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Last month was Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience month. This observance is designed to build awareness and appreciation of the importance of our nation's critical infrastructure. Of course, for those of us in the electric industry, this awareness is our job every month—and every day—of the year. Security and resilience have consistently been a central component of the ERO's mission to ensure the effective and efficient reduction of risk to the reliability and security of the grid.

Resilience in particular, as it relates to the bulk power system (BPS), has gotten a lot of attention lately. As policymakers consider what it means to improve the resilience of our grid, stakeholders recently reexamined the meaning of resilience in today's changing environment and how it impacts NERC activities. The Reliability Issues Steering Committee's (RISC) [Report on Resilience](#) provides a new framework on resilience and how additional activities might further support resilience of the grid.

The first step to creating a common understanding around resilience is defining terms. In its report, the RISC compiled resources generated in previous resilience studies and used them to develop four key resilience attributes. Those attributes are:

**Robustness** - The ability to absorb shocks and continue operating.

**Resourcefulness** - Detecting and managing a crisis as it unfolds.

**Rapid Recovery** - Getting services back as quickly as possible in a coordinated and controlled manner.



**Adaptability** - Incorporating lessons learned from past events.

Using these four concepts, the RISC report lays out a Resilience Framework that underscores NERC's longstanding focus on aspects of resilience, and its emphasis on reexamining the issue in the face of our changing resource mix. The framework offers help to entities by highlighting key aspects of resilience with suggested activities for each.

The Report on Resilience is fairly succinct and I encourage everyone to read it. The energy landscape is rapidly changing, and we need to be ready to respond to those changes. If you have any resilience or reliability-related concerns or questions, please reach out to us.

Regards,  
Lane Lanford

## Texas RE Now Participating in CRISP

If you use the Texas RE Extranet, you may have noticed new banner language at sign-in. Texas RE is now participating in the Cybersecurity Risk Information Sharing Program (CRISP). CRISP is a voluntary, subscription-based NERC program managed by the E-ISAC that facilitates the exchange of detailed cybersecurity information between the industry, the E-ISAC, the Department of Energy (DOE), and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). The program enables owners and operators to better protect their networks from sophisticated cyber threats by facilitating the timely sharing of government-enhanced threat information, enhance situational awareness, and better protect critical infrastructure. For more information about the CRISP program, visit <https://www.eisac.com/>.



## Upcoming Events

### *Texas RE Annual, MRC, AG&F, and Board Meetings*

Join us at 8:30 a.m. on December 5, 2018 for our quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors, the Audit, Governance & Finance Committee, and the Member Representatives Committee, as well as our annual membership meeting. NERC Board Trustee Jan Schori will attend the meetings. All meetings will be held at the Texas RE Conference Center at 805 Las Cimas Parkway, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78746. Meeting materials are posted on the Texas RE calendar.

### Texas RE Board of Directors

John T. Coughlin  
Chair  
(Independent)

Liz Jones  
MRC Vice Chair  
(Affiliated)

Fred N. Day, IV  
Vice Chair  
(Independent)

DeAnn T. Walker  
Chairman,  
Public Utility  
Commission  
(*Ex officio*, non-voting)

Dr. Delores Etter  
(Independent)

Milton B. Lee  
(Independent)

Vacant  
Public Counsel,  
Office of Public Utility  
Counsel  
(*Ex officio*, non-voting)

W. Lane Lanford  
President and CEO

Brenda Hampton  
MRC Chair  
(Affiliated)

RSVP to [information@texasre.org](mailto:information@texasre.org) or join us via [WebEx](#).

[Annual Meeting](#) | [MRC Meeting](#) | [AG&F Meeting](#) | [Board Meeting](#)

### *Talk with Texas RE Enforcement Forum*

Texas RE will present the next installment of our semi-annual Enforcement Forum at the Talk with Texas RE on December 13, 2018. The forum is intended to be an open dialogue between stakeholders and Texas RE's enforcement staff regarding current areas of interest and best practices. Participants are encouraged to ask questions and be ready to actively participate in a conversation with Texas RE staff. Unlike typical Talk with Texas RE events, listeners on phone lines will be unmuted to encourage participation.

To register for the webinar, please [click here](#).

## Talk with Texas REcap

On November 29, 2018, Risk Assessment Manager Jeff Hargis discussed Compliance Oversight Plans (COPs). Both COPs and Inherent Risk Assessments (IRAs) are handled by Texas RE's Risk Assessment group, but the two are different from one another. A COP is a risk-based plan for compliance oversight of a registered entity that:

- Profiles an entity's risk to the BPS;
- Establishes a schedule for compliance monitoring activities; and
- Lists all Reliability Standards relevant to risk described in the COP.

There are several key differences between an IRA and a COP. A COP establishes a broad risk profile, while an IRA is an in-depth risk analysis of an entity generated for a single engagement. A COP is not engagement specific; rather, it creates an overall engagement strategy for an entity. Individual engagement scopes are still produced as part of the IRA process.

The COP enables Texas RE to make risk-based decisions on how and when it engages with entities. In addition, the COP enables entities to have some input into their compliance oversight. Entities that are actively engaged in reducing their risk, including enhancing their internal controls, may see the intervals between their audits increase and the scope of engagements decrease, within the limits established by the NERC Rules of Procedure.

Starting Q1 of 2019, Texas RE will begin creating COPs for every entity based on its risk to the BPS. Those COPs will then be used to develop future engagement schedules. If you have any questions regarding COPs, please contact [Jeff.Hargis@texasre.org](mailto:Jeff.Hargis@texasre.org).

## Community Service

Texas RE staff recently volunteered at an Austin food bank to help prepare meals for after-school programs in Central Texas. The meals were made with food donated by local organizations and in partnership with H.E.B. Thank you to the Central Texas Food Bank for letting us help prepare meals for nearly 1,000 Texas children!



Is your company a [Texas RE Member](#)? Here's how to join:

1. Complete the [Membership Application](#)
2. Send the completed Membership Application to [Texas RE Information](#)
3. After your Membership Application is received, you will be sent a Membership Agreement for review and signature

## NERC Initiatives and Activities

### Comment and Ballot Periods

| Project Name   | Open through 8:00 p.m. ET on date listed |
|--|--|
| <a href="#">Project 2016-02—Modifications to CIP Standards</a>   Virtualization Updates for CIP-004, CIP-006, CIP-007, CIP-010 | December 18, 2018                        |

### Filings

On November 1, 2018, NERC filed its [Annual Report](#) on the FFT and CE programs.

On November 14, 2018, NERC submitted its [filing](#) in accordance with the Commission’s January 16, 2013 Order in Docket No. FA11-21-000.

- Requires NERC to file quarterly its unaudited report of the NERC budget-to-actual spending variances during the preceding quarter.

On November 16, 2018, NERC submitted its [filing](#) in response to FERC’s July 19, 2016 Order regarding revisions to the Rules of Procedure.

On November 19, 2018, NERC submitted its [Petition](#) for Approval of Proposed Revisions to the Standard Processes Manual, Appendix 3A to the NERC Rules of Procedure.

On November 29, 2018, NERC submitted its [Informational Filing](#), Frequency Response Annual Analysis to FERC.

- The Report updates statistical analyses and calculations in the 2012 Frequency Response Initiative Report, which was included in NERC’s petition for approval of BAL-003-1

### FERC Actions

On November 15, 2018, FERC issued [Order No. 851](#) on Geomagnetic Disturbance Reliability Standard.

- Approves Reliability Standard TPL-007-2
- Implementation Plan
- Retires: TPL-007-1
- Directs NERC to do the following:
  - ◊ Submit modifications to TPL-007-2 to require corrective action plans for assessed supplemental GMD event vulnerabilities (Paragraph 39)
  - ◊ Develop modifications to TPL-007-2 to replace the time-extension provision in Requirement R7.4 with a process through which extensions of time are considered on a case-by-case basis (Paragraph 54)
  - ◊ Modifications must be submitted within 12 months of the effective date of TPL-007-2

### Want to participate in a ballot for a Regional Standard?

Entities must be in the Registered Ballot Body (RBB) before joining a registered ballot pool.

To join, please fill out the [RBB Application](#) form and email it [here](#).

## Contact Information for Texas RE Management

**Main Phone Number:** (512) 583-4900

**Website:** [www.texasre.org](http://www.texasre.org)

**Twitter:**  [Follow @Texas\\_RE\\_Inc](https://twitter.com/Texas_RE_Inc)

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| Judy Foppiano—CFO & Director, Corporate Services                            | (512) 583-4959 | Judy.Foppiano@texasre.org   |
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**Texas Reliability Entity, Inc.**

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Phone: (512) 583-4900  
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To assure effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the bulk power system within the ERCOT Interconnection.

Texas Reliability Entity, Inc. monitors and enforces compliance with Reliability Standards for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation; develops regional standards; and monitors and reports on compliance with the ERCOT Protocols.



**Career Opportunities**

Check out our [Careers Page](#) for more information on these current openings:

Manager, Communications and Training

Compliance Engineer/Analyst (2 Positions Available)

CIP Information Security Analyst

Compliance Attorney

**Upcoming Important Dates at Texas RE**

[December 5](#) – Annual Meeting – 8:30 a.m.

[December 5](#) – MRC Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

[December 5](#) – Audit, Governance & Finance Committee Meeting – 12:00 p.m.

[December 5](#) – Board of Directors Meeting– 1:30 p.m.

[December 6](#) – NSRF Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

[December 10](#) – BAL-001-TRE-1 SDT Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

[December 13](#) – *Talk with Texas RE* – 1:30 p.m.

| December 2018 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun           | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|               |     |     |     |     |     | 1   |
| 2             | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
| 9             | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  |
| 16            | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  |
| 23            | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  |
| 30            | 31  |     |     |     |     |     |