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## Security Advisory Council Charter

January 2023

### I. Purpose

The MRO Security Advisory Council (SAC) is an MRO Organizational Group that provides advice and counsel to MRO's Board of Directors (board), the board's Organizational Group Oversight Committee (OGOC), staff, members and registered entities on cybersecurity, physical security, and control system security. The MRO SAC increases outreach and awareness in these key areas.

### II. Membership

Pursuant to [Policy and Procedure 3 - Establishment, Responsibilities, and Procedures of Organizational Groups and MRO Sponsored Representative on NERC Organizational Groups](#), membership on councils is based on experience and expertise. No more than two members of the MRO SAC may be an employee of a single entity or affiliated entities. At least three sectors will be represented on the MRO SAC. To the extent practicable, membership will reflect geographic diversity and balanced sector representation. MRO staff will solicit volunteers from MRO members.

Individuals with expertise and experience in the areas of cybersecurity, physical security, and control system security serve on the MRO SAC.

The MRO SAC is comprised of 15 members. Nominations for open positions on the MRO SAC will be submitted to the MRO SAC for review. The MRO SAC, with input from MRO staff, will recommend the candidate(s) best suited for open position(s) based on experience, expertise, geographic, and sector representation diversity to the board's OGOC, which will appoint the members of the MRO SAC.

The MRO SAC will annually elect its chair and vice chair pursuant to the process and terms outlined in Policy and Procedure 3.

### III. Key Objectives and Responsibilities

Key objectives and responsibilities of the MRO SAC include:

- Annually develop a work plan in coordination with MRO staff to support the MRO Strategic Plan and Metrics for approval by the OGOC and report performance progress.
- Serve as subject matter experts for MRO registered entities, members, other organizational groups, staff, as well as the board and its committees.
- Support the development of the annual MRO Regional Risk Assessment by identifying risks, trends, and mitigating activities.
- Recommend the establishment of subgroups to support the SAC work plan as appropriate. Oversee and provide direction to any subgroups.
- Maintain awareness of efforts by industry, NERC and other Regional Entity organizational groups to avoid or minimize duplicative efforts and to partner and coordinate where appropriate.
- Conduct outreach and awareness to increase security and decrease risk to the reliable and secure operations of the bulk power system:

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- Strengthen relationship between MRO registered entities; E-ISAC, DHS, FBI, ICS-CERT, Fusion Centers and other similar agencies; trade associations and forums such as CEA, EPRI, EPSA, NATF, NAGF, NRECA, EEI, APPA and IEEE; and other U.S. or Canadian federal partners such as DOE, FERC and DoD, Public Safety Canada, RCMP, Canadian Cyber Incident Response Centre.
- Facilitate and lead the design of the Annual MRO SAC Conference(s) by identifying topics and speakers. Present at the workshop as appropriate.
- Support Midwest Reliability Matters by writing articles.
- Share best practices and other pertinent information via webinars.
- Create, consolidate and distribute highly relevant security information to region security contacts, primary compliance contacts, and others in the region as appropriate.
- Develop a Highly Effective Reliability Organization (HERO) outreach effort to help registered entities assess and improve their own security practices.
- Recommend individuals to represent MRO as representatives on NERC organizational groups to the OGOC.
- Provide guidance and communicate expectations to MRO NERC representatives, receive reports from MRO NERC representatives, and disseminate the information as directed by the board's OGOC.
- Support the applicable NERC program areas.
- Annually review the charter and propose changes as needed to the OGOC
- The SAC will provide strategic support and guidance to the SACTF, review the SACTF Work Plan and Charter, and collaborate in an effort to ensure cohesion and mitigate duplicate efforts with SAC

#### **IV. Meetings**

The MRO SAC will meet quarterly or as necessary, in person or via conference call and/or web meeting.

All MRO council chairs and vice chairs will meet with the OGOC the day before the fourth quarter regularly scheduled board meeting to review the council's accomplishments during the past year and to develop work plans for the following year.

Meetings of the MRO SAC are open to public attendance; however, the meeting may be called into closed session by the chair or vice chair. Additional meeting requirements related to agendas and minutes, voting and proxy, and rules of conduct are outlined in MRO Policy and Procedure 3.

#### **V. Costs**

Meeting costs incurred by MRO SAC members are reimbursable by MRO according to MRO Policy and Procedure 2 – Expense Reimbursement.

#### **VI. Reporting Requirements**

The chair or vice chair of the MRO SAC will provide an oral report to the OGOC regarding the council's work as well as any emerging issues during the annual scheduled in person meeting. During the other quarterly meetings, the chair or vice chair of the MRO SAC will provide a written report to the OGOC. The

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chair or vice chair of the MRO SAC will provide a report to the OGOC during the fourth quarter meeting of the OGOC reviewing past accomplishments and highlighting work for the coming year.

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