



**Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc.
Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group (CIPWG)
Charter**

Purpose

The ERCOT CIPWG provides a forum to share information and experiences related to cyber security, physical security, compliance, operational security, tools and techniques. The ERCOT CIPWG is considered an “Other Group” and is not directly associated with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) or its subcommittees. The ERCOT CIPWG will coordinate with ERCOT, the Operations Working Group (OWG) under the Reliability and Operations Subcommittee (ROS), and other working groups as appropriate to identify and recommend measures to support reliability standards and critical infrastructure protection. The ERCOT CIPWG will also coordinate with State of Texas Department of Public Safety (TX-DPS) staff, Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) staff, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on matters related to threats, vulnerabilities and risks associated with protection of critical infrastructure and utility facilities.

Membership

ERCOT CIPWG meetings will include both open and closed sessions. Participation in open sessions is not limited to particular types of individuals.

Closed sessions are limited to particular types of individuals and require a current ERCOT Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) on file with ERCOT Legal. A current version of the ERCOT NDA is located under Key Documents on the CIPWG page of the ERCOT website (www.ercot.com). Participation in closed sessions is limited to the following entities: (1) any Market Participant; (2) PUCT staff; (3) Texas RE staff; (4) NERC staff; (5) FERC staff; (6) NERC-registered entities outside the ERCOT region; and (7) ERCOT staff. In addition, for closed sessions, staff of PUCT, Texas RE, NERC and FERC are limited to those individuals that have no audit, compliance or enforcement responsibility for any NERC standards, cyber security or physical security rules for the electric sector within their purview, including down their chains of command. Such individuals will certify this requirement as part of the ERCOT NDA. Further, any contractor/consultant of an entity with a current ERCOT NDA is allowed to participate in closed sessions upon execution of the certification requirements in the ERCOT NDA.

On a case-by-case basis, invited guests by the ERCOT CIPWG Chair or Vice Chair will be permitted in closed sessions to provide information on a defined topic to the ERCOT CIPWG. Such invited guests may not need to execute the ERCOT NDA for this limited purpose and will be asked to leave at the conclusion of the discussion on the defined topic.

ERCOT Legal will maintain a list of entities who have signed the ERCOT NDA and coordinate with the ERCOT CIPWG Chair and Vice Chair regarding closed session meetings. The ERCOT CIPWG Chair or Vice Chair is responsible for determining when ERCOT CIPWG meetings shall be held in closed sessions and who may attend.

Leadership

Elections will be held yearly to select an ERCOT CIPWG Chair and Vice Chair. Any Market Participant who has a current ERCOT NDA at the time of the election shall have one vote for each



position. Market Participants do not have to be present at the meeting to submit a vote; however, prior to elections, a proxy must be submitted to the ERCOT designated contact. Outcomes of the elections are determined by a simple majority vote.

An election will be held in the 4th Quarter of the current calendar year for next year's calendar term. The ERCOT CIPWG Chair and Vice Chair terms run on a calendar year basis – January 1 through December 31. There are no term limits for the Chair and Vice Chair positions. To the extent a vacancy occurs for one of the positions, then an election will be held as needed to fulfill that position.

Meetings

Meetings will be held monthly or as necessary. The planning committee will set the agenda. The planning committee will consist of the Chair, Vice Chair, ERCOT designated contact, and other volunteers. The agenda will be distributed to participants prior to the meeting. Agenda topics may be updated by consensus at the start of the meeting.

Reporting

The ERCOT CIPWG Chair or Vice Chair will report to the Texas RE Members Representative Committee (MRC) on a quarterly basis. ERCOT CIPWG participants who are part of the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee (CIPC) may also report to the stakeholder committees and subcommittees as necessary and/or as requested.

Charter Review

This Charter will be reviewed every two years, or as needed, by a team of participants selected by the Chair of the ERCOT CIPWG. Changes to the Charter become effective upon consensus of the participants and upon ERCOT Legal review.