



MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION

CMEP Advisory Council Q2 Meeting

May 31, 2023

9:00 AM to 2:37 PM Central

Final Minutes of the Compliance Monitoring Enforcement Program Advisory Council (CMEPAC) Meeting

OPEN

MRO Offices, St. Paul, MN / WebEx

May 31, 2023 9:00 AM

Notice for this meeting was electronically posted to the MRO website [here](#) on May 4, 2023. A final agenda, including advanced reading materials, was also posted on May 26, 2023.

Agenda Item

1 Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Terri Pyle, CMEP Advisory Council Chair

- a. Determination of Quorum
Michelle Olson, CMEPAC Meeting Secretary
- b. Robert's Rules of Order

MRO Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council (CMEPAC) Chair Terri Pyle called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Central. Chair Pyle noted the meeting was being recorded, reminded attendees of the MRO Organization Group Guiding Principles, and the adherence to utilizing Robert's Rules of Order. Michelle Olson, CMEPAC staff support and Compliance Monitoring Administrator, advised the chair that a quorum of the CMEPAC was present. A complete list of attendees is included as [Exhibit A](#).

2 Standards of Conduct and Antitrust Guidelines

Terri Pyle, CMEP Advisory Council Chair

Pursuant to Policy and Procedure 4, Pyle highlighted MRO's Standards of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, and Antitrust Guidelines and noted the video and audio recording and MRO Organizational Group Guiding Principles.

3 RRA Process and Volunteers

Mark Tiemeier, MRO Principal Technical Advisor

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CLARITY
Outreach & Engagement

ASSURANCE
Oversight & Risk Management

RESULTS
Reliability Performance

Mark Tiemeier reviewed the RRA survey results presentation provided in the packet and solicited volunteers for the RRA Risk Ranking project. Terri Pyle, CMEPAC Chair, and Theresa Allard, CMEPAC Member, provided their experiences and insight to what volunteering for this project entails. Discussion ensued. Ashley Stringer, Oklahoma Gas & Electric and Troy Brumfield, American Transmission Company, volunteered as the two CMEPAC representatives for the 2024 Regional Risk Assessment process.

4 Requirement Specific RFI

*Bill Steiner, MRO Director of Risk Assessment and Mitigation
Terri Pyle, CMEP Advisory Council Chair*

Bill Steiner provided an overview of the Requirement Specific RFI project. Terri Pyle stated that both MRO and entities could benefit from this project. The template would include pre-determined questions or checklist of information that MRO RAM could use during the risk determination of PNCs, potentially reducing the processing time. Entities could benefit by knowing in advance the information that RAM may request during a PNC review and could even utilize pre-emptively in their compliance programs to strengthen their processes and evidence. Volunteers for this effort include Council members Ashley Stringer, Oklahoma Gas and Electric, Troy Brumfield, American Transmission Company, Tiffany Lake, Evergy, Larry Heckert Alliant Energy, Kevin Lyons, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, and Terri Pyle, Oklahoma Gas and Electric, as well as non-Council members Angela Wheat, Southwest Power Administration, Paul Mehlhalf, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, and Andrew Coffelt, Kansas City Board of Public Utilities. An additional solicitation for volunteers will occur during the June CMEPAC monthly call.

5 Charter Review

Terri Pyle, CMEP Advisory Council Chair

a. CMEPAC

The CMEPAC reviewed and provided comments for the CMEPAC Charter. There was confusion in the purpose language regarding providing guidance to the MRO Board of Directors. Clarification of this language is desired but a decision was made to retain the language. A link requires an update. Chair Pyle suggested that there be a meeting with the RAC and SAC leadership and liaisons to discuss the work plan tiebacks to the RRA and Strategic Plan and reviews each of the charters more closely. There was also discussion on the requirements of the MRO Regional Risk Process Manual review. MRO staff will confirm the date of the next required review. No vote occurred at this time.

b. NSRF

The CMEPAC reviewed the NSRF Charter. Discussion ensued. No vote occurred at this time.

6 EOP-012 Readiness Assessment Interest

Julie Sikes, MRO Compliance Monitoring Manager, O&P

Julie Sikes provided an overview of the Readiness Assessment process including a short discussion regarding the implementation of the Readiness Assessment for CIP-012 last year. Chair Pyle provided feedback to the Council regarding the value of the initiative to OG&E as a volunteer participant. Ms Sikes proposed another potential opportunity for a Readiness Assessment could be related to the Cold Weather Standard EOP-012. Brief discussion ensued regarding potential version of the Standard to focus on and potential timeline. Discussed the opportunity for Ms Sikes to present the idea at the June CMEPAC monthly call to further gauge interest.

Break – 10:30 a.m.

7 Outreach Content

Terri Pyle, CMEP Advisory Council Chair

a. New Enforceable Standards

Terri Pyle provided an overview of this initiative involving identifying standards where Standard Application Guides (SAGs) would be beneficial and requested for volunteers. Paul Mehlhaff, Sunflower Electric, and Alison Archer, Midwest Independent System Operator, volunteered for this opportunity. Carl Stelly, Southwest Power Pool, volunteered to lead the team to determine potential guidance and outreach opportunities, including SAGs. Ken Buruss, Midwest Energy, commented that

the SAGs be written so that there are multiple ways to demonstrate compliance for the applicable standard. Jeff Norman further clarified that the intent of the SAGs are to provide “a” approach, not “the” approach.

b. Compliance Gaps on RRA

Terri Pyle and Tiffany Lake provided an overview of this effort, including identifying potential gaps in Reliability Standards that do not comprehensively address risk to the bulk electric system (BES), with a focus on risks that have been identified as part of the MRO Regional Risk Assessment. This work would be helpful for the RRA process and also identify potential outreach and guidance opportunities. Council members Ashley Stringer, Oklahoma Gas and Electric, Troy Brumfield, American Transmission Company, Tiffany Lake, Evergy, Larry Heckert Alliant Energy, and Terri Pyle, Oklahoma Gas and Electric, as well as non-Council members Angela Wheat, Southwest Power Administration, Paul Mehlhalf, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation.

8 Subteam Reports

CMEP Advisory Council Chair

a. Newsletter Subteam

Theresa Allard, CMEPAC Member

Theresa Allard provided an update on the upcoming newsletters. The first newsletter was submitted last week and will feature internal controls. She then provided potential topics for the second report

b. Monthly Call Subteam

Eric Ruskamp, CMEPAC Member

Eric Ruskamp, CMEPAC member, provided an oral update on the call information included in the agenda packet.

c. Webinar Subteam

Bryan Dixon, CMEPAC Member

Bryan Dixon, CMEPAC Member, provided an overview of the upcoming webinar on June 12, 2023 on the “Good Catch” program and requested potential topics be sent to him or his sub-team mates

d. Conference Subteam

Matt Caves, CMEPAC Member

Terri Pyle provided an update for the CMEP Conference Agenda and status. Cris Zimmerman asked for clarification on the Conference Topics. Discussion ensued. As this would be a detailed discussion, this discussion will be taken offline with the conference subteam.

e. Ask CMEPAC

Terri Pyle, CMEPAC Chair

Pyle provided an overview of the AskCMEPAC questions that were answered since the previous meeting of the CMEPAC held on February 21, 2023.

Lunch 12:00 p.m.

9 Standing Reports

a. NERC Standards Committee (NERC SC)

Troy Brumfield, NERC SC Member

Troy provided an overview of the NERC Standards Committee report provided in the agenda packet. Discussion ensued.

b. Facilities Ratings Task Force (FRTF)

Jon Radloff, FRTF CMEPAC Representative

Jon Radloff provided an overview of the FRTF report provided in the agenda packet. Discussion ensued.

c. NERC SupplyChain Task Force (SCTF)

Mark Zellner, SCTF Representative

There was no report at this time.

d. Mid-Continent Compliance Forum (MCCF)

Mark Buchholz, CMEPAC and MCCF Member

Mark Bucchohlz provided an overview of the MCCF report provided in the packet. Discussion ensued.

e. SPP Reliability Compliance Advisory Group (RCAG)

Mark Buchholz, CMEPAC and RCAG Member

Mark Bucchohlz provided an overview of the RCAG report provided in the packet. Discussion ensued.

f. MRO NERC Standards Review Forum (NSRF)

George Brown, NSRF Chair

George Brown provided an overview of the NSRF report provided in the packet. Discussion ensued.

g. NERC Compliance and Certification Committee (NERC CCC)

Cullum Marcussen, NERC CCC Member

Due to time constraints, this report was moved to later in the meeting. Erin Cullum provided an overview for the NERC CCC report provided in the agenda packet. Discussion ensued. There was discussion on the framework for addressing reliability risks and

so https://www.nerc.com/comm/RISC/Related%20Files%20DL/Framework-Address%20Known-Emerging%20Reliabilit-Securit%20%20Risks_ERRATTA_V1.pdf was provided in the chat.

10 OGOC Meeting Feedback

Tiffany Lake, CMEP Advisory Council Vice Chair

Tiffany Lake attended the Q1 OGOC meeting and provided an overview of the agenda and feedback. Potential topics for the OGOC Q3 risk discussion topic was discussed. Terri Pyle suggested that the topics be brought up to the council members to gather more feedback and comments they can bring to the risk discussion. Discussion ensued.

Break – 1:30 p.m.

11 Work Plan Updates

Terri Pyle, CMEP Advisory Council Chair

The CMEPAC discussed and updated the work plan. Chair Pyle discussed and solicited volunteers for the initiative to Review new/changing standards outreach opportunities including SAGs and Readiness Assessments. Volunteers include Council members Carl Stelly, Southwest Power Pool, and Alison Archer, MISO.

12 Action Item Review

Michelle Olson, CMEPAC Meeting Secretary

Olson reviewed the action items captured during the meeting. Pyle and Lake added a few additional items. These action items are compiled in a separate tab in the work plan for the CMEPAC members to review.

13 Other Business and Adjourn

Mark Buchholz announced that Mahmood Safi has accepted a new position with an entity outside of MRO's footprint and therefore has stepped off the council. The council took a few minutes to express gratitude towards Mahmood for his effort with MRO and the council.

Prepared by: Michelle Olson, Council Secretary, Compliance Monitoring Administrator
Reviewed and Submitted by: William Steiner, Director of Compliance Monitoring

Exhibit A – Meeting Attendees

CMEP Advisory Council Members	
Name	Organization
Alison Archer	MISO
Ashley Stringer OGE	Oklahoma Gas and Electric
Bryan Dixon	Xcel Energy
Carl Stelly	Southwest Power Pool
Eric Ruskamp	Lincoln Electric System
Larry Heckert	Alliant Energy
Kevin Lyons	Central Iowa Power Cooperative
Nazra Gladu	Manitoba Hydro
Terri Pyle	Oklahoma Gas and Electric
Theresa Allard	Minnkota Power Cooperative
Tiffany Lake	Evergy
Troy Brumfield	American Transmission Co.
MRO Staff	
Name	Title
Chris Pecore	Senior Compliance Engineer/Auditor, CIP
Cris Zimmerman	Manager of Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement
Dan Son	Systems Administrator

Holly Haynes	Compliance Auditor, CIP
Jeff Norman	Director of Compliance Monitoring
Jess Syring	Compliance Monitoring Manager, CIP
Julie Sikes	Compliance Monitoring Manager, O&P
Kendra Buesgens	Compliance Monitoring Coordinator
Larry Johnson	Principal Compliance Engineer/Auditor, CIP
Lisa Stellmaker	Executive Administrator and Office Manager
Max Vang	IT Support Analyst
Michelle Olson	Compliance Monitoring Administrator
Sam Zewdie	Principal Compliance Engineer, O&P
Sara Smith	Enforcement Attorney
Shawn Keller	Outreach Coordinator
Steen Fjalstad	Director of Security
Tasha Ward	Director of Enforcement and External Affairs
William Steiner	Director of Risk Assessment and Mitigation
Guests	
Name	Organization
Alan Kloster	Evergy
Allie Gavin	ITC Holdings
Andrew Coffelt	Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Angela Wheat	Southwestern Power Administration
Ashley Calderon	Board of Public Utilities
Blake Huddleston	ENGIE
Chris Watkins	Minnesota Department of Commerce
Courtney Vetter	Montana Dakota Utilities Company

David Rudolph	Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Dillan Vigil	Golden Spread Electric Cooperative
Ellen Watkins	Sunflower Electric Power Corporation
Erin Cullum	Southwest Power Pool
fred meyer	Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp.
Gail Elliott	ITC Holdings
George Brown	Pattern Energy
Hillary Creurer	Minnesota Power
Jamison Cawley	Nebraska Public Power District
Jon Radloff	American Transmission Company
Ken Burruss	Midwest Energy, Inc.
Marcus Sabo	ITC Holdings
Mark Zellner	Southwest Power Pool
Mary Agnes Nimis	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Maurice Moss	Board of Public Utilities Kansas City KS
Mayfield, Ash	Grand River Dam Authority
Nikki Dacus	Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
Paul Mehlhaff	Sunflower Electric Power Corporation
Peg Abbadini	Volkman Consulting
Sara Orr	Golden Spread Electric Cooperative
Stephen McGie	Kansas City BPU
Tina Adams	Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
Tracey Stewart	Southwestern Power Administration