**Gas-Electric Working Group Charter**

The Gas-Electric Working Group (GEWG) is a forum to facilitate information sharing and coordination between the gas industry and the electric industry for the purpose of maintaining the reliability of the electric grid and gas systems in the ERCOT Region, as suggested by the Chairmen of both the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) and the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) in their memo on February 27, 2019. Topics may include, but are not limited to, the following: pre-summer and pre-winter activities and communication readiness (including updated points of contact), consideration of electric system conditions in gas pipeline outage planning, inclusion of gas considerations in system restoration and Black Start plan development, issues where the electric industry is dependent upon the gas industry, and appropriate avoidance of gas facilities needed for generation availability in rotating outage plans by Transmission and/or Distribution Service Providers (TDSPs).

The GEWG encourages industry knowledge sharing among participants and their employers, as well as establishing consistent communications channels and points of contact in advance of potential events during which direct communication would improve reliability. The GEWG is not intended to “get in the middle” of any commercial relationships between gas pipelines and suppliers and electric generators. Participation in activities within the GEWG does not supersede, impact, or negate any financial obligations or contracts between participants and their customers, who may also be GEWG participants.

The GEWG is a non-voting, consensus-based organization. It is considered an “Other Group” under Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) and therefore does not report directly to the ERCOT Board of Directors (ERCOT Board), the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) or any TAC Subcommittee.

**Leadership**

A representative from ERCOT serves as the Chair of the GEWG. The Vice-Chair shall be a representative from a participating gas pipeline company selected by a consensus of the participants at the GEWG meeting in which the election is held, for a term of 12 months from January 1 through December 31 (except for the first term which may begin upon election through December 31 of the following year). There are no term limits for the Chair and Vice Chair positions. To the extent a vacancy occurs for the Vice Chair, then an election will be held as needed to fulfill that position at the next GEWG meeting.

**Participation**

Representatives from TDSPs, Qualified Scheduling Entities (QSEs), Generator Owners, Generator Operators, Resource Entities, ERCOT intrastate and interstate natural gas pipeline operators that directly serve electric generation units in the ERCOT Region, and ERCOT should participate in the GEWG. Representatives from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC), and the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) are highly encouraged to participate in the GEWG. Representatives from other ERCOT and gas industry stakeholders and regulatory entities may also participate.

This Charter and participation in GEWG may not be interpreted or construed to create an association, joint venture, or partnership between the participants or to impose any fiduciary duty or partnership obligation or liability upon either participant. No participant has any right, power, or authority to enter any agreement or undertaking for, or act on behalf of, or to act as or be an agent or representative of, or to otherwise bind, another participant.

NO PARTICIPANT REPRESENTS OR WARRANTS THE ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF ANY INFORMATION PROVIDED. IT IS FURTHER UNDERSTOOD THAT NO PARTICIPANT OR ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AND/OR REPRESENTATIVES SHALL HAVE ANY LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY FROM THE LAWFUL USE OF ANY INFORMATION BY ANY OTHER PARTICIPANT OR PARTY.

**Meetings**

GEWG meetings are open to all interested parties. Meetings are called by the Chair and held two times a year (one in the Spring and one in the Fall) or as necessary to achieve any objectives. Notice shall be sent to the GEWG email distribution list and posted to the ERCOT website ([www.ercot.com](http://www.ercot.com)) at least one week prior to the meeting. The Chair or the Vice-Chair shall preside at all meetings and are responsible for preparation of the agendas which will be posted to the ERCOT website in advance of the meeting. Information presented at GEWG meetings will be posted on the ERCOT website as authorized by the GEWG Chair and the author of the document. Live audio of GEWG meetings will be made publicly accessible as described on the ERCOT website.

The GEWG Chair may create subgroups to discuss specific details of any topic that includes confidential information, such as Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII). All subgroup meetings are in closed session and limited to individuals necessary to achieve the purpose of the subgroup. The GEWG Chair is responsible for determining who may attend a closed session of a subgroup meeting. Subgroups are not subject to the meeting requirements of the GEWG as a whole.

Upon inception of the GEWG, the GEWG Chair creates the Black Start Gas Coordination Subgroup (BSGCSG) which supersedes and replaces the Black Start Gas Coordination Group (BSGCG). The BSGCSG should develop TDSPs’ understanding of the gas supply locations for generation plants for initial black start and eventually to full system restoration. In addition, develop TDSPs’ understanding of all gas supply locations needed for high gas consumption due to high loads during summer and winter peaks.

Membership of BSGCSG shall be limited to: representatives from Transmission and/or Distribution Service Providers (TDSPs); Transmission Operators (TOs); Resource Entities; and Qualified Scheduling Entities (QSEs) representing Resources, including, but not limited to, those with contracted Black Start Resources; owners or operators of natural gas facilities that serve Resources identified in the ERCOT Black Start Plan; and staff members of natural gas industry associations that have a member who qualifies for BSGCSG membership. The GEWG Chair may determine whether a particular entity requesting membership is eligible to participate in BSGCSG. Representation by ERCOT ISO is required. Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT), the Texas Reliability Entity (TRE), the leadership of the Texas Energy Reliability Council (TERC), North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), and any other appropriate governing agency may be represented.

Any individual participating in a subgroup must have a current ERCOT GEWG Subgroup Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) on file with ERCOT Legal. A current version of the ERCOT GEWG Subgroup NDA is located under “Key Documents” on the GEWG page of the ERCOT website.

ERCOT Legal maintains a list of Entities who have signed the ERCOT GEWG Subgroup NDA and will coordinate with the GEWG Chair and Vice Chair regarding closed session subgroup meetings.

**Charter Review and Dissolution**

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

The GEWG may be dissolved by notice from the Chair delivered to the GEWG distribution list and posted on the ERCOT website if and when he deems the group to have achieved its goals or otherwise appropriate.