
Minutes of the Organizational Groups Oversight Committee Meeting

Webex

June 23, 2021, 8:30 a.m. to 10:18 a.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 posted on June 16, 2021.*

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

The Organizational Groups Oversight Committee (OGOC) Chair, Keri Glitch, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Julie Peterson, Assistant Corporate Secretary and Senior Counsel, 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

Peterson reviewed Policy and Procedure 4 containing MRO's Standards of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, and Antitrust Guidelines.

3. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included draft minutes from the OGOC's March 24, 2021 meeting, as well as updated charters from the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council (CMEPAC), Subject Matter Expert Team (SMET), Reliability Advisory Council (RAC), and Protective Relay Subgroup (PRS).

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved the consent agenda as presented in the meeting materials.

4. Reliability Advisory Council Report

Director of Reliability Analysis, Bryan Clark, provided a report on behalf of the Reliability Advisory Council (RAC). He reported that the RACs' current areas of focus include the upcoming Reliability Conference, planning a cold weather workshop, and the RAC 2021 work plan.

He outlined the RAC accomplishments, including newsletter contributions, a RAC subgroup's review of the MRO Regional Summer Assessment prepared by MRO staff, and a preliminary review of the challenges involved in the February 2021 cold weather from the SPP region.

Clark noted that current challenges identified by the RAC include turnover in technical expertise within key areas of the industry, as well as educating the public regarding the use of load shed as a reliability tool of last resort in order to avoid cascading outages. To address the latter challenge, Clark identified newsletter articles and webinars as possible approaches. While it was acknowledged that those approaches would reach the industry, it was also suggested to aim education efforts beyond the registered entities, including toward regulators. Clark acknowledged an action item for the RAC to consider inviting regulators to any webinars scheduled on this topic.

The RAC was encouraged to discuss coordination between the gas and electric industries, particularly with respect to load shed and identifying critical gas facilities that need to be powered in an



emergency. Clark acknowledged the RAC has not discussed this topic in detail, and noted the request to do so. He indicated newsletter articles or webinars may also be considered, and noted the topic will be discussed at the 2021 MRO Reliability Conference. In undertaking these education efforts, the RAC was advised to be mindful that gas assets are not all within the jurisdiction of federal regulators; many are within the jurisdiction of state regulators.

5. Security Advisory Council Report

Richard Burt, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, provided a report on behalf of the Security Advisor Council (SAC). Among the SAC's current activities, Burt highlighted continued outreach activities, collaboration with other MRO advisory councils, and planning for the Security Conference, at which MRO Board member Jeannie Tisinger will be welcomed as a speaker and Q&A panel member.

Burt noted that the Security Advisory Council Threat Forum (SACTF) has been recognized as a model for information sharing. Early in the pandemic, the SACTF stood up a second weekly call focused on COVID-related matters. The group has concluded the need for this call is now limited and will be discontinued going forward. To support the transition, COVID-related topics will continue as a recurring topic at the standard weekly SACTF meeting agenda.

Burt noted that other regions do not have forums like the SACTF, but many have inquired about the SACTF's calls. Steen Fjalstad, Director of Security and MRO staff liaison to the SAC, continues to work with the other regions as they explore furthering their security outreach efforts.

When asked if gas-only utilities may participate in the forum directly, Burt noted this would not be allowed due to the criteria that participants be a BPS asset owner or operator. Burt noted that the gas industry does have an Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC), which coordinates closely with the E-ISAC.

The OGOC considered a recommendation from the SAC to approve Laura Liston, Alliant Energy, as a new member of the SAC to fill a seat with term ending December 31, 2022.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved Laura Liston as a new member of the SAC.

6. Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council Report

Jeff Norman, Director of Compliance, provided a report of the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council (CMEPAC). The CMEPAC is currently focused on membership changes, annual charter reviews, and the CMEPAC monthly call, which is being extended from its pilot program to a standing monthly call.

Norman outlined accomplishments of the CMEPAC, including planning for the CMEP Conference, and authoring an article regarding MRO HEROs™ published in the June issue of the Midwest Reliability Matters newsletter.

Norman reported that the CMEPAC was unable to hold a webinar in the second quarter, but is committed to providing webinars in the third and fourth quarters of 2021.



The OGOC considered a recommendation from the CMEPAC to approve Fred Meyer, Algonquin Power and Utilities Corporation, as a new member of the CMEPAC to fill the seat with term ending December 31, 2022.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved Fred Meyer as a new member of the CMEPAC.

The OGOC considered a recommendation from the CMEPAC to approve Bill Schultz, Southern Power Company, as a new member of the NERC Standards Review Forum (NSRF) to fill the seat with term ending December 31, 2021.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved Bill Shultz as a new member of the NSRF.

Norman advised the OGOC that the CMEPAC recommends changes to the NSRF charter. Peterson outlined the proposed changes, including allowing three seats per sector, and clarifying that seats may not be filled from outside of the sector designated for each seat. The changes are intended to restore and preserve sector balance.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved changes to the NSRF charter as presented.

7. Policy and Procedure 3 (Organizational Groups) and Guidelines for NERC Representatives

Burt outlined proposed changes to Policy and Procedure 3 (Organizational Groups) (PP3) relating the OGOC's discussion during its March 24, 2021 meeting wherein the OGOC agreed to discontinue staff recommendations regarding nominees for organizational groups.

Additional changes were proposed to PP3 and the Guidelines for NERC Representatives to reflect the changing relationship between MRO-sponsored NERC representatives and MRO staff. Under these proposed changes, MRO-sponsored representatives would no longer be asked to speak on behalf of MRO when participating in the NERC groups.

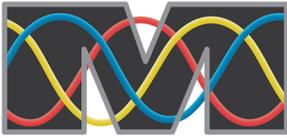
Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved changes to Policy and Procedure 3 (Organizational Groups) as presented.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved changes to the Guidelines for NERC Representatives as presented.

8. Organizational Group Member Diversity

Keri Glitch, Chair of the Organizational Group Oversight Committee, next briefed the OGOC regarding ways to increase diversity within MRO's organizational groups. She outlined a two-fold approach – (1) to improve participation from within the existing pool of candidates, and (2) to grow the pool of candidates.

Committee members expressed continued support for the effort, though caution was also expressed to be mindful of MRO resources and the associated budget constraints in furthering these efforts. Burt added that steps to increase awareness – such as newsletter articles, modifying solicitation and



communications, using LinkedIn, and presenting to the other advisory councils – should not require significant staff resources. MRO efforts would seek to augment, not duplicate, the existing efforts of the members.

The OGOC approved progressing the approaches outlined the report, including efforts to educate members, sponsor individuals, and develop a marketing campaign.

Burt also noted an action item to remind the advisory councils to maintain a focus on broad acquired diversity to ensure the groups are also diverse in their geographic, company (e.g., no more than two members from the same company per group), role (e.g., executive, technical), and expertise representations.

9. MRO-sponsored NERC Representatives

Burt briefed the OGOC regarding proposed changes to MRO-sponsorship of NERC representatives. He noted that NERC has recently completed a reorganization of its groups, which prompted MRO to review all NERC groups and reassess to which groups MRO should sponsor representatives.

Bill Steiner, Director of Risk Assessment and Mitigation, shared the analysis performed by MRO staff, and its recommendations for continuing, beginning, or discontinuing sponsorship. MRO staff recommended increasing sponsorship from six to thirteen representatives. Steiner noted that the budget associated with sponsorship is primarily reimbursement of travel expenses. Therefore, it is anticipated that any budget impacts will be mitigated by an expected increase in remote meetings.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the OGOC unanimously approved MRO staff recommendations for MRO-sponsored NERC representatives, as presented.

10. Quarterly Report of NERC Organizational Groups

Chair Glitch noted the written quarterly report of the NERC Organizational Groups. There were no questions.

11. Joint Security Advisory Council Pre-Meeting Discussion

Burt provided an overview of the topics to be discussed at joint SAC and OGOC meeting.

12. Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Chair Glitch adjourned the meeting at 10:18.

Prepared by: Julie Peterson, Assistant Corporate Secretary and Senior Counsel

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



Exhibit A – Meeting Attendees

Committee Members Present	
Name	Company, Role
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 Dhami	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
Board Members Present	
Name	Company, Role
Charles Marshall	ITC Holdings Corp., Board Member
Michael Desselle	Southwest Power Pool, Board Member
Silvia Parada Mitchell	NextEra Energy, Board Member
MRO Staff	
Name	Title
Bill Steiner	Director of Risk Assessment and Mitigation
Bryan Clark	Director of Reliability Analysis
Jeff Norman	Director of Compliance Monitoring
Jessie Mitchell	Director of Communications
Julie Peterson	Assistant Corporate Secretary and Senior Counsel
Karla Schiller	Director of Human Resources



Lam Chung	Vice President and Engineer for Strategy, Innovation, and Finance
Lisa Stellmaker	Executive Administrator and Office Manager
Richard Burt	Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Rumyana Kreidler	Senior Risk Assessment and Mitigation Engineer
Sara Patrick	President and CEO
Tasha Ward	Director of Enforcement and External Affairs