



MRO Publishes 2022 Regional Risk Assessment

February 15, 2022

Saint Paul, MN. Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) is pleased to release its 2022 Regional Risk Assessment (RRA). The RRA reflects MRO's ongoing efforts to ensure the region is properly focused on monitoring and mitigating the greatest risks to reliability and security of the bulk power system within MRO's footprint. This important assessment concludes that of the twenty-one risks identified and assessed, the following seven rank as most impactful to the MRO footprint:

- Supply Chain Compromise
- Uncertainty of Winter Planning Reserve Margins
- Generation Availability During Severe Cold Weather
- Lack of Energy Assurance Assessments
- Insider Threat
- Malware/Ransomware
- BPS Modelling Accuracy

The above risks will be focus areas for MRO's activities throughout 2022 as the organization works to increase awareness and help registered entities develop or improve mitigating controls. Included in the RRA is a single heat map reflecting both the impact and likelihood of each of the reliability and security risks identified – allowing for proper prioritization of risk and related mitigation activities. MRO's three advisory councils will use this information to identify opportunities for raising risk awareness and helping registered entities across the region strengthen their individual systems.

Since the rapidly changing resource mix is one of the top risks identified by MRO and the ERO Reliability Issues Steering Committee, the RRA includes emerging trends that will likely help industry manage the resource transformation. It also explores "risks in aggregate" that can occur.

"The 2022 RRA is the result of very valuable collaboration between MRO staff and the industry subject matter experts serving on MRO's three advisory councils," said senior vice president and chief operating officer Richard Burt. "This work not only helps registered entities prioritize efforts around risk, it allows MRO staff to focus our oversight and resources appropriately."

Read more in the [2022 MRO Regional Risk Assessment](#) | [Infographic](#).

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Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the reliability and security of the bulk power system in the central region of North America, including parts of both the United States and Canada. MRO is one of six regional entities in North America operating under authority from regulators in the United States through a delegation agreement with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and in Canada under similar arrangements. The primary focus of MRO is developing and ensuring compliance with reliability standards and assessing the grid's ability to meet the demands for electricity.