NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee (CIPC)
Report to Southwest Power Pool Regional Entity Trustees

Submitted by Robert McClanahan, Chair, SPP Critical Infrastructure Protection WG
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NERC CIPC Meeting

- The NERC CIPC held its quarterly meeting in Atlanta, GA on December 12-13, 2012. The materials for this meeting can be found at:
  - Agenda: http://www.nerc.com/docs/cip/CIPC_Agenda_December%20_2012_11_27_2012_RDC_JG_Final_Update2.pdf
  - Presentations: http://www.nerc.com/docs/cip/CIPC_2012_December_Presentations.zip
  - Draft Minutes: http://www.nerc.com/docs/cip/CIPC_Package_December_1213_2012_Final.pdf
- DHS hosted a classified briefing for cleared CIPC Members and Alternates prior to the CIPC meeting.
- Gerry Cauley, NERC CEO, addressed the CIPC and gave an update on NERC's efforts to implement reliability-based standards. He complimented CIPC on the progress made on the objectives identified in the CIPC Strategic Plan and encouraged the committee to follow-through on the remaining objectives.
- Samara Moore, National Security Staff, Cybersecurity, briefed the CIPC on the Obama Administration's continuing work towards an Executive Order on cybersecurity. No specific about the Executive Order were shared, but Ms. Moore expressed the Administration's determination to do all that it can to protect the nation's critical infrastructures. She also commented that the Executive Order would not be a substitute for cyber security legislation, but is intended to be a compliment to future legislation.
- Eric Cornelius, Chief Technical Analyst, and Mark Plemmons, Analyst, both with ICS-CERT, provided an unclassified briefing on recent attacks in the energy sector in Saudi Arabia and Qatar, along with a high-level overview of cyber incidents in control systems.
- Nathan Mitchell with the American Public Power Association (APPA) gave an overview of potential legislation in the Congress. Mr. Mitchell noted that the "Fiscal Cliff" discussions were overshadowing cybersecurity. The next Congress is expected to take up the cybersecurity issue again.
- Brian Harrell, Associate Director of Critical Infrastructure Protection Programs, provided a summary of GridSecCon 2012, held in San Diego on October 16-18. A total of 280 attendees from 156 organizations attended the conference. Plans for GridSecCon 2013 are underway. Dates for the event are October 15-17, with a tentative location of Orlando, Tampa or Boston. Mr. Harrell also reported on the developing plans for GridEx 2013.
- Mr. Bob Canada, NERC< reported that EOP-004-2 was approved in the latest ballot. This standard will eventually allow the retirement of the CIP-001 standard, in that the requirements of that standard have been incorporated into EOP-004.
- The CIPC and its working groups continue work on the projects identified in the CIPC Strategic Plan.

- Mr. Carl Eng, Dominion, noted that the work of the High-Impact, Low-Frequency (HILF) Task Force has been completed. All items from the HILF Report have been assigned to the proper group and the deliverables of the HILF TF have been completed. CIPC approved the retirement of the TF.
- Mr. Stephen Diebold, Chair of the Electric Sector Information Sharing Task Force, gave an update on the work of the group. Mr. Diebold pointed out that information flow is critical to the industry's success in protecting critical infrastructure. He presented a diagram, representing the current state of information flow between the industry, regulators and government agencies as spaghetti. The TF will be recommending a new reporting structure to streamline the process and enable timely information sharing.
- Mr. Tim Conway, Chair of the Grid Exercise Working Group, provided an update on the efforts of the group, which is providing industry coordination for GridEx 2013, scheduled for November 13-14, 2013. NERC is currently working to identify a contractor to lead the exercise planning effort. A larger number of participants is expected this year than in the 2011 exercise. The working group is open for additional participation.

- Mr. Tim Roxey, NERC Chief Cyber Security Officer, provided an update on the effort to register entities on the ES-ISAC Portal (now at 41 percent of registered entities). Mr. Roxey also discussed several recent ES-ISAC products, including two NERC Alerts and ES-ISAC Trends. He noted that 80-90% of all cyber intrusions are the result of successful "spear phishing" campaigns and reminded those in attendance of the importance of continued vigilance against these campaigns.
- Mr. Scott Mix, NERC, provided and update on the CIP Version 5 standards. The standards were approved by the NERC Board of Trustees on November 26, 2013. Filing with FERC is expected this month. He noted that the implementation date for the Version 4 standards is April 1, 2014. NERC will be asking for a delay in the implementation of the Version 4 standards to allow Version 5 to supersede them.
- CIPC Meeting Schedule for 2013:
  - March 5-6 in Albuquerque, NM
  - June 11-12 in Atlanta, GA
  - September 17-18 in Denver, CO
  - December 10-11 in Atlanta, GA