

Announcement

Board Honors Tim Roxey with Retirement Resolution; Receives Updates on ERO Activities

November 7, 2018

ATLANTA – NERC’s quarterly Board of Trustees meeting began with Chair Roy Thilly welcoming the approximately 200 stakeholders to Atlanta, where NERC is headquartered, saying, “I continue to be pleased with the number of attendees at our Board meetings. It shows everyone’s commitment to reliability.”

Thilly also welcomed the distinguished guests in attendance: Cheryl LaFleur, commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Catherine Jereza, deputy assistant secretary at the Department of Energy; and David Morton, CAMPUT representative to NERC.

LaFleur praised the efforts of the Standards Efficiency Review underway. However, she cautioned NERC to focus on identifying standards or requirements that need to be phased out but also on identifying what standards could be needed going forward to address emerging issues. Jereza discussed several DOE initiatives and touched on the recent notice of proposed rulemaking on Critical Electric Infrastructure Information, which was posted in October. She urged attendees to comment on the proposed procedures.

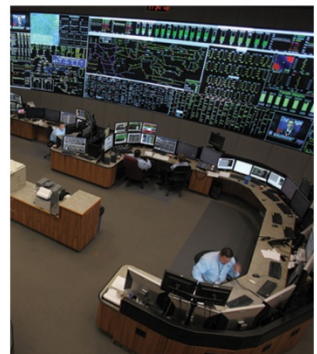
The Board’s first order of business was to bid a fond farewell to Tim Roxey, NERC’s vice president and chief E-ISAC operations officer, who is retiring. Roxey began his work at the E-ISAC in 2009 and brought a broad wealth of knowledge related to security of the bulk power system to the organization. He continued to focus on security throughout his tenure at NERC, including standing up the E-ISAC. The Board honored Roxey with a resolution conveying their appreciation for his years of service and dedication to security both within the electric industry and across the nation.

Roxey thanked the Board and audience for the recognition, noting that all the work we do and successes we have are dependent on each other. “You can’t have a reliable, secure grid without the dedication and hard work of all of you in this room. The future is very bright, and I leave it in good hands.”

President and Chief Executive Officer Jim Robb noted in his president’s remarks that after seven months as NERC’s CEO his focus remains on four key areas: Western Reliability

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Coordinator changes; integration of inverter-based technology; the pace of the changing resource mix; and security.

“I have spent a substantial amount of time listening and learning — to NERC staff, to ERO Enterprise staff and to industry and government partners,” Robb said. “I’ve learned a lot about what we are doing well, what we should focus on in the future and how we can provide more relevant and actionable information to industry.”

Robb stated that education, collaboration and information sharing across borders is paramount to ensuring the reliability and security of the North American grid, noting the successful completion of NERC’s eighth annual grid security conference, GridSecCon, in October.

“Since our August Board meeting, we have undertaken a number of activities to strengthen our Canadian engagement with NERC and the E-ISAC. We have hosted several webinars to lay the groundwork to foster stronger relationships, added another Canadian representative to the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council and are kicking off what we call the Canadian Roadshow, which entails visiting with the provinces to educate staff on security capabilities within the E-ISAC.”

In an example of a collaborative effort for a highly reliable bulk power system in North America, the Board authorized the execution of a memorandum of understanding between NERC, the Midwest Reliability Organization and Manitoba Hydro that extends the current framework in Manitoba for monitoring compliance to NERC Reliability Standards. The MOU would cover compliance monitoring for standards developed by Manitoba Hydro and permit the sharing of information among the signatories with respect to compliance monitoring of Manitoba-developed standards.

Last November, the Board directed the Reliability Issues Steering Committee’s to develop a framework examining resilience. The *Report on Resilience*, accepted by the Board at this meeting, found that resilience has consistently been, and should continue to be, a central component of NERC’s mission. The report also found that NERC currently engages in a broad array of activities that support resilience.

The Board received several updates on ERO activities, including the Western Interconnection Reliability Coordinator (RC) functions, supply chain standards activities and the Standards Efficiency Review.

Melanie Frye, president and CEO at WECC, provided the RC functions update, highlighting the work NERC and WECC have done with Peak RE, CAISO, SPP, Alberta and affected stakeholders to ensure readiness during the transfer of RC duties. Specifically, work is focused on: system operating limit methodology and congestion management; coordinated operations of phase shifting transformers – facility outage coordination; RAS coordination; and blackstart restoration.

Other RC transition activities include NERC and WECC staff-led RC-to-RC coordination meetings, which are held twice a month; industry transition and Peak RE winddown tracking; and four RC Forums, giving stakeholders the opportunity discuss any RC issues.

Throughout 2018, the ERO has focused efforts on [supply chain standards activities](#), undertaken in response to Board resolutions designed to establish a common understanding of the supply chain risk to the bulk power system and initiate activities to mitigate those risks. These activities included the approval of the supply chain standards and their implementation plan. Work will begin soon to modify the standards to address electronic control or monitoring systems, as directed by FERC and which is due in 24 months. FERC also directed NERC to make an informational

filing on progress to date, including filing the final report on supply chain risks to be presented the Board at their February 2019 meeting. Other activities include an effectiveness evaluation plan that is being developed with the CIPC Advisory Task.

Another discussion took place on the [Standards Efficiency Review](#), which is part of NERC's focus on ensuring NERC Reliability Standards appropriately address risks to the bulk power system. A project drafting team (Project 2018-03 SER) was appointed in October and industry ballots on proposed retirements are planned to occur in the first quarter of 2019. Going forward, the team will work to develop and evaluate new efficiency concepts and begin implementation. The first phase of this project is scheduled for completion by the second quarter of 2019.

In other Board action, one Reliability Standard was adopted, one regional standard was retired and the *2019–2021 Reliability Standards Development Plan* was approved.

- **TPL-001-5 – Transmission System Planning Performance.** This standard updates references to modeling, data and analysis that requires the planning assessment of single points of failure, known outages and stability studies for spare equipment strategy.
- **IRO-006-TRE – IROL and SOL Mitigation, ERCOT.** This regional standard was retired because requirements are covered in the continent-wide Reliability Standards.
- **2019–2021 Reliability Standards Development Plan.** The draft of the plan was posted for industry comment from August 8 to August 31, and it was endorsed by the Standards Committee on September 13.

Board presentations may be found by clicking [here](#). The next Board of Trustees meeting is February 7 in Manhattan Beach, Calif.

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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.