2018 NERC Technical Workshop
July 10, 2018
NERC Atlanta Headquarters

Gas Infrastructure Risk and Associated Recommendations
Conference Overview

NERC will be conducting a technical workshop in Atlanta, Georgia on July 10, 2018 from 8:00 am until 3:15 pm. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the recent NERC key findings and recommendations in recent reports with a particular emphasis on NERC’s report titled Special Reliability Assessment: Potential Bulk Power System Impacts Due to Severe Disruption on the Natural Gas System. Panels will discuss the developments since the report and work toward developing solution sets around NERC recommendations.

**Key focus areas will include:**

1. Current Status and Background of Existing Studies
2. Natural Gas Paradigm
3. RTO Perspectives
4. Potential Solutions and Discussions
Agenda

Registration and Breakfast 7:30–8:00 a.m.

Opening Remarks and Welcome 8:00–8:15 a.m.

Jim Robb, President and Chief Executive Officer, NERC
Thomas Coleman, Director, Reliability Assessments, NERC

The DOE’s Perspective on the Changing Resource Mix and Potential Reliability Challenges 8:15–8:30 a.m.

Patricia Hoffman, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity, DOE

Session 1: Current Status and Background of Existing Studies 8:30–10:00 a.m.

As the electric generation portfolio has experienced a significant shift toward more natural gas resources and less coal and nuclear, planning for the future resource mix has become ever more important. In addition to resource adequacy, fuel assurance helps support grid reliability and resilience. This panel will highlight some of the studies and work completed by EIPC, ERAG, and WECC in regards to natural gas infrastructure and evaluating fuel assurance associated with this paradigm shift.

David Whiteley, Owner of Whiteley BPS planning Ventures LLC (Representing EIPC)
John Buechler, Executive Regulatory Policy Advisor, NYISO (Representing EIPC)
Jeff Mitchell, Director, Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis, Reliability First (Representing ERAG)
Melanie Frye, Vice President, Reliability Planning and Performance Analysis, WECC (Representing WECC)

Moderator
Thomas Coleman, Director, Reliability Assessments, NERC

Break 10:00–10:15 a.m.
Session 2: Natural Gas Paradigm  
10:15 a.m.–11:30 p.m.

The Aliso Canyon outage in Southern California underscored the increased reliance on natural gas for electric generation as well as the risks associated with potential outages of natural gas infrastructure. NERC developed a report titled Potential Impacts of Severe Disruptions to the Natural Gas System which provided recommendations directed toward system planners, policy makers, and regulators. This report analyzed some of the potential effects of increased natural gas fired generation outages associated with natural gas infrastructure outages and evaluated these potential events against system stability. Since the Aliso Canyon outage, PHMSA has adopted an interim rule which is intended to provide additional reliability around existing storage facilities. Additionally, representatives from natural gas trade organizations as well as pipeline operators and other natural gas industry experts have provided NERC with valuable insight on the construct of the natural gas industry and how the two industries can best align themselves for electric reliability. This panel will provide a background on the natural gas construct, safety rules around natural gas infrastructure, and operating procedures of natural gas pipelines. The representatives are from PHMSA, AGA, API, and Kinder Morgan.

Todd Snitchler, Group Director of Market Development, API  
Donald Santa, President and Chief Executive Officer, Interstate Natural Gas Association of America  
Robert Mims, Director of Technology Security, Southern Company  
Catherine Washabaugh, Staff Engineer, PHMSA  

Moderator  
Noman Williams, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, GridLiance

Natural Gas and Electricity Coordination  
11:30–11:45 p.m.

NAESB has completed extensive work in both the natural gas and electric industries. Particular effort has been focused on bridging potential gaps between the two industries and providing solutions to provide efficiencies as the two industries are becoming ever more interdependent. Jonathan Booe will discuss the successes of NAESB in regards to gas/electric coordination and provide insights into future work that NAESB can champion to continue to foster gas/electric coordination.

Jonathan Booe, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, NAESB

Lunch  
12:00–12:45 p.m.

Session 3: RTO Perspectives  
12:45–2:00 p.m.

Market constructs have a different set of circumstances than vertically integrated utilities. In a market construct firm transportation does not have the same prevalence as is typically seen with the vertically integrated utilities. Pay for Performance programs within various market constructs have provided for additional assuredness of fuel supply in many cases, yet still largely lags behind the level at vertically integrated utilities. It is important for planning processes to be in place to account for loss of fuel due to lack of firm transportation, storage, or other reasons. This panel will provide insight into how ISO/RTOs plan for the potential of natural gas disruptions as well as underscore differences between RTO/ISO processes versus those of vertically integrated utilities. Similarly the panel will discuss potential recommendations for fuel assuredness around natural gas.

Brian Fitzpatrick, Senior Lead Fuel Supply Analyst, PJM  
Peter Brandien, Vice President of System Operations, ISO New England  
Lynn Hecker, Senior Manager, Expansion Planning, MISO  

Moderator  
Steve Naumann, Vice President, Transmission and NERC Policy, Exelon
NERC, in conjunction with its Planning Committee, has formed an advisory group to evaluate the NERC recommendations associated with the Potential Impacts of Severe Disruptions to the Natural Gas System Report. Among the directives under consideration are to enhance the existing TPL-001-4 Standard to require detailed Planning Studies taking into account the loss of natural gas infrastructure and demonstration of steps to be taken in the event of a loss of natural gas infrastructure. Another alternative would be to develop an industry guideline detailing requisite steps in regards to planning for the potential loss of natural gas infrastructure. This panel will discuss these in addition to other potential solution sets.

Brian Evans-Mongeon, President and Chief Executive Officer, Utility Services, Inc. (NERC PC)
Mike Knowland, Supervisor of Operations Forecast and Scheduling, ISO New England, (NERC ORS)
Howard Gugel, Senior Director of Standards and Education, NERC
Susan Tierney, Senior Advisor, Analysis Group

Moderator
John Moura, Director of Reliability Assessment and System Analysis, NERC

Adjourn  3:15 p.m.
Speaker and Moderator Biographies

Speakers are listed in order of presentation.

Jim Robb, President and Chief Executive Officer, NERC
James B. Robb assumed the role of president and chief executive officer of NERC in April 2018.

Mr. Robb oversees NERC’s mission of assuring the reliability and security of the North American bulk power system. As president and CEO, Mr. Robb directs key programs affecting more than 1,400 bulk power system owners, operators, and users, including mandatory NERC Reliability Standards, compliance monitoring, enforcement, situational awareness, event and risk analysis, reliability assessments and forecasting, cyber and physical security, and government relations. Mr. Robb also oversees the operations of the Regional Entities who support the reliability mission across North America.

From 2014 to 2018, Mr. Robb served as president and CEO of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) where he was responsible for the strategic direction and leadership of all of WECC’s activities. Mr. Robb has more than 30 years of experience in the energy sector as an engineer, a consultant, and a senior executive. Prior to becoming WECC’s CEO in 2014, he held three major leadership roles in the industry at Northeast Utilities (now Eversource Energy) as senior vice president of Enterprise Planning and Development; at Reliant Energy (now part of NRG Energy) where he served as senior vice president of Retail Marketing for the competitive retail business in Texas and the Northeast; and at McKinsey & Company where he was a partner and the leader of the West Coast’s Energy and Natural Resource Practice. During his 15-year career at McKinsey, he worked closely with prominent electric power companies in California, western Canada, the Pacific Northwest, and the Rocky Mountain states, as well as with some of the region’s largest energy consumers.

Mr. Robb earned a bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University in Indiana and a master’s degree in Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Thomas Coleman, Director, Reliability Assessments, NERC
Thomas Coleman is Director of Reliability Assessments at NERC. He works with industry and stakeholders to assess, report on, and provide recommendations to ensure the reliability of the North American Bulk Power System. Mr. Coleman leads the efforts around NERC’s Annual Long Term Reliability Assessment as well as seasonal assessments and special assessments concerning emerging Bulk Power System reliability issues. Mr. Coleman joined NERC in 2014. Prior to joining NERC Mr. Coleman traded power and natural gas commodities and directed long term origination at JP Morgan and Williams Energy. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Florida and his MBA from Vanderbilt University.
Patricia A Hoffman, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity, DOE

Patricia A. Hoffman serves as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of Electricity. Ms. Hoffman served as Acting Assistant Secretary for OE from January 2017 until October 2017 when the OE Assistant Secretary was confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Ms. Hoffman was named Assistant Secretary for OE from June 2010 to January 2017, after serving as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary since November 2007. Prior to that position, Ms. Hoffman served in a dual capacity as Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Research and Development (R&D) and Chief Operating Officer (COO) within OE. Prior to joining OE, she was the Program Manager for the Federal Energy Management Program within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at DOE. Ms. Hoffman holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Ceramic Science and Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

David Whiteley, Owner of Whiteley BPS Planning Ventures LLC

David Whiteley is the owner of Whiteley BPS Planning Ventures LLC, a consulting firm offering management, planning, operating, and other advisory service to the electric utility industry. He is also engaged as the Executive Director of the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC). The EIPC is currently advancing the concept of an open and transparent approach to performing transmission system analyses at the interconnection level. Mr. Whiteley provides a leadership role in the EIPC effort. Mr. Whiteley is also on the Board of Directors of Unitil Corporation, a public utility holding company with operations in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

Prior to starting his own consulting company, Dave was employed by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) as Executive Vice President from March, 2007 to March 2009. In that position, he was responsible for overseeing NERC’s activities in Standards; Reliability Readiness; Training, Education, and Personnel Certification; Event Analysis; Metrics and Benchmarking; and Members’ Forums.

Prior to NERC, Dave was Senior Vice President - Energy Delivery Services for Ameren Corporation – a position he assumed in January 2005 after serving as Senior Vice President, Energy Delivery, since October 2003. At Ameren, he was responsible for the planning, design, construction and technical support for all electric transmission and distribution systems for Ameren’s operating utility companies. Dave was also responsible for transmission operations and the transmission interface with the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) – the regional transmission operator for Ameren. He also led the company’s transmission policy area and served on various task forces and committees of the Edison Electric Institute, the North American Electric Reliability Council, and the Association of Edison Electric Illuminating Companies. Dave started his career as an assistant engineer in the System Planning Department of Union Electric Company in 1978.
A native of St. Louis, Dave earned a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, Indiana. He holds a master’s degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla completed in 1985. He was granted a Professional Degree in Engineering from the Electrical Engineering Department of the University of Missouri-Rolla in 2004. Dave is a registered professional engineer in the states of Missouri and Illinois. He is also a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

John P. Buechler, Executive Regulatory Policy Advisor, New York ISO

Since 2002, John has been the Executive Regulatory Policy Advisor for the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO), in which capacity he advises the NYISO’s CEO, officers and Board on key regulatory issues. Previously, John was the first Director of Regulatory Affairs for the NYISO (2000-2002) and also served as the acting Vice President of Market Structures (2005-2006). During 1998 & 1999, John was the Project Managing Director for the New York ISO with overall responsibility for the transition of the New York Power Pool to an Independent System Operator.

John had primary responsibility for the development of the NYISO’s Comprehensive Reliability Planning Process which was approved by FERC in December 2004, for the NYISO’s December 2007 Compliance Filing in response to Order 890’s Planning Principles and for developing NYISO’s response to Order 1000. He has also played a key role for the NYISO regarding inter-regional coordination issues—including planning. In June 2016 he testified before FERC on interregional coordination in the Northeast. John represented the NYISO on the working group that prepared the EIPC proposal that was awarded a grant by the DOE to establish a collaborative process for Eastern interconnection-wide transmission analysis. From 2009 thru 2015 he served as the Chairman of the EIPC Coordination Committee which was responsible for implementation of the EIPC project including the Gas-Electric System Interface Study.

Throughout the 1990’s, John was a key participant in the restructuring of the electric marketplace in New York and in the development of the NYISO proposal filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in January 1997.

Previously, in his 30 year career with the Long Island Lighting Company, John served in various managerial positions, principally in areas associated with Corporate and Strategic Planning and the Office of Engineering. He has served on numerous Committees at the New York Power Pool, EEI and EPRI in the areas of Planning, Operations and the Environment and has chaired various NYPP groups responsible for the development of joint positions before regulatory agencies.
Jeff Mitchell, Director, Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis, Reliability First

Mr. Mitchell, Director of Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis for ReliabilityFirst, has held this position since its inception in January 2006. Mr. Mitchell oversees the regional resource and transmission reliability assessments and has served as the past chair of the NERC Planning Committee and the Eastern Interconnection Reliability Assessment Group (ERAG) Management Committee.

Mr. Mitchell, Director of Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis for ReliabilityFirst, has held this position since its inception in January 2006. Mr. Mitchell oversees the regional resource and transmission reliability assessments and has served as the past chair of the NERC Planning Committee and the Eastern Interconnection Reliability Assessment Group (ERAG) Management Committee. Mr. Mitchell also led the effort to develop the ReliabilityFirst Bulk Electric System (BES) definition in 2007 and helped to develop the new NERC BES definition as part of the Standard Drafting Team work that finished in 2014 with the approval of the new NERC definition by FERC. He has also been involved with BES interpretations to the ReliabilityFirst definition over the years. Previously, Mr. Mitchell had over eight years’ experience with ECAR as Manager of Transmission Services and Senior Engineer supporting the planning, protection, and equipment activities within the region. Prior to joining ECAR, Mr. Mitchell worked for the Ohio Edison Company (now part of FirstEnergy) for over 17 years in various positions, including experience in transmission planning and distribution protection. Mr. Mitchell is a registered Professional Engineer in Ohio and Pennsylvania and received his BSET degree from the University of Akron.

Melanie Frye, Vice President, Reliability Planning and Performance Analysis, WECC

Melanie Frye, Vice President of Reliability Planning and Performance Analysis, is responsible for WECC’s technical and analysis functions, including events analysis, situational awareness, reliability planning and assessments, performance assessments, and standards development. This group of 40 employees collaborates closely with WECC’s member forum committees, including the Operations, Planning Coordination, Market Interface, and Reliability Assessment Committee. In this role, Melanie has lead WECC’s response to several essential reliability programs and issues including the two-year Gas-Electric Interface Study, assurance visits and workshops, and most recently, the changing Reliability Coordination function in the West.

Melanie spear-headed and co-authored WECC’s Strategic and Operational Planning Process approved by the board of directors in 2017 that ensured alignment with the ERO Enterprise Long-Term Strategy. As a member of the executive team, Melanie created the framework for WECC’s Invented Future and shaped the transformation within the organization. She has profoundly influenced the development of the internal organizational culture to inspire alignment with the “why” of WECC.
Previously, Melanie was WECC’s Vice President of Shared Services, overseeing Human Resources, Accounting and Finance, Information Technology, Project Management, and Administrative Services functions and staff. She joined WECC in 2007 as Director of Human Resources.

Prior to joining WECC, Melanie spent several years with PacifiCorp as a Senior Human Resources Consultant where she was responsible for providing advice and counsel to the leadership team of eight thermal and three natural gas power generation facilities in Utah and Wyoming. She provided support to over 2,500 union and non-union employees located across the company’s six-state service territory.

Melanie holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, and a Utility Executive Course Certificate from the University of Idaho.

**Todd Snitchler, Group Director of Market Development, API**

Todd Snitchler is the group director of Market Development at API. This department works with industry, government, and customer stakeholders to promote increased demand for and continued availability of our nation’s abundant and clean natural gas resources.

Prior to joining API, Mr. Snitchler was a principal for Vorys Advisors, LLC in Ohio where he led the government affairs efforts in the energy and utility space. He organized the firm’s first-ever sponsored educational seminar for policy makers and industry representatives and established strong relationships in Ohio and nationally with competitive suppliers and independent power producers.

Mr. Snitchler previously served as chairman of both the Public Utilities Commission and the Power Siting Board of Ohio, and was elected twice to represent the 50th House District in Stark County.

Mr. Snitchler has published on numerous topics including environmental regulations and cyber issues; electricity deregulation difficulties; and the role of the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Snitchler received his J.D. from the University Of Akron School Of Law and his B.A. from Grove City College.
Donald Santa, President and CEO, Interstate Natural Gas Association of America

Donald F. Santa is the president and chief executive officer of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA), the North American association representing the interstate and interprovincial natural gas pipeline industry.

Mr. Santa brings an extensive background in government and in the energy industry to his position at INGAA. He served as majority counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources from 1989-1993, where he worked on enactment of the Natural Gas Wellhead Decontrol Act of 1989 and the Energy Policy Act of 1992. Mr. Santa was nominated in 1993 to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, where he served until 1997. During his tenure as a commissioner, he worked on major FERC initiatives, including Order No. 888 (open access rule for electric transmission) and implementation of Order No. 636 (the rule restructuring natural gas pipeline services).

Upon leaving the government, Mr. Santa joined LG&E Energy Corp in Louisville, KY, where he served as deputy general counsel and senior vice president for strategic planning from 1997-2001. Before joining INGAA in 2003, he was a partner in the Washington, DC office of the law firm Troutman Sanders LLP.

Mr. Santa is a graduate of the Columbia University School of Law and the Duke University Trinity College of Arts and Sciences. He resides with his wife and two children in Edgewater, MD.

Robert Mims, Director of Technology Security, Southern Company

Robert Mims is the Director of Technology Security for Southern Company where he focuses on critical infrastructure operational technology cyber security for 4 electric utilities and 7 natural gas utilities with generation, transmission, distribution, nuclear, retail, wholesale, and midstream operations. Rob is active in the energy sector’s security working groups sponsored by DHS and DOE and he is the former chair of the American Gas Association’s natural gas security committee. He sits on the board of directors of the downstream natural gas information sharing and analysis center (DNG-ISAC). He served 10 years in the US Navy and holds a bachelor of electrical engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology.
Catherine Washabaugh, Staff Engineer, PHMSA
Catherine is a Staff Engineer with the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA), and is currently on the Underground Natural Gas Storage Field Implementation Team. Catherine’s experience includes inspections on Underground Natural Gas Storage Fields, Natural Gas Pipelines, and Hazardous Liquid Pipelines.

Catherine began her career at the Michigan Public Service Commission in the Petroleum Engineering section, performing reservoir engineering analysis, prorating natural gas fields and providing expert testimony in pipeline cases, proration cases and Gas Cost Recovery cases.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering from Michigan Technological University, and Master in Business Administration from the University of Michigan, majoring in Operations Management.

Noman Williams, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Gridliance
Noman Williams is Senior Vice President (SVP) and Chief Operating Officer (COO) for GridLiance, the nation’s first independent transmission company primarily focused on working with Public Power (municipal utilities, joint action agencies, and electric cooperatives) to address and solve their transmission needs.

Williams has been a member of GridLiance’s senior team since its inception in 2014, bringing more than 30 years of executive, O&M, system operations, engineering leadership, and management experience in the electric utility industry. Prior to GridLiance, Williams served as vice president of Transmission Policy and Compliance for Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, where he was responsible for the engineering services program for Sunflower Member cooperatives, which included construction work, long-term planning and transmission line and substation design and construction.

Williams earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Washington State University and an M.B.A from Colorado State University. He also holds various leadership positions in national and regional energy organizations, including Chair of Market Operations Policy Committee (SPP), Chairman for the Transmission Working Group (SPP), and a member of the NERC Planning Committee and NERC Planning Executive Committee, Vice Chair.
Jonathan Booe, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, NAESB

Jonathan Booe has been an attorney for the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) since 2007 and an officer of the organization since 2013. As an attorney for NAESB, Jonathan manages the organization’s standards development activities that support the wholesale and retail natural gas and electric market and has worked with hundreds of companies to develop business practice standards and standardized contracts that add efficiency, transparency, and clarity to market processes. Jonathan manages the submission of all comments and filings to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and all other state and federal entities on behalf of NAESB. Virtually all of the NAESB wholesale market standards referenced in submitted comments and filings to the FERC have been incorporated by reference into federal regulations and many of the retail market standards have been adopted or served as the foundation for action by state commissions. In addition to the NAESB standards development activities, Jonathan supports the NAESB Board of Directors on corporate governance issues, strategic planning, and revenue generation.

Jonathan is the acting NAESB liaison for many organizations promoting standards development activities including the Department of Energy, the FERC, Sandia National Laboratory, the National Institute of Standards, and Technology, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and many energy trade associations. Jonathan represents NAESB at various industry meetings throughout the country and abroad and has been published in several trade publications on topics related to energy and standards development. He was also recognized by the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel in 2011 for his leadership in standards development to support the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Recently, Jonathan was named to United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change as an observer and a voting member of the ANSI National Policy Committee.

Jonathan holds a Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University and a JD from South Texas College of Law. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Energy Bar Association and serves as a Vice Chair of the Infrastructure Security Committee for the Infrastructure and Regulated Industries Section of the American Bar Association. Jonathan also sits on the Board of Directors of the Green Button Alliance.
Brian Fitzpatrick, Senior Lead Fuel Supply Analyst, PJM

Brian joined PJM in 2015 as a senior lead fuel supply analyst with the responsibility to provide natural gas industry expertise to the nation’s largest regional transmission organization, and assist with the growing need for coordination and communication between the natural gas and electric industries.

Prior to joining PJM, Mr. Fitzpatrick was employed in the regulated electric and natural gas utility industry for over 20 years with UGI Utilities and Peoples Gas in Pennsylvania. In these roles he gained with a wide range of experience in power plant engineering, electric and gas regulatory proceedings, rates, marketing, and energy supply portfolio management.

Mr. Fitzpatrick received a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute in Utica, NY.

PJM Interconnection, founded in 1927, ensures the reliability of the high-voltage electric power system serving 65 million people in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. PJM coordinates and directs the operation of the region's transmission grid, which includes over 84,042 miles of transmission lines; administers a competitive wholesale electricity market; and plans regional transmission expansion improvements to maintain grid reliability and relieve congestion. PJM’s regional grid and market operations produce annual savings of $2.8 billion to $3.1 billion. For the latest news about PJM, visit PJM Inside Lines at insidelines.pjm.com.

Peter Brandien, Vice President of System Operations, ISO New England

As Vice President of System Operations, Peter is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the New England bulk power system. This includes transmission and generation outage coordination, real-time external transaction management, unit commitment, economic dispatch, system restoration, operator training, NERC/NPCC compliance, and development of operating procedures. Departments under his responsibility include Operations; Systems Operations Support; Long & Short Term Outage Coordination; Transmission Operations Technical & Real-Time Studies; and Operational Performance, Training & Integration.

Prior to ISO New England Peter was an employee of Northeast Utilities for seventeen years. At Northeast Utilities, he held various management positions in transmission engineering, operations and planning. Prior to Northeast Utilities Peter served in the U.S. Navy Submarine Force and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering.
Lynn Hecker, Senior Manager, MISO

Lynn Hecker, Ph.D., is the Senior Manager of Expansion Planning at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO). In her current role, Lynn manages and oversees a full range of reliability planning studies in support of overall MISO transmission expansion plan and compliance of FERC and NERC requirements. Prior to taking her current position, she served as the Manager of Economic Studies where she oversaw long-term economic transmission planning studies and market congestion planning studies. Previously, Ms. Hecker was responsible for evaluating impacts of public policy regulations, developing the economic analysis for MISO’s first Multi Value Project (MVP) portfolio, and leading the economic transmission design and wind integration analysis for the Eastern Wind Integration and Transmission Study (EWITS) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.

She holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Electrical Engineering from University of Missouri - Rolla.

Steve Naumann, Vice President, Transmission and NERC Policy, Exelon

Steven T. Naumann is Vice President, Transmission, and NERC Policy at Exelon Corporation. He is responsible for developing policy for Exelon on transmission pricing, cost allocation, and high level transmission planning policy nationwide. He also directs the development of reliability policy issues relating to standards, compliance, and other issues involving the NERC. Mr. Naumann joined Commonwealth Edison Co. following service as an officer in the United States Air Force. In over 40 years at Exelon and Commonwealth Edison, Mr. Naumann has held a number of engineering, managerial, and executive positions responsible for the planning, operation, and security of the electric delivery system. He has participated on a number of committees, working groups and task forces of NERC and the Mid-America Interconnected Network Regional Reliability Council (MAIN), including serving as Vice Chairman. Mr. Naumann served on NERC MRC as a representative of the Investor Owned Utilities and as Vice Chairman and Chairman. He has testified before Congress, FERC, the Illinois Commerce Commission, and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Mr. Naumann received a B.S. and M. Eng. in Electric Power Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1971 and 1972, respectively, and a J.D. from Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1988. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Illinois and is licensed to practice law in Illinois.
Brian Evans-Mongeon, President and CEO, Utility Services, Inc.
Brian has worked in the electric industry since 1987. Utility Services supports the staffs of over 100 NERC Registered Entities in Canada and the USA with their compliance, reliability, and security obligations. Within NERC, Utility Services is a Member of NERC itself and four regional entities: NPCC, RF, MRO, and WECC. Brian has served in a number of groups regionally and nationally, including currently serving as the Chair of the NERC Planning Committee and the NPCC Reliability Coordinating Committee, Co-chair of the NERC Essential Reliability Services Working Group, a member of the NERC Reliability Issues Steering Committee and the Distributed Energy Resources Task Force, national and regional standards for Disturbance Monitoring, Dispersed Power Resources, Under Frequency Load Shedding, Disturbance and Sabotage Reporting, defining the Bulk Electric System, and has worked on the NERC CIPC Compliance and Enforcement Input WG (CEIWG), the Risk Based Registration, 2017/2018 NERC Standards Grading Projects, and served on the Quality Review Team for the 2015 EOP Standards Project. His education includes Associate degree in Electric/Electronic Technology from Vermont Technical College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Vermont.

Mike Knowland, Supervisor of Operations Forecast and Scheduling, ISO-NE
Mike Knowland is the Supervisor of Operations Forecast and Scheduling at ISO New England. His responsibilities include load forecasting and reliability resource commitment, and he serves as the primary gas-electric coordinator at the ISO. New England has experienced natural gas supply issues dating back as far as 2004 and has worked to develop a robust coordination, analysis, and operating philosophy for gas-electric operations.

Howard Gugel, Senior Director of Standards and Education, NERC
Howard Gugel is the Senior Director of Standards and Education for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). In this role he is responsible for directing all aspects of NERC’s continent-wide standards development process by providing oversight, guidance, coordination, and industry education of the development of reliability standards. His background also includes management experience in transmission operations and energy marketing. Howard received his BSEE and MSEE from the University of Missouri – Rolla, and is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Missouri.
Susan Tierney, Senior Advisor, Analysis Group
Dr. Tierney is an expert on energy policy and economics, specializing in the electric and gas industries. She has consulted to companies, governments, nonprofits, and other organizations on energy markets, as well as economic and environmental regulation and strategy. Her expert witness and business consulting services have involved industry restructuring, market analyses, utility ratemaking and regulatory policy, clean energy regulatory policy, transmission issues, wholesale and retail market design, and resource planning and procurement.

Dr. Tierney is a former assistant secretary for policy at the US Department of Energy, state cabinet officer for environmental affairs, and state public utility commissioner. She chairs the External Advisory Board of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, is a director of the World Resources Institute, and serves on other boards. She has published widely, frequently speaks at industry conferences, and has lectured at many leading universities.

John Moura, Director of Reliability Assessment and System Analysis, NERC
John Moura is the Director of Reliability Assessment and System Analysis for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), where he joined in 2008. John leads the electric reliability organization’s efforts to independently assess and report on the overall reliability, adequacy, and associated risks of the interconnected North American bulk power system. John leads the development of NERC’s annual long-term and seasonal reliability assessments, as well as NERC’s efforts in evaluating reliability impacts of potential environmental regulations, high-levels of variable generation, and an increasing dependence on natural gas. He is the co-author of numerous NERC special reports and several technical publications.