

## Announcement

### NERC Emphasizes Collaborative Enterprise Efforts, DOE Partnership; Board Welcomes New Members

February 7, 2019

**LOS ANGELES** – The first NERC Board of Trustees meeting of 2019 took place in Los Angeles on February 7. Chair Roy Thilly opened the meeting by welcoming new Board member **Colleen Sidford**, who was elected by the Member Representatives Committee (MRC) during their February 6 meeting.

Most recently, Sidford served in a series of roles with Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG) from 2003 until 2013, including vice president and chief investment officer, vice president and treasurer, and assistant treasurer. Prior to joining OPG, Sidford founded and operated a financial services consulting company based in Europe, served as an executive with The Molson Companies and with Bank of America, and held a variety of positions with the Bank of Nova Scotia. The MRC additionally re-elected Robert Clarke, Kenneth DeFontes, and David Goulding to new three-year terms.

Remarks were provided by Kevin Payne, chief executive officer at Southern California Edison; Katie Jereza, deputy assistant secretary at the Department of Energy; and David Morton, CAMPUT representative.

Payne thanked NERC and industry for the important work being done to keep focus on grid reliability and provided an update on California's efforts following the wildfires and toward a clean energy future, while ensuring a reliable and flexible grid. Jereza noted that the long-term partnership between NERC, FERC and DOE continues to be central point toward ensuring reliability of the bulk power system with engagement occurring at all levels.

Jim Robb, president and CEO at NERC, began his remarks by requesting a moment of silence to recognize the passing of former FERC Chair Kevin McIntyre. Following that, Robb noted that industry is changing at a rapid pace and there are many opportunities within the ERO Enterprise to improve our future.

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“The ERO Enterprise is a great model and I am excited about the coming opportunities. NERC and regional leadership are working toward a collective approach within the ERO Enterprise to renew our efforts to reduce silos, improve collaboration and drive more alignment in our processes,” Robb said. “Our goal is to have the ERO Enterprise work as one synchronous machine — effectively, efficiently and collaboratively.”

Robb agreed with Jereza’s comments on the criticality of the partnership between the ERO Enterprise and DOE, noting a recent meeting with Under Secretary Mark Menezes focused on the joint commitment of both organizations to address cyber security risks to the grid.

“Under Secretary Menezes and I agree that the relationship between NERC and DOE is vitally important to our industry, and we must continue working together in support of our shared mission of a reliable, secure bulk power system. Cyber security is one of the greatest risks we face on the bulk power system and information sharing is key,” Robb said. “DOE, industry and NERC have come together in support of CRISP (Cybersecurity Risk Information Sharing Program), and DOE’s funding for additional membership is a key element in our collaboration. We continue to pursue ways to advance our security analytics and ensure a collective approach to security among industry, DOE, the labs and NERC’s E-ISAC.”

Robb also noted that the ERO’s 2018 accomplishments were highlighted in the newly revamped [2018 Annual Report](#). The report summarizes activities of the past year in the following categories: Achieving and Maintaining Risk-Based Operations; Being More Effective and Efficient; Identifying and Assessing Emerging Risks; Promoting Leading Security Practices, Information Sharing, Analysis and Resilience; Transferring Knowledge and Communicating Effectively; and Strengthening Engagement.

The Board received an update from Howard Gugel, NERC’s senior director of Engineering and Standards, on the [Standards Efficiency Review](#). This effort is part of NERC’s focus on ensuring NERC Reliability Standards appropriately address risks to the bulk power system. Industry ballots on proposed retirements will be initiated in the first quarter of this year, Gugel said. Going forward, the team will work to develop, evaluate and identify best efficiency concepts, conduct industry webinars and begin implementation of concepts. The project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2019.

In Board action:

- Revisions were adopted to **TPL-007-3 – Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events**, which create options for Canadian entities to leverage operating experience of GMD effects and National Resources Canada research efforts to defining alternative GMD benchmarks, and recognize the unique regulatory frameworks specific to Canadian jurisdictions.
- Modifications were approved to **CIP-008-6 – Cyber Security – Incident Reporting and Response Planning**, which requires mandatory reporting of incidents that might facilitate subsequent efforts to harm the reliable operation of the bulk power system. This modification was undertaken in response to FERC Order 848.

- Revisions were adopted to regional reliability standard **IRO-006-WECC-3 – Qualified Path Unscheduled Flow Relief** based on a required review of the standard.
- Modification was approved to the retirement date of regional reliability standard **PRC-004-WECC-2 – Protection System and Remedial Action Scheme Misoperation** to coincide with the effective date of Reliability Standard **PRC-012-2 – Remedial Action Schemes**.

The Board also received an update on Western Reliability Coordinator (RC) activities from the Western Electricity Coordinating Council and Peak Reliability. Branden Sudduth, vice president of Reliability Planning and Performance Analysis at WECC, highlighted the work done by NERC and WECC to ensure readiness during the upcoming transition from Peak Reliability coordinator function to CAISO, SPP, AESO and BC Hydro. Specifically, work is focused on: system operating limit methodology and congestion management; coordinated operations of phase shifting transformers and outage coordination; remedial action scheme coordination; and blackstart restoration.

Other RC transition activities include twice-monthly NERC and WECC participation in RC-to-RC coordination meetings; quarterly WECC RC Forums; and industry transition coordination groups, which provide stakeholders the opportunity to discuss any RC issues. Marie Jordan, CEO of Peak Reliability, updated participants on Peak’s wind-down activities as an RC.

Attendees were encouraged to make plans to attend the [2019 Reliability Leadership Summit](#), which is scheduled for March 14 in Washington, D.C. Every two years, NERC and the Reliability Issues Steering Committee host this event, bringing together senior leaders of the reliability community to assist NERC in prioritizing key reliability challenges.

The Board also authorized NERC to enter into a termination agreement for the delegation agreement between NERC and Florida Reliability Coordinating Council (FRCC) and approved the transfer of registered entities in the FRCC footprint to the SERC Reliability Corporation footprint.

Board presentations may be found by clicking [here](#). The next Board of Trustees meeting May 7 in St. Louis, Mo.

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*The vision for the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) Enterprise, which is comprised of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the seven Regional Entities (REs), is a highly reliable and secure North American bulk power system (BPS). Our mission is to assure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the grid.*