



Item 5.4: Security Update

GridEx VII Overview

Enhancing Grid Security and Resilience

Betty Day

Vice President, Security and Compliance and
Chief Compliance Officer

Technology and Security Committee Meeting

ERCOT Public

December 18, 2023

Overview

- **Purpose – Provide Security Update**
Review ERCOT GridEx VII Activities
- **Voting Items / Requests**
No action is requested of the T&S Committee or Board; for discussion only

Key Takeaway: GridEx participation provides valuable training activities for ERCOT

What is GridEx VII?

GridEx is the largest grid security exercise in North America. Coordinated every two years by NERC, GridEx gives electric sector organizations a forum to practice how they would respond to and recover from coordinated cyber and physical security attacks.



Key Takeaway: ERCOT GridEx VII participation enhances our incident response capabilities and collaboration

ERCOT's Preparation and Strategy

- Multi-phased approach:
 - Executive Tabletop simulating a Nation-State attack
 - Participants included the ERCOT Executive Team and federal/state partners
 - Grid Operator Training
 - Based on same training inject scenarios as the Executive Tabletop
 - Technical hands-on “CyberStrike LIGHTS OUT” training based on 2015/2016 Ukraine power grid attacks
 - Collaborative engagement with DOE, Idaho National Lab, PUCT, and ERCOT
 - Over 50 participants, including ERCOT Market Participants and Oil/Natural Gas

Key Takeaway: ERCOT tailored GridEx VII activities based upon target audience (executives, grid operators, hands-on cyber defenders)

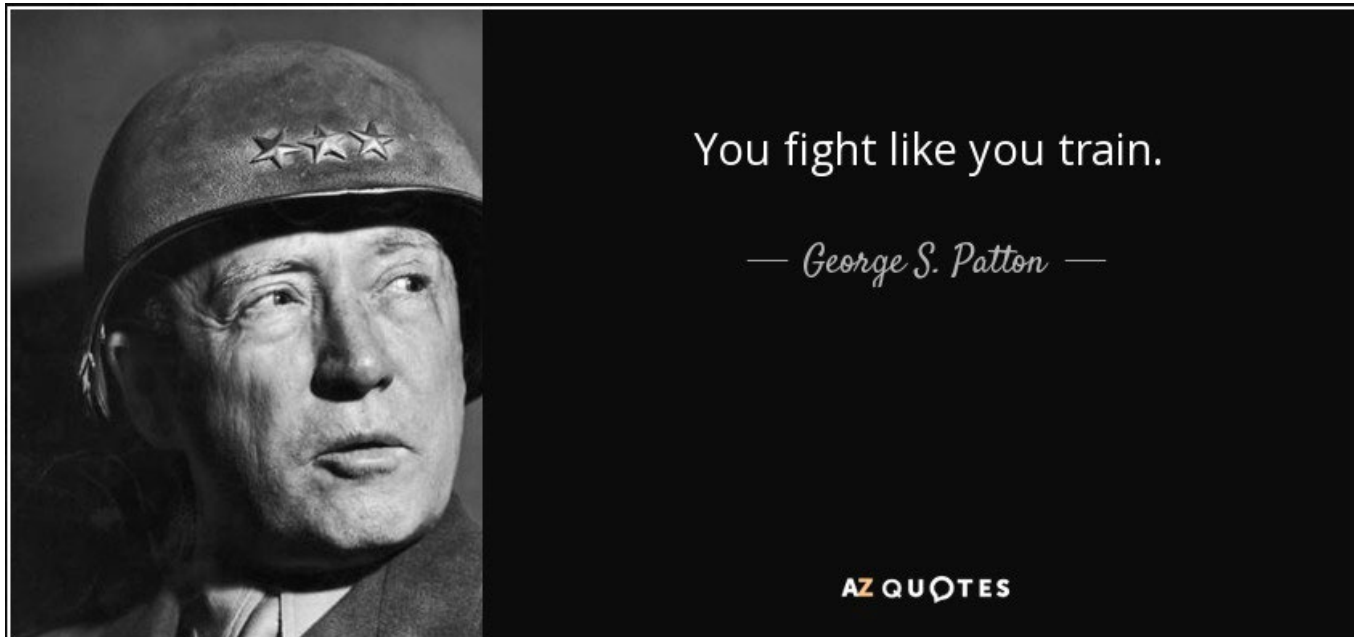
Outcome and Evaluation

- NERC will release a public report on GridEx: Q1 2024
- ERCOT Grid Operator Training
 - GridEx injects were incorporated into this complete training cycle
- CyberStrike LIGHTS OUT
 - Attendees enjoyed hands-on training and expressed desire to participate in similar future training opportunities

Key Takeaway: Training activities such as GridEx and CyberStrike provide valuable training opportunities to enhance response capabilities.

Conclusion and Support

- Special thank you to all participants



Questions?

