



Minutes of the MRO Security Advisory Council (SAC) Open Meeting

WebEx

June 23, 2021 from 9:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Central

*Notice for this meeting was electronically posted to the MRO website [here](#) on May 24, 2021.
A final agenda, including advanced reading materials, was also posted on June 16, 2021.*

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

SAC Chair Jason Nations called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Estee Nauer, Security Administrator advised the chair that a quorum of the SAC was present. A complete list of attendees is included as [Exhibit A](#).

2. Standards of Conduct and Antitrust Guidelines

Pursuant to Policy and Procedure 4, Chair Nations highlighted MRO's Standards of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, and Antitrust Guidelines.

3. Annual Charter Review

SAC Vice Chair John Breckenridge provided an overview of the SAC charter and noted minor grammatical changes. The SAC discussed the bullet regarding "developing a Highly Effective Reliability Organization (HERO) outreach effort to help registered entities assess and improve their own security practices." The SAC discussed a suggestion for participation in the sector clearance programs, as the Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee (CIPC) has done in the past.

The group discussed the SAC charter. A member noted that the relationship between the SAC and the SACTF is not noted in the SAC charter, and the group discussed whether or not to address this omission in a future iteration of the charter. The SAC also discussed whether to allow nominees not chosen for seats on the SAC to be carry over nominees for open SACTF seats. The SAC discussed ways to avoid duplication of efforts in preparing the SAC and SACTF work plans. Vice Chair Breckenridge asked for volunteers for updating the charter; MRO SAC Member Brett Lawler agreed to assist. Discussion ensued.

4. 2021 Regional Security Risk Assessment Update

Chair Nations provided an overview of the Regional Security Risk Assessment (RSRA) noting simplification of the surveys and the need to ensure the outcome from all the surveys is utilized. MRO SAC Member Matt Szyda, Chair Nations, Vice Chair Breckenridge, SAC Member Sam Ellis, SAC Member Warren LaPlante, SAC Member Jamey Sample and SAC Member Chad Wasinger agreed to work with MRO on the RSRA. Discussion ensued.

5. NERC Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC)

Marc Child, NERC RSTC Representative, provided an overview on the RSTC from the last meeting noting a change in leadership, deliverables and action items from the June 2021 meeting. Highlights included approvals and endorsements of guidelines and reference documents and informational items.



The RSTC's subgroup information and initiatives was also presented to the council. Child provided the link to the RSTC: [Reliability and Security Technical Committee \(RSTC\) \(nerc.com\)](https://www.nerc.com/Reliability%20and%20Security%20Technical%20Committee%20(RSTC)). Discussion ensued.

6. MRO SACTF Update

- a. MRO SACTF Threat Call. SACTF Chair Lawler provided an overview on the call statistics (e.g., call participants, length of calls, etc.).
- b. MRO SACTF COVID-19 Call. Chair Lawler provided an overview of the statistics for the COVID-19 calls noting the calls will be merged back into the regular SACTF call. The last COVID-19 call was held on June 16, 2021. The group was commended for the readiness, proper duration and value of these calls. Discussion ensued.
- c. MRO SACTF Work Plan. Chair Lawler lead the discussion on the work plan providing an overview of the upcoming outreach. Discussion ensued.
- d. MRO SAC Threat Forum Open Source Information Sharing. Chair Lawler mentioned the new TLP: GREEN document recently rolled out by the SACTF to share important threat information from previous calls on a weekly basis. The definition of TLP: GREEN was highlighted to underscore who may access the information and how it may be distributed. The Threat Forum concept has garnered attention throughout industry; the SACTF has been recognized as a leader in this area. Discussion ensued.

7. 2021 SAC Work Plan

Chair Nations led the discussion on the work plan. MRO Director of Security Steen Fjalstad noted a request from the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council (CMEPAC) for a speaker to present on the risk matrix heat map at the July 27, 2021 conference. Fjalstad was selected as the lead at the conference on behalf of the SAC. Chair Nations provided a brief overview of the conference logistics and asked for volunteers to assist with the Security Conference. Discussion ensued.

8. Joint Meeting with the OGOC

- a. MRO SACTF Calls and Threat Forum Open Source Information Sharing. Chair Nations provided an overview of the statistics from the SACTF Threat Calls noting the increase in duration and attendees and the start and stand down of the separate COVID-19 Call. Various attendees' contribution to the calls was mentioned. The TLP:GREEN SACTF Open Source Information Sharing document was presented. The group was commended for ensuring the outreach effort helped registered entities. The group was encouraged to monitor attendance of the SACTF calls to ensure access to the information sharing document did not detract from attendance. Discussion ensued.
- b. Security Conference and Technical Training. Chair Nations provided an overview of the planning and logistics of the upcoming conference, noting a cyber and physical track training along with the actual conference and included topics. He noted OGOC Member Jeanne Tisinger will participate in an "Ask Me Anything" portion of the conference. Discussion ensued.



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- c. Regional Security Risk Assessment. It was noted that the risks identified during the assessment are being rolled into the training portion. The survey to obtain risk information is sent each year to the SAC plus list. The SAC will work with the CMEPAC on risk, along with the E-ISAC providing information on risk. Discussion ensued.

 - d. NERC RSTC. Chair Nations provide an overview of the RSTC group discussed during the previous meeting. Child provided information on the RSTC's work and guidance, which alleviated concerns regarding the CIPC expiring. It was noted that the SAC may pursue possible topics for outreach and further work from those identified by the RSTC. The OGOC approved adding MRO-sponsored NERC representatives for the RSTC subgroups SITES and Supply Chain working group. MRO Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Richard Burt and OGOC Chair Keri Glitch commended the SAC and Chair Nations for his dedication. Discussion ensued.

9. Other Business

No other business was raised.

10. Adjourn

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Dana Klem, Reliability Analysis Administrator

Reviewed and Submitted by: Steen Fjalstad, Director of Security



Exhibit A – Meeting Attendees

Council Members Present	
Name	Company, Role
Jason Nations	Oklahoma Gas and Electric, Chair
John Breckenridge	Evergy, Vice Chair
Brett Lawler	Xcel Energy
Clayton Whitacre	Great River Energy
Chad Wasinger	Sunflower Electric Power Cooperation
Jamey Sample	Xcel Energy
Jodi Jensen	Western Area Power Administration
Justin Haar	Minnkota Power Cooperative
Michael Meason	Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
Sam Ellis	Southwest Power Pool
Warren LaPlante	Allele/Minnesota Power
MRO Staff	
Name	Title
Dana Klem	Reliability Analysis Administrator
Estee Nauer	Security Administrator
Jess Syring	CIP Compliance Manager
Julie Peterson	Assistant Corporate Secretary and Senior Counsel
Michael Taube	Senior Compliance Engineer CIP
Richard Burt	Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Steen Fjalstad	Director of Security
OGOC Members	
Name	Company
Keri Glitch	MISO, OGOC Chair



Paul Crist	Lincoln Electric System, OGOC Vice Chair
Dehn Stevens	MidAmerican Company, OGOC Member
Dr. Paul Barber	Independent Director, OGOC Member
Iqbal Dhani	Saskatchewan Power Corporation, OGOC Member
Jeanne Tisinger	Independent Director, OGOC Member
Jennifer Flandermeyer	Evergy, OGOC Member
JoAnn Thompson	Otter Tail Power Company, OGOC Member
Lloyd Linke	Western Area Power Administration, OGOC Member
Tony Clark	Manitoba Hydro, OGOC Member