

## Minutes

# Technology and Security Committee Meeting

February 3, 2021 | 2:30–3:30 p.m. Eastern

WebEx

### Call to Order

Chair Suzanne Keenan called to order a duly noticed open meeting of the Technology and Security Committee (the “Committee”) of the Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC” or the “Company”) on February 3, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern, and a quorum was declared present.

Present at the meeting were:

#### Committee Members

Suzanne Keenan, Chair  
Kenneth W. DeFontes, Jr.  
Robin E. Manning  
Jan Schori  
Roy Thilly, *ex officio*

#### Board Members

Jane Allen  
Robert G. Clarke  
George S. Hawkins  
Jim Piro  
James B. Robb, NERC President and Chief Executive Officer  
Colleen Sidford

#### NERC Staff

Tina Buzzard, Assistant Corporate Secretary  
Manny Cancel, Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the E-ISAC  
Shamai Elstein, Assistant General Counsel  
Howard Gugel, Vice President, Engineering and Standards  
Kelly Hanson, Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer  
Stan Hoptroff, Vice President, Business Technology  
Dee Humphries, Director, Project Management Office  
Mark Lauby, Senior Vice President and Chief Engineer  
Justin Lofquist, Director, Enterprise Application Architecture  
Sonia Mendonça, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary  
Janet Sena, Senior Vice President, External Affairs  
Andy Sharp, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Mechelle Thomas, Vice President, Compliance

### Introduction and Chair’s Remarks

Ms. Keenan welcomed the Committee members and thanked the IT and cyber security professionals for their work amid COVID-19. She recognized Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) staff in supporting industry response to the recent supply chain compromise and thanked industry for their prompt response to the NERC Alert.

**NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines**

Ms. Buzzard directed the participants' attention to the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines included in the agenda, and indicated that all questions regarding antitrust compliance or related matters should be directed to Ms. Mendonça.

**Regular Agenda****Minutes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the November 4, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as presented at the meeting.

**Proposed Amendments to Committee Mandate**

Mr. Elstein noted that the Committee is required to review its mandate on an annual basis. He highlighted that NERC is proposing revisions to the mandate to specifically reference the committee's role in: (1) reviewing NERC's cyber security posture at least once annually; (2) providing the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board with recommendations regarding the E-ISAC's budget as part of the annual business plan and budgeting process; and (3) serving as the Board's liaison with the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council's Member Executive Committee for the E-ISAC.

After discussion, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee recommended the revised mandate for approval by the Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee.

**Supply Chain Compromise**

Mr. Cancel provided an update on the recent supply chain compromise. He reviewed the timeline of events, noting that the supply chain attack targeted the SolarWinds Orion software suite. Mr. Cancel presented on NERC's activation of the Business Continuity Plan and ERO Crisis Action Plan in response to the event. He highlighted NERC's ongoing outreach and coordination with stakeholders, trade associations, and government agencies.

**E-ISAC Operations**

Mr. Cancel provided an overview of E-ISAC's operations. He highlighted: (1) increased membership; (2) the cyber and physical security threat landscape; (3) GridEx VI; (4) member and partner engagement; (5) the upcoming E-ISAC Portal upgrade; and (6) the 2022 budget cycle.

**ERO Enterprise Align Project**

Ms. Humphries and Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the ERO Enterprise Align project. Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the Align Project, noting that it will provide the ERO Enterprise with a secure, effective, and harmonized platform with which to execute its Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) responsibilities. Ms. Humphries highlighted: (1) the Align and ERO Secure Evidence Locker (SEL) timeline; (2) the change management process; (3) Release 2; and (4) current challenges.

**ERO Enterprise Secure Evidence Locker**

Mr. Hoptroff and Mr. Lofquist provided an update on the ERO SEL. Mr. Hoptroff provided an overview of the ERO SEL, noting that it will support the secure transfer, management, retention, and destruction of sensitive registered entity files used in CMEP activities. Mr. Lofquist presented on: (1) the ERO SEL's strategic approach to security; (2) the current status of the ERO SEL; and (3) potential risks.

**ERO Enterprise Business Technology Projects**

Mr. Hoptroff provided an update on the ERO Enterprise business technology projects, referencing the materials included in the advance agenda package. He also presented on the Security Advisory Group, an advisory body established by NERC Management that represents all industry sectors.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,



Sonia Mendonca  
Corporate Secretary