The Electric Reliability Council of Texas

Operations Training Working Group



**May 8th, 2025**



Operations Training Working Group (OTWG)

# Minutes

May 8th, 2025

WebEx

0900-1100

Meeting Roster:[https://forms.office.com/g/V1sNb2mZYf](https://isolate.menlosecurity.com/1/3735928009/https%3A/forms.office.com/g/V1sNb2mZYf)

### Anti-trust Admonition:

To avoid raising concerns about antitrust liability, participants in ERCOT activities should refrain from proposing any action or measure that would exceed ERCOT’s authority under federal or state law. For additional information, stakeholders should consult the Statement of Position on Antitrust Issues for Members of ERCOT Committees, Subcommittees, and Working Groups, which is posted on the ERCOT website.

### Disclaimer:

All presentations and materials submitted by Market Participants or any other Entity to ERCOT staff for this meeting are received and posted with the acknowledgement that the information will be considered public in accordance with the ERCOT Websites Content Management Operating Procedure.

# Open Session

Chair/Vice-Chair will only recognize those that use the “raise hand” feature in WebEx

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Previous meeting minutes | Made Motion | Rosemary H. |
|  | 2nd Motion | Daniel C. |

## CURRENT/UPCOMING EVENTS - 2025 Training Schedule

* + 2025 Summer Load Shed Training Exercise (June 2nd 2025)
		- ERCOT will offer this session in accordance of PUCT PURA section 38.077.
		- Market notice was sent on 4/30/2025
		- 

## OPERATIONS NOTICES, NOGRRs and NPRRs

NOGRR 247 concerning UFLS. Review the notice and the dates of these UFLS to be in effect.

Market Notification Link: <https://www.ercot.com/services/comm/mkt_notices/M-A022924-01>

NOGRR 245 just passed. See status and documentation related to this NOGRR. <https://www.ercot.com/mktrules/issues/NOGRR245#summary>

Location of all NOGRR - <https://www.ercot.com/mktrules/issues/reports/nogrr>

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chair: Manuel.Sanchez@oncor.com

Vice-Chair: Benjamin.Ray@austinenergy.com

## TASK FORCES & TRAINING EVENTS

* Interest in serving on Task Forces should be emailed to Leadership (above)
* An NDA on file with ERCOT is required to join OTWG Task Forces and participate in CLOSED sessions (one document covers all TFs Forces - NO renewal required)

Email to NDA@ercot.com

### ERCOT Operator Certification Task Force (EOCTF) – No Updates

### **Chair Steve Rainwater, Vice-Chair VACANT**

**Members – James Wallace**

**Requesting additional members – seeking member(s) from a QSE**

* ERCOT is hosting the test onsite. Use the link below for more details:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/1b1ffc4d-f78a-4e4b-b36b-2894e2835863/summary>

* ERCOT will open test every two weeks throughout the year. Cost will be $50 via credit card using CVENT to complete registration.
* Waiting period will be 21 days before retest.
* PLEASE USE THE CVENT SITE FOR ALL QUESTIONS. A FAQ document will be added to the site for more details.
* ERCOT is looking at the data for passing grades and evaluate the exam question bank.
* The test volume is not high enough for vendors to take interest in hosting the exams. This is a limitation ERCOT is evaluating to overcome.
* Market Notice:



### Human Performance Improvement Topics

* Ideas for HPI topics:
	+ Identify topics for Human Performance Metrics for Real-Time operations.
	+ Visit NERC Event reports for additional resources at <https://www.nerc.com/pa/rrm/ea/Pages/Major-Event-Reports.aspx>
	+ Visit NERC lessons learned site for additional reference at <https://www.nerc.com/pa/rrm/ea/Pages/Lessons-Learned.aspx>
	+ Visit the <https://www.natf.net/> portal for HPI resources, discussion boards and initiatives, other companies are doing related to Human Performance Improvement.

### ERCOT Black Start Restoration Training Task Force (BSTTF)

**Chair Mark Spinner, Vice-Chair Nate Perio**

**Members –, S. Aragon, A. Ballew, D. Penny, Jonathan Love**

2025 Black Start Training

* Onsite training during Weeks of October-November 2025.
* Traditionally will be 20 hrs of simulation plus the EOP standard portion (~7 CEHs). (CBT being re-worked)
* Meeting in May about the Restoration simulation, events introduced to challenge restoration effort. Join Task force to voice on this effort.
* ERCOT is requesting to have more members involved in the group.
* Looking for strategies and processes that help making the simulation training more efficient, realistic, and challenging to the participants.
* CBT is being reformatted for this year’s training.
* There will be a meeting to plan this session (June 11th with task force members) and for June 25th the task force will present the results/agreements to the black start working group.
* The approximate time duration for the CBTs
	+ Voltage Control ~2hrs
	+ Frequency Control ~1hr
	+ Standard Restoration Training ~2hrs
	+ The idea is to break up the training content to include additional topics utilized and considered during black start restoration practices.

### ERCOT Region Operator Training Seminar Task Force (OTSTF) - Updates

**Chair Manuel Sanchez, Vice-Chair Aaron Ballew**

**Member – M. Cruz-Montes, Jonathan Love**

**Requesting additional members**

Topics for 2025 Operators Training Seminar

* Successfully completed the 41st ERCOT Operators Training Seminar.
	+ ERCOT is reviewing feedback and the overall feedback was positive.
	+ Some feedback is still being reviewed for inclusion to the future training sessions.
	+ It is planned to present results of feedback to the June OTWG session.
* ERCOT is evaluating to bring Black Start training back to the spring time in 2026 and move ERCOT OTS to the fall.
* ERCOT is evaluating the inclusion of senate bill 2148 to add cyber and critical facilities into training content. This topic may be included during the black start restoration training.
* 42nd ERCOT Operations Training Seminar 2026
	+ ERCOT is asking market participants to provide additional topics for next year’s ERCOT OTS.
	+ The Bulk Power System Awareness Group (BPSA) has offered one hour of NERC standards review for next year.
		- Investigate who will be the facilitator for this session or reach to TRE for additional recommendations.

### ERCOT Severe Weather Drill Task Force (SWDTF)

**Chair Nate Perio, Vice-Chair VACANT**

**Member –Jonathan Love**

**Requesting additional members**

* Planning for the month of June cycle training (6/5/25, Hurricane Drill).
* This session will be a communication drill and some content presentation.
* More details will be released later in a market notice.
	+ The drill should be an hour long (0800 - ~0900 on 6/5/25).
	+ Including a slide for the progression of the event.
	+ Will include more control in managing phone calls for this session.
* Please include any suggestions for the drill.
* Lessons learned: ERCOT will try to get the hotline calls upfront for next year.

## OLD Business

* None

## NEW Business

* For group’s awareness, September 11th, there will be a table top exercise for Black Start with different state entities, PUCT, TRE, etc.
	+ - The session will be a high-level exercise (not intended to replace any existing Black Start trainings).
		- An after-action report will be available after the session to provide lessons learned of the exercise.
* Find available RTC +B Training Videos at - <https://www.ercot.com/committees/tac/rtcbtf/training>
* Consideration about Taking Breaks during training delivery as per the CE Manual
	+ - May not be a problem to skip breaks to leave early. This may need to be formalized and added in the manual/code.
		- Some market participants typically deliver the content of training for the time allocation and plan accordingly for breaks, depending on the audience needs.
		- It may be better to leave the CE manual with the definition as is, with the understanding that each CE Provider commits to the plan of 50 mins content delivery /10 minutes break.
		- This is to explore if it is necessary to include the flexibility of adjusting the training delivery timing according to the audience preference, but adhering to the CE Manual.
		- May be a good idea to include in the CE Manual examples of acceptable break practices specifically how to go about the content delivery time vs breaks.
		- There are CMWG openings that can be available for participants.
	+ ERCOT will be hosting NATF Conference in July 29th, 30th and 31st.
		- Registration is not open yet. This is for NATF members only.
		- More details will be available soon.

## Upcoming OTWG Meetings

* OTWG Meeting dates:

June 12th, 2025 – OTWG Meeting

July 17th, 2025 – OTWG Meeting

August 14th, 2025 – OTWG Meeting

September 18th, 2025 – OTWG Meeting

October 9th, 2025 – OTWG Meeting

November 13th, 2025 – OTWG Meeting – Potential Cancellation due to ERCOT Black Start

December 11th, 2025 – OTWG Meeting

# Closed Session

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  No need for closed session | Motion Made | James Ballard |
|  | 2nd Motion | Bobby Gray |

# Adjourn

Time: Adjourn on May 8th, 2025 at 0927 hours.