



## Approved Minutes of the Organizational Group Oversight Committee Meeting

### Hybrid: MRO Offices, St. Paul, MN & Webex

*June 14, 2023, 1:00 p.m. to 3:27 p.m. Central*

*Notice for this meeting was electronically posted to the MRO website [here](#) on March 7, 2022.*

*A final agenda, including advanced reading materials, was posted on June 7, 2023.*

#### 1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Organizational Group Oversight Committee (OGOC) Chair JoAnn Thompson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Central. Carolina Margaria, Assistant Corporate Secretary, advised the chair that a quorum of the OGOC was present. A list of attendees is included as [Exhibit A](#).

#### 2. Standards of Conduct and Antitrust Guidelines

Pursuant to Policy and Procedure 4, Margaria highlighted MRO's Standards of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, and Antitrust Guidelines included in the agenda materials, and referred questions to Julie Peterson, Vice President General Counsel and Corporate Secretary.

#### 3. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included draft minutes from the OGOC meeting held on April 12, 2023.

*Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC approved the consent agenda without objection.*

#### 4. Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council Report

Richard Burt, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, provided a report on behalf of the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council (CMEPAC). He reviewed areas of focus, including the process for engaging volunteers from the CMEPAC to provide input into the Regional Risk Assessment (RRA), the Requirement Specific Request for Information (RFI) Project to improve alignment of those involved, identifying outreach opportunities regarding new or changing standards, conducting a readiness assessment of standard EOP-012 – cold weather preparedness – to do training for both industry and MRO staff before the standard becomes effective, and collaborating with other councils.

He highlighted that the CMEPAC also focused on coordinating volunteers to identify gaps in standards that do not comprehensively address risk to the bulk electric system (BES). An OGOC member asked whether others are also doing similar gap analysis, whether the gap analysis is primarily for internal purposes, and how the gap analysis is expected to evolve. Burt responded there has been more involvement in the process from technical committees, and noted that the initial focus has been on the two most heavily violated standards.

Burt reviewed the accomplishments and challenges of the CMEPAC. Regarding the challenge to create high quality guidance prior to the effective date of a new NERC Reliability Standard, an OGOC member asked for further detail on how the council will address the challenge. CMEPAC Chair, Terri



Pyle, responded that there is a small group monitoring standards prior to enforcement dates to identify opportunities for clarification, and evaluating whether standards applications guides, outreach, or other potential deliverables could come from that initiative.

## **5. Security Advisory Council Report**

Steen Fjalstad, Director of Security, provided a report on behalf of the Security Advisory Council (SAC). Fjalstad highlighted recent activities and areas of focus for the SAC, including preparing for the 2023 Security Conference, a three-day event held in Oklahoma City, which will include training from Idaho National Labs and key speakers.

An OGOC member urged the SAC to continue to explore ways to assist in developing and maturing best practices for operational technology best practices. In answer to a question related to the challenges of managing multiple evolving threats, Fjalstad noted that targeting outreach to specific audiences and managing security fatigue could contribute to addressing those threats.

## **6. Reliability Advisory Council Report**

Bryan Clark, Director of Reliability Assessment, delivered a report on behalf of the Reliability Advisory Council (RAC). Clark outlined that the RAC has been focused on the 2023 Reliability Conference, forming a subgroup to begin working on the 2024 Reliability Conference, recent newsletter contributions titled “Protecting the Grid from Solar Storms,” and “BPS Reliability Perspectives on Adoption of IEEE 1547-2018,” and working on an upcoming newsletter article summarizing the 2023 Reliability Conference.

Based on prior feedback from the OGOC, the RAC is also working to map their work plan initiatives to the risks in the MRO Regional Risk Assessment and share their approach with other councils. Clark noted that this could be a potential shared agenda item for the council collaboration week in August with all three MRO advisory councils.

Clark received commendations from OGOC members regarding the Reliability Conference, and continued industry education regarding the IEEE Standard for Interconnection and Interoperability of Distributed Energy Resources with Associated Electric Power Systems Interfaces. In response to a question from an OGOC member regarding FERC Order 881, Clark shared that the significant volume of data to be maintained and archived would impact the timeline.

Clark advised the OGOC that the RAC recommended approval of revisions to the charters of the RAC and Protective Relay Subgroup (PRS).

*Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC approved without objection the Reliability Advisory Council (RAC) charter and the Protective Relay Subgroup (PRS) charter, as each proposed.*

## **7. Quarterly Report on NERC Organizational Groups (Written Report)**

Chair Thompson referred the OGOC members to the written quarterly report regarding NERC organizational groups. There were no questions.

## **8. Organizational Group Membership Openings (Written Report)**



Chair Thompson referred the OGOC members to the written quarterly report regarding organizational group membership openings. There were no questions.

**9. Risk Roundtable: Insider Threat**

*The OGOC entered executive session to conduct a Risk Roundtable regarding the risk of inadequate energy reliability planning. All participants not part of MRO staff, advisory councils, or the board, were dismissed from the meeting.*

**10. Other Business & Adjourn**

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m. Central.

**Prepared by:** Julie Peterson, Vice President General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

**Reviewed and Submitted by:** Richard Burt, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer



## Exhibit A – Meeting Attendees

Organizational Group Oversight Committee Members Present	
Name	Sector
JoAnn Thompson, <b>Chair</b>	Investor Owned Utility Sector
Daryl Maxwell, <b>Vice Chair</b>	Canadian Utility Sector
Ben Porath	Cooperative Sector
Charles Marshall	Transmission System Operator Sector
Darcy Neigum	Investor Owned Utility Sector
Dehn Stevens	Investor Owned Utility Sector
Eric Miller	Transmission System Operator Sector
Eric Schmitt	Independent Director
Iqbal Dhimi	Canadian Utility Sector
Jeanne Tisinger	Independent Director
Maurice Moss	Municipal Utility Sector

Board Members Present	
Name	Sector
Brad Cox	Generator and/or Power Marketer Sector
Jennifer Flandermeyer	Regional Director
John Rhea	Generator and/or Power Marketer Sector

Other Attendees	
Name	Company / Title
Alexis Larson	MRO IT Support Analyst
Andrew Penney	Saskatchewan Power Corporation



Ashley Calderon	Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Bobbi Welch	Midcontinent Independent System Operator
Bryan Clark	MRO Director of Reliability Analysis
Carolina Margaria	MRO Assistant Corporate Secretary and Governance Administrator
Courtney Vetter	Montana-Dakota Utilities Company
Cris Zimmerman	MRO Manager of Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement
Daniel Son	MRO Systems Administrator
Dave Kay	Cenovus Energy
Gayle Nansel	Western Area Power Administration
Jake Bernhagen	MRO Manager of Reliability Performance
Jessie Mitchell	MRO Director of Communications
Julie Peterson	MRO Vice President General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
Kabir Doubo	MRO Senior Risk Assessment and Mitigation Engineer
Ken Gartner	MRO Director of Information Technology
Kent Feliks	American Electric Power
Lam Chung	MRO Vice President and Engineer for Strategy, Innovation, and Finance
Lee Felter	MRO Principal Security Engineer
Margaret Eastman	MRO Security Administrator
Mark Tiemeier	MRO Principal Technical Advisor
Mary Agnes Nimis	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Matt Alvarado	Iowa Utilities Board
Michelle Olson	MRO Compliance Monitoring Administrator
Paul Mehlhaff	Sunflower Electric Power Corporation
Richard Burt	MRO Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Sara Patrick	MRO President and Chief Executive Officer
Sharon Mayers	Worley



Shawn Keller	MRO Outreach Coordinator
Steen Fjalstad	MRO Director of Security
Stephen McGie	Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Terri Pyle	Oklahoma Gas and Electric
Tiffany Lake	Evergy
Troy Brumfield	American Transmission Company

*The above list may not reflect all meeting attendees as portions of the meeting were open for observation via Webex.*