

# Agenda

## Technology and Security Committee Meeting

August 17, 2022 | 9:15-10:15 a.m. Pacific  
In-Person Meeting

### **In-Person**

Hyatt Regency Vancouver  
655 Burrard St.  
Vancouver, BC V6C 2R7, Canada

Conference Room: Regency C/D-3rd floor

### **Virtual Attendees**

[Webcast Link for August 17, 2022 Meetings](#)

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

### **NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines\***

### **Agenda Items**

1. **Minutes\* – Approve**
  - a. May 11, 2022 Open Meeting
2. **E-ISAC Operations\* — Update**
3. **ERO Enterprise Business Technology – Scope and Focus 2023-2035\* — Information**
4. **Other Matters and Adjournment**

\*Background materials included.

# NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines

## I. General

It is NERC's policy and practice to obey the antitrust laws and to avoid all conduct that unreasonably restrains competition. This policy requires the avoidance of any conduct that violates, or that might appear to violate, the antitrust laws. Among other things, the antitrust laws forbid any agreement between or among competitors regarding prices, availability of service, product design, terms of sale, division of markets, allocation of customers or any other activity that unreasonably restrains competition.

It is the responsibility of every NERC participant and employee who may in any way affect NERC's compliance with the antitrust laws to carry out this commitment.

Antitrust laws are complex and subject to court interpretation that can vary over time and from one court to another. The purpose of these guidelines is to alert NERC participants and employees to potential antitrust problems and to set forth policies to be followed with respect to activities that may involve antitrust considerations. In some instances, the NERC policy contained in these guidelines is stricter than the applicable antitrust laws. Any NERC participant or employee who is uncertain about the legal ramifications of a particular course of conduct or who has doubts or concerns about whether NERC's antitrust compliance policy is implicated in any situation should consult NERC's General Counsel immediately.

## II. Prohibited Activities

Participants in NERC activities (including those of its committees and subgroups) should refrain from the following when acting in their capacity as participants in NERC activities (e.g., at NERC meetings, conference calls and in informal discussions):

- Discussions involving pricing information, especially margin (profit) and internal cost information and participants' expectations as to their future prices or internal costs.
- Discussions of a participant's marketing strategies.
- Discussions regarding how customers and geographical areas are to be divided among competitors.
- Discussions concerning the exclusion of competitors from markets.
- Discussions concerning boycotting or group refusals to deal with competitors, vendors or suppliers.
- Any other matters that do not clearly fall within these guidelines should be reviewed with NERC's General Counsel before being discussed.

## III. Activities That Are Permitted

From time to time decisions or actions of NERC (including those of its committees and subgroups) may have a negative impact on particular entities and thus in that sense adversely impact competition. Decisions and actions by NERC (including its committees and subgroups) should only be undertaken for the purpose of promoting and maintaining the reliability and adequacy of the bulk power system. If you do not have a

legitimate purpose consistent with this objective for discussing a matter, please refrain from discussing the matter during NERC meetings and in other NERC-related communications.

You should also ensure that NERC procedures, including those set forth in NERC's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Rules of Procedure are followed in conducting NERC business.

In addition, all discussions in NERC meetings and other NERC-related communications should be within the scope of the mandate for or assignment to the particular NERC committee or subgroup, as well as within the scope of the published agenda for the meeting.

No decisions should be made nor any actions taken in NERC activities for the purpose of giving an industry participant or group of participants a competitive advantage over other participants. In particular, decisions with respect to setting, revising, or assessing compliance with NERC Reliability Standards should not be influenced by anti-competitive motivations.

Subject to the foregoing restrictions, participants in NERC activities may discuss:

- Reliability matters relating to the bulk power system, including operation and planning matters such as establishing or revising Reliability Standards, special operating procedures, operating transfer capabilities, and plans for new facilities.
- Matters relating to the impact of Reliability Standards for the bulk power system on electricity markets, and the impact of electricity market operations on the reliability of the bulk power system.
- Proposed filings or other communications with state or federal regulatory authorities or other governmental entities.
- Matters relating to the internal governance, management and operation of NERC, such as nominations for vacant committee positions, budgeting and assessments, and employment matters; and procedural matters such as planning and scheduling meetings.

# **DRAFT Minutes**

## **Technology and Security Committee Meeting**

May 11, 2022 | 10:00-11:00 a.m. Eastern  
Virtual Meeting

### **Call to Order**

Ms. Jane Allen, Chair, called to order a duly noticed open meeting of the Technology and Security Committee (the Committee) of the Board of Trustees (Board) of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) on May 11, 2022 at approximately 10:00 a.m. Eastern, and a quorum was declared present.

Present at the meeting were:

#### **Committee Members**

Jane Allen, Chair  
Colleen Sidford  
Larry Irving  
Jim Piro  
Robin E. Manning  
Suzanne Keenan  
Kenneth W. DeFontes, *ex officio*

#### **Board Members**

George S. Hawkins  
James B. Robb, NERC President and Chief Executive Officer  
Roy Thilly  
Susan Kelly

#### **NERC Staff**

Janet Sena, Senior Vice President, External Affairs  
Laura Brown, Director, E-ISAC Strategy, Policy, and Programs  
Kelly Hanson, Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer  
Kimberly Mielcarek, Vice President, Communications  
Manny Cancel, Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the E-ISAC  
Mark Lauby, Senior Vice President and Chief Engineer  
Matthew Duncan, Director, Intelligence, E-ISAC  
Shamai Elstein, Associate General Counsel  
Sônia Mendonça, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary  
Stan Hoptroff, Vice President, Business Technology  
Tina Buzzard, Assistant Corporate Secretary

#### **NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines**

Ms. Buzzard directed the participants' attention to the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines included in the agenda, and indicated that all questions regarding antitrust compliance or related matters should be directed to Ms. Mendonça.

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

Ms. Allen welcomed everyone to her first meeting as chair of the Committee and thanked Ms. Keenan for her leadership as prior chair and continued support of the Committee. Ms. Allen reviewed the agenda. She commented on the relentless pace of the threat cyber threat landscape, the E-ISAC's value in supporting industry, the positive feedback and lessons learned from GridEx VI, and that NERC is entering the final phase of the Align project. She also provided a brief summary of the April 14 and May 9, 2022 closed meetings of the Committee.

### **Minutes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the February 9, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as presented at the meeting.

### **E-ISAC Operations**

Mr. Duncan presented on the threat landscape, discussing the geopolitical environment and its impact on the North American electricity sector. He also discussed the E-ISAC's efforts to support industry in their efforts to mitigate security risks to the sector, including the E-ISAC's activities related to operational technology threat visibility projects. The Committee discussed the progress of the E-ISAC and the status of operational technology threat visibility projects.

Ms. Brown presented on the GridEx VI findings and recommendation, noting that the E-ISAC will track progress against the recommendation.

### **ERO Enterprise Align Project**

Mr. Hoptroff presented on the status of the Align project, including the functionality and status of Release 4 and Release 4.5, which will introduce new functionalities to the platform. He stated that Release 4 will enhance the functionalities related to audits and scheduling, and introduce new functionalities related to complaints and Release 4.5 will include Inherent Risk Assessments, and Compliance Oversight Plans. Mr. Hoptroff noted that Release 4 is currently in the development and testing phase and Release 4.5 is currently being developed. He also provided an update on Canadian adoption of Align. The Board commended Mr. Hoptroff and the cross-departmental team that has helped get the Align project to its final phase.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,



Sônia Mendonça  
Corporate Secretary

## **Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) Operations**

### **Action**

Update

### **Background**

Management will provide the Technology and Security Committee an update regarding E-ISAC operations. The update will include a discussion of the security threat landscape, collaboration with government agencies and the natural gas sector, Operational Technology (OT) visibility activities, and the proposed vendor affiliate program.

- ***Threat Landscape*** – Management will discuss E-ISAC’s tracking of potential threats to the electric sector and collaboration with government agencies.
- ***OT Visibility Activities*** – Management will discuss E-ISAC’s activities related to OT threat visibility and the Cybersecurity Risk Information Sharing Program.
- ***Enhanced Collaboration with the Natural Gas Sector*** – Management will discuss programs it has enacted to enhance collaboration with the natural gas sector, including collaboration with the Downstream Natural Gas and Oil and Natural Gas ISACs, as well as industry trade associations and gas utility companies.
- ***Vendor Affiliate Program*** – Management will discuss a new program it will pilot in 2022 to leverage the vendor community to provide enhanced awareness of security risks and improve information sharing. This program is similar to programs that exist in other critical infrastructure ISACs.

## **ERO Enterprise Business Technology – Scope and Focus 2023-2035**

### **Action**

Update

### **Background**

Management will provide an overview of the scope and focus of its three-year business technology strategy. The overview will include discussion of the critical skills that NERC will have to acquire and retain, and the critical focus areas for upcoming projects. The critical skills identified by management include:

- Cyber Security
- Quality Assurance
- Cloud computing
- Analytics
- Application Development
- Technology Success Support

These skills are necessary to address the critical focus areas, including protecting NERC's platforms and applications, providing foundational infrastructure to support the ERO Enterprise, building and providing applications that enable NERC's core mission. Management will also provide a project roadmap, outlining the solutions that NERC aims to implement in each of the next three years.

Management will also highlight the work of the Business Technology Success team and include an update on the status of the Align project.