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee
  - c. MRC Input and Advice on Board Agenda Items and Accompanying Materials\*
  - d. Opportunities for Improving ERO Enterprise Agility\*

## **Technical Updates**

- 6. Update on FERC Reliability Matters\***
- 7. Bulk Power System Situation Awareness\***

\*Background materials included.

Member Representatives Committee - Attendance (February 10, 2022)		
Voting Members		
First Name	Last Name	Sector
Roy	Jones	Chair
Jennifer	Flandermeyer	Vice Chair
Joel	Dembowski	1. Investor-Owned Utility
Rachel	Snead	1. Investor-Owned Utility
John	Haarlow	2. State/Municipal Utility
John	Twitty	2. State/Municipal Utility
Greg	Ford	3. Cooperative Utility
Jason	Marshall	3. Cooperative Utility
Sylvain	Clermont	4. Federal/Provincial
Edison	Elizeh	4. Federal/Provincial
Paul	Choudhury	4. Federal/Provincial
Brian	Evans-Mongeon	5. Transmission Dependent Utility
Terry	Huval	5. Transmission Dependent Utility
Martin	Sidor	6. Merchant Electricity Generator
Sean	Cavote	6. Merchant Electricity Generator
Brad	Cox	7. Electricity Marketer
Chris	Haas	7. Electricity Marketer
Travis	Fisher	8. Large End-Use Electricity Customer
Venona	Greaff	8. Large End-Use Electricity Customer
Darryl	Lawrence	9. Small End-Use Electricity Customer
Michael	Moody	9. Small End-Use Electricity Customer
Barbara	Sugg	10. ISO/RTO - <b>Proxy Michael Desselle</b>
Gordon	Van Welie	10. ISO/RTO
Lesley	Gallinger	10. ISO/RTO
CJ	Manthe	12. State Government
Matt	Schuerger	12. State Government
Non-Voting Members		
First Name	Last Name	Sector
David	Morton	Canadian Provincial
Tab	Gangopadhyay	Canadian Federal
Pat	Hoffman	U. S. — Federal
David	Ortiz	U. S. — Federal
Harvey	Reed	Regional Entity - NPCC
Simon	Whitelocke	Regional Entity - RF
Todd	Hillman	Regional Entity - SERC
Melanie	Frye	Regional Entity - WECC
Kristin	Iwanechko	Secretary