GridEx V Fact Sheet
June 2019

Background
GridEx V is scheduled for November 13-14, 2019. This grid security exercise, which takes place every two years, provides an opportunity for utilities to demonstrate how they would respond to and recover from simulated coordinated cyber and physical security threats and incidents, strengthen their crisis communications relationships, and provide input for lessons learned. The Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center’s (E-ISAC) first GridEx took place in November 2011.

Objectives
The objectives for GridEx V are:

- Exercise incident response plans
- Expand local and regional response
- Engage interdependent sectors
- Increase supply chain participation
- Improve communication
- Gather lessons learned
- Engage senior leadership

GridEx V is an operational exercise for utilities and other stakeholders from North America. Industry participants are able to engage from their regular work locations and respond to simulated events during the two-day exercise. Participants respond with simulated internal and external operational activities as they would during an actual event, including sharing information within their organizations and with external entities according to their established procedures. NERC also coordinates an invitation-only discussion immediately following the exercise for industry executives and senior government officials.

Planning and Participation
Planning for the next GridEx begins immediately following the completion of an exercise to ensure the development of a complex, real world scenario. The two year planning schedule includes three planning meetings – the first of which for GridEx V is scheduled for September 6, 2018. Planners identify their organizations as either “active” (i.e., directly involved in planning, dynamic exercise play, and after-action activities) or “observing” (i.e., more limited participation). Planners identify their own exercise participants (“players”) from across departmental and functional areas and are encouraged to develop their own customized scenario consistent with the NERC scenario to achieve additional local exercise objectives and increase realism for their players.

Flexibility and Feedback
The GridEx planning team designs the exercise to allow each organization to participate in a way that is consistent with its available resources and real-world operational environment. NERC asks participating organizations to complete an after-action survey and encourages them to share with the E-ISAC lessons learned for the key observations and recommendations provided in reports after each exercise. For more information on GridEx V, contact E-ISAC Events.