



**DRAFT GENERAL SESSION MINUTES OF THE
TECHNOLOGY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE MEETING
OF ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL OF TEXAS, INC.**

8000 Metropolis Drive (Building E), Suite 100, Boardroom B
Austin, Texas 78744
April 7, 2025

Pursuant to notice duly given and after determination that a quorum was present, the meeting of the Technology and Security (T&S) Committee of the Board of Directors (Board) of Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) convened on the above-referenced date.

Meeting Attendance:

Committee Members:

Director	Affiliation/Role (if any)	Voting Category
Vacant (due to recent resignation of Carlos Aguilar)	N/A	Voting
England, Julie	N/A	Voting
Hernandez, Alex	N/A	Voting
Swainson, John (Chair)	N/A	Voting

Other Board Members:

Director	Affiliation/Role (if any)	Voting Category
Barkley, Benjamin	Office of Public Utility Counsel	Non-Voting
Cornelius, Sig	N/A <i>Present through Item 4 only</i>	Voting
Flores, Bill	N/A <i>Present through Item 4 only</i>	Voting
Gleeson, Thomas	PUCT Chair <i>Present for Items 4 - 9</i>	Non-Voting
Heeg, Peggy	N/A <i>Present through Item 4 only</i>	Voting
Capuano, Linda	N/A	Voting
Vegas, Pablo	N/A	Non-Voting



Officers and Guests:

Officer/Guest	Role
Bonser, Drew	ERCOT Vice President, Chief Information Security Officer
Collins, Keith	ERCOT Vice President, Commercial Operations
Hjaltman, Courtney	PUCT Commissioner <i>Arrived at the beginning of Item 4</i>
Hobbs, Kristi	ERCOT Vice President, System Planning and Weatherization
Horton, Shana	ERCOT Corporate Counsel
Jackson, Kathleen	PUCT Commissioner
Lassiter, Jason	ERCOT Director, Physical Security & Facilities
Mannepalli, Ajay	ERCOT Senior Director, IT Architecture and Strategy
Martinez, Adam	ERCOT Vice President, Enterprise Risk & Strategy
Mereness, Matt	ERCOT Director, Strategic Market Design Programs and Delivery
Parakkuth, Jayapal	ERCOT Senior Vice President and Chief Digital Officer
Rickerson, Woody	ERCOT Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Rosero, Nicole	ERCOT Lead Paralegal
Rydell, Brandt	ERCOT Deputy General Counsel
Scheel, Richard	ERCOT Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Risk Officer
Schue, Jamie	ERCOT Senior Corporate Counsel
Seely, Chad	ERCOT Senior Vice President, Regulatory Policy, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, and Corporate Secretary <i>Present through Item 4 only</i>
Tirupati, Venkat	ERCOT Vice President, DevOps and Grid Transformation
Vanella, Amie	ERCOT Supervisor of Legal Operations
Woodfin, Dan	ERCOT Vice President, System Operations

Call General Session to Order (Agenda Item 1)

John Swainson, T&S Committee Chair, determined a quorum was present and called the T&S Committee meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. He noted that Carlos Aguilar had been a Committee member but recently resigned from the ERCOT Board.

Chair Swainson highlighted the Antitrust Admonition and addressed the following Agenda Items in the order below.

Notice of Public Comment, if Any (Agenda Item 2)

Chair Swainson noted that the agenda for the meeting, posted publicly on March 31, 2025, had included instructions for members of the public wishing to provide in-person comments. However, no individuals had expressed interest in doing so, as confirmed by Shana Horton.

February 3, 2025 General Session Meeting Minutes (Agenda Item 3)

Chair Swainson entertained a motion to approve the February 3, 2025 General Session Meeting Minutes (Minutes).

Motion by Julie England, seconded by Linda Capuano, to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote with no abstentions.

Guest Presentation: Data Center Coalition – Powering the Internet and our Modern Economy (Agenda Item 4)

PUCT Chair Thomas Gleeson called the PUCT meeting to order at approximately 8:32 a.m. In attendance with PUCT Chair Gleeson were PUCT Commissioners Kathleen Jackson and Courtney Hjaltman and Public Utility Counsel Benjamin Barkley.

Aaron Tinjum and Josh Levi of Data Center Coalition (DCC), an industry coalition of data center owners and operators, presented an update on the state of the industry. According to a *PriceWaterhouseCoopers* report commissioned by DCC, data centers contribute \$52.6B to Texas' GDP. They generate significant state and local tax revenue and each direct job supports six indirect jobs.

Data center construction increased nearly 70% between May 2023 and May 2024, driven by population growth and the accelerated rate of data creation. On average, US households have 21 connected devices. Siting strategies vary company by company. Virginia leads in the number of data centers because it has fiber connectivity and undersea cables into Newport News, followed by Oregon, Phoenix, and Dallas. Key siting factors include robust infrastructure, access to water for cooling, and the speed at which a data center can be up and running.

In response to Committee questions about backup generation, DCC representatives noted that power backup systems are typically designed to match critical load—such as military, banking, emergency response, and hospitals, etc. Backup levels are determined by each company's risk tolerance and competitive positioning.

The Committee and DCC also discussed whether data centers provide their own power generation. Mr. Tinjum emphasized that “[t]here is no substitute for grid power.” While data centers can be built in as little as nine months to two years, permitting for generation and transmission facilities can take four to seven years—creating a reliance on existing grid power.

Peggy Heeg raised concerns about the projected load growth over the next few years and the effects of tariffs and market uncertainty. DCC is currently assessing the situation, working to distinguish what is real versus fleeting. Tariffs are expected to affect steel, computer servers, and chillers.

Committee Briefs (Agenda Item 5)

Projects and Technology Update (Agenda Item 5.1)

JP Parakkuth presented the Projects and Technology update. He reported approximately 55-60 projects remain active, but his team is slowing the intake of new projects to avoid conflicts with RTC+B testing and rollout.

He outlined the plan to first transition the grid planning project to on-premises desktops (rather than laptops), and then to the cloud, which will provide improved infrastructure and flexible scalability.



Real-Time Co-Optimization Implementation Update (Agenda Item 5.2)

Mr. Parakkuth presented the RTC+B Update. He reported that development on core systems is complete and that his team recently conducted an integrated test of all three systems, confirming readiness for market testing on May 5. He noted the team met its stretch goal and acknowledged their efforts.

In response to a Committee question, Matt Mereness confirmed that all 107 QSEs will participate in the market testing trial. Of those, 103 have acknowledged the May 5 open-loop trial date and confirmed their readiness. Alex Hernandez requested a walk-through of the trial run. Mr. Mereness responded that the team will present slides to the Committee showing each QSE and its progress through the various trial components.

Future Agenda Items (Agenda Item 6)

Mr. Parakkuth suggested ERCOT Subject Matter Experts could present white papers on Grid Transformation at a future Committee meeting.

Other Business (Agenda Item 7)

No other business was discussed at this time.

Executive Session; Vote on Matters from Executive Session; Adjournment (Agenda Items 8-9)

Chair Swainson adjourned General Session at approximately 9:34 a.m. and convened Executive Session at approximately 9:45 a.m.

There were no voting items from Executive Session.

Chair Swainson adjourned the meeting upon the conclusion of Executive Session at approximately 10:53 a.m. PUCT Chair Gleeson noted the PUCT had lost its quorum, effectively adjourning its meeting.

Committee materials and presentations from the meeting are available on ERCOT's website at <https://www.ercot.com/committees/board/tech-security>.

Brandon Gleason
Assistant Corporate Secretary