

Sector Elections of Members of the Member Representatives Committee

Steps for Nominating and Electing Members

Introduction

This document explains how NERC will conduct sector elections to elect members of the Member Representatives Committee (MRC). A timeline for the nomination and election period is posted annually as part of the August MRC meeting agenda and also posted on the [MRC nominations and elections web page](#).

Definitions

1. NERC Member

An entity (organization) or person who applies for NERC membership. An entity and its affiliates are collectively permitted to have only one NERC membership. If your entity has recently experienced an organizational change that has resulted in your entity and its affiliates having more than the one permitted membership, please contact nercmembership@nerc.net.

2. Representative

A person that the entity (organization) authorizes to receive notices, cast votes, and execute waivers and consents on behalf of the member. Also called a member “contact.”

3. Nominee

A nominee for election as a sector representative, who must be a member, or an officer, executive-level employee, or agent of a member, in that sector or an associate nominated by another sector to represent such sector.

Membership in NERC

Though an entity may apply for NERC membership at any time in the future, those entities who would like one of their employees to be eligible for nomination to the MRC must join NERC by the date the nomination period closes.

All members, as of the nomination period closing date, are eligible to vote in the MRC election.

Preparing for MRC Nominations

The NERC membership roster is available online and can be sorted by member name or sector. This will allow NERC members to consider candidates for election to the MRC.

How to Nominate Members for the MRC

During the nomination period, NERC members will use the *Nomination Form for the NERC Member Representatives Committee Sector Members* included in the related announcement and posted on the MRC nominations and elections web page to submit their nominations for MRC membership to NERC staff.

- The nominator or their organization must be a NERC member.
- The nominee must be in the same sector as the nominator or in Sector 13, Associate. If the nominee is in Sector 13, the nominator is nominating the member as an agent or representative of the nominator's sector.
- A member (entity) may submit only one nominee from that entity in that sector. For example, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada may submit only one nominee from its organization.
- The nominee may be, but need not be, the same person as the member's identified contact.
- The nominee must be a member, officer, executive-level employee, or agent of a member.
- The NERC Bylaws do not prohibit a member (entity) from submitting a nominee from another entity in that sector. For example, the Wyoming Public Service Commission could submit a nominee from New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission. However, if New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission nominates someone else from New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, NERC will ask them to select one.

Therefore,

- Be sure your organization is submitting only one nominee to serve on the MRC.
- If you submit a nominee from another organization, be sure it is OK with that organization and the nominee.

Nominee Expectations

NERC expects MRC nominees to be willing to serve on the committee, attend all committee meetings, bring their sectors' opinions and interests to the table, and keep their sector constituents informed about MRC activities, discussions, and decisions. If you are nominating another person, please make sure they are willing to serve on the committee and to meet our membership expectations.

Elections

1. Balloting

NERC will post the ballot for the MRC sectors per the schedule outlined in the announcement and on NERC's public website. The ballot will list the candidate(s). NERC members will then vote for one candidate and submit their ballots electronically to NERC staff by midnight, the day the ballot closes.

2. Canadian Representatives

If there are not enough members from Canada to meet the "NEL ratio" requirements, NERC will use the selection process explained in Article VIII, Section 4 of the NERC Bylaws.

3. Membership Terms

Candidates elected will serve for the term identified in the announcement. No term limits have been established for the Member Representatives Committee. For situations where a sector is electing two members, the candidate receiving the highest vote in the sector will serve a two-year term. The second highest candidate will serve a one-year term.

4. Tie-breaking Procedures

For situations where the NERC Bylaws do not prescribe a method for breaking ties among candidates with an equal number of votes, the NERC General Counsel will, in the presence of a second NERC staff member, flip a coin to determine the outcome. These situations include, but are not limited to, (i) determining which candidate will serve the initial one-year term on the MRC, and (ii) selecting additional Canadian representatives to fulfill the NEL ratio membership requirements for MRC membership.

Announcing the Member Representatives Committee Members

At the close of the voting period, NERC will announce the MRC members who should plan to attend the next scheduled MRC meeting.

A nominee must garner a majority of its sector's member's votes, as required in Article VIII, Section 3 of the NERC Bylaws. The NERC Bylaws also explain that NERC will hold a second ballot if no nominee receives a simple majority of vote.