

NERC News: February

ERO Executive Spotlight

Sara Patrick,
MRO President and CEO



Increased Coordination and Collaboration Needed to Address Critical Risk

In last month's *NERC News*, NERC President and CEO Jim Robb highlighted important work being done by the ERO Enterprise to address an ever-evolving and hyper-complex risk environment — work that is credited to the strong relationships formed as a result of the ongoing ERO Enterprise transformation. Our 2022 activities were acutely focused on raising awareness of and strengthening engagement around critical risks to the reliability and security of the North American bulk power system. This work will continue in 2023 and beyond.

As part of the ERO Enterprise, Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) is responsible for carrying out a shared mission to identify, prioritize and assure the effective and efficient mitigation of risks to reliability and security of the North American bulk power system. MRO's territory includes the central portion of North America and spans all or parts of sixteen states and two Canadian provinces. MRO works closely with NERC and the other five Regional Entities to collect, analyze and disseminate data and information on continent-wide trends, areas of concern and new or emerging risks to the power grid. These coordinated efforts result in several key publications (e.g., long-term, seasonal and special reliability assessments, the *State of Reliability* report, the *RISC Priorities Report*, to name a few) that highlight a multitude of challenges facing the industry and the potential impact of these challenges on reliable operations.

While most of the risks identified in these continent-wide reports present themselves in all six Regions, some may be more geographic, regional or registered entity-specific. That is to say, certain areas, Regions or registered entities may have a higher exposure to, or are more likely to be impacted by, specific risks. Extreme weather

conditions or high concentrations of variable generation are great examples. MRO uses the data and information published by NERC and the ERO Enterprise to perform more granular, targeted assessments to identify which continent-wide risks could have a higher probability of occurrence and/or impact within the Region. In addition to summer and winter reliability assessments, MRO publishes an annual *Regional Risk Assessment* (RRA) that analyzes both reliability and security risks and recommends mitigating activities, where possible.

The RRA is a collaborative effort between MRO staff and the industry subject matter experts who serve on MRO's three advisory councils (i.e., Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement, Reliability and Security). Key findings from the report are used to help prioritize and coordinate risk mitigation efforts at MRO and across the Region. In addition to helping develop mitigation strategies, the advisory councils take the lead on coordinated outreach efforts to help registered entities become more aware of and reduce risk to their individual systems. The report also serves to inform regional regulatory agencies of challenges the industry is facing and the policies and regulations that will help define a variety of proposed solutions. MRO's [2023 RRA](#) and an [infographic](#) highlighting the findings are available on our website.

This report and others published by the ERO Enterprise underscore the need for multiple stakeholders to continue working together in a coordinated and collaborative fashion toward the common goal of a reliable and secure power grid. Together, we are up to the challenge.

Our future is bright!





Headlines

[NERC Publishes 2022 Annual Report](#)

[Statement on FERC February Open Meeting](#)

[Board Focuses on Enhanced Stakeholder Engagement, Bids Farewell to Roy Thilly; Launches Technical Session](#)

[Robb Speaks at Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission](#)



Other NERC Activities

[Standards](#)

[Compliance and Enforcement](#)

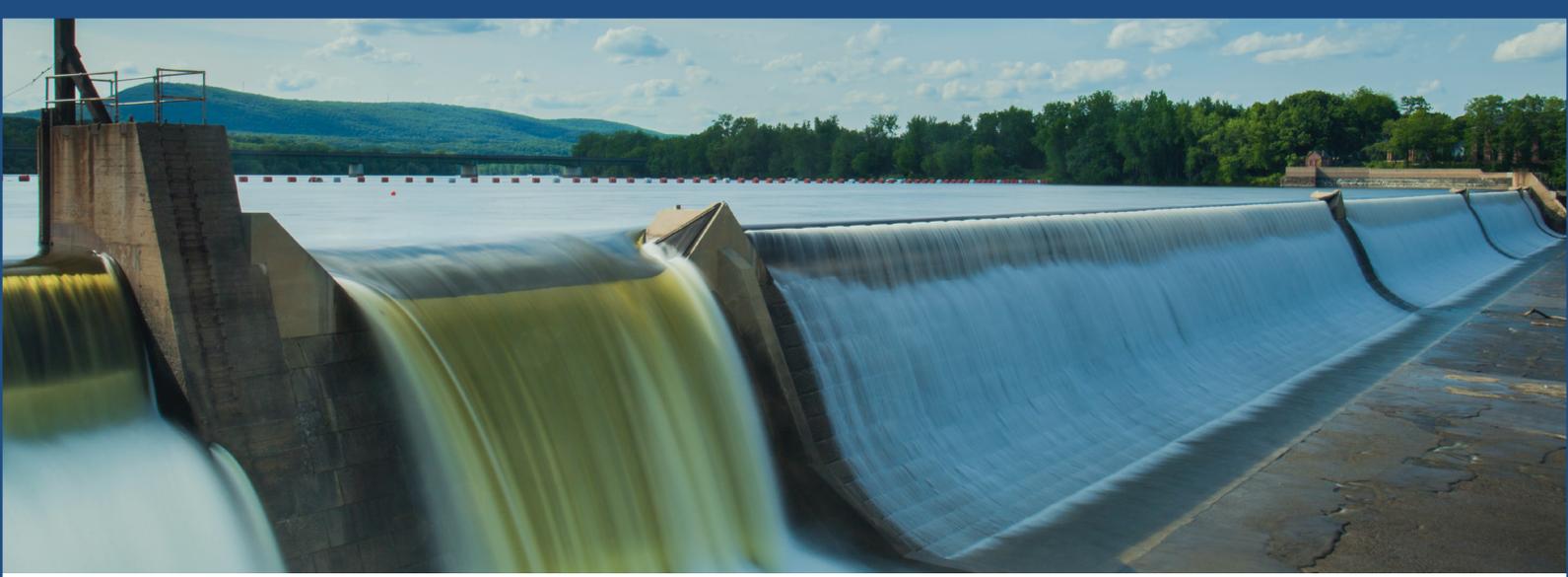
[Event Analysis, Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis Highlights](#)

[E-ISAC](#)

Filings

[NERC Filings](#)
[Canadian Filings](#)





Events Across the ERO Enterprise

NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION



MRO

 SERC



NPCC



TEXAS RE



ReliabilityFirst



WECC



Work at NERC

Current opportunities:

Senior Engineer, Reliability Assessments
Location: Remote/Hybrid

Senior Compliance Assurance Advisor
Location: Remote/Virtual

Program Specialist
Location: Remote/Virtual

Manager, Advanced System Analytics and Modeling
Location: Remote/Virtual

Intelligence Analyst
Location: Remote/Virtual

Senior Data Scientist
Location: Remote/Virtual



Reliability | Resilience | Security