



**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  
September 22, 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:**

<b>Director</b>	<b>Affiliation/Role (if any)</b>	<b>Voting Category</b>
Swainson, John (Chair)	N/A	Voting
Capuano, Linda	N/A	Voting
England, Julie	N/A	Voting
Mohl, Bill	N/A	Voting

**Other Board Members:**

<b>Director</b>	<b>Affiliation/Role (if any)</b>	<b>Voting Category</b>
Flores, Bill	N/A	Voting
Heeg, Peggy	N/A	Voting
Barkley, Benjamin	Office of Public Utility Counsel (OPUC), Chief Executive and Public Counsel	Voting
Gleeson, Thomas	Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT or Commission) Chairman	Non-Voting
Vegas, Pablo	ERCOT President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Non-Voting

**Officers and Guests:**

<b>Officer/Guest</b>	<b>Role</b>
Bonser, Drew	ERCOT Vice President, Chief Information Security Officer
Collins, Keith	ERCOT Vice President, Commercial Operations
Hjaltman, Courtney	PUCT Commissioner
Hobbs, Kristi	ERCOT Vice President, System Planning and Weatherization
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
Nelson, Drew	Project InnerSpace, Vice President
Parakkuth, Jayapal	ERCOT Senior Vice President and Chief Digital Officer
Rickerson, Woody	ERCOT Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Rydell, Brandt	ERCOT Deputy General Counsel
Scheel, Richard	ERCOT Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Risk Officer
Seely, Chad	ERCOT Senior Vice President, Regulatory Policy, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, and Corporate Secretary
Smitherman, Barry	Texas Geothermal Alliance (TXGEA), Chairman
Taff, Cindy	Sage Geosystems, CEO
Tirupati, Venkat	ERCOT Vice President, DevOps and Grid Transformation
Woodfin, Dan	ERCOT Vice President, System Operations
Wisian, Kenneth	UT Austin – Bureau of Economic Geology, Jackson School of Geoscience (Attending via Webex)

#### **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 8:31 a.m.

Chair Swainson announced Bill Mohl, Chris Krummel, Kathleen McAllister had joined as new Board Directors.

With the addition of the new members to the Board, Chair Swainson noted that Board Chair Bill Flores had updated the composition of the various committees, resulting in Bill Mohl being welcomed as a new member of the T&S Committee.

PUCT Chair Thomas Gleeson called the PUCT meeting to order at approximately 8:32 a.m.

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 September 15, 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 Brandt Rydell.

#### **June 23, 2025 General Session Meeting Minutes (Agenda Item 3)**

Chair Swainson entertained a motion to approve the June 23, 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: Geothermal Energy and Its Potential in Texas (Agenda Item 4)**

Chair Swainson introduced guest presenters Barry Smitherman of Geothermal Energy Alliance (TXGEA), Cindy Taff of Sage Geosystems, Dr. Kenneth Wisian of the Bureau of Economic Geology and Department of Earth and Planetary Science at the University of Texas at Austin (joining via WebEx), and Drew Nelson of Project InnerSpace. The panel commented on the state's strong geothermal potential, especially along the Eagle Ford Shale where heat resources are near major load centers. Advancements in oil and gas drilling are enabling next-generation geothermal, including closed-loop systems and potential super-hot reservoirs with higher output. Current efforts in Texas include a 3 MW long-duration storage well at San Miguel, turbine research with Southwest Research Institute, and several Department of Defense demonstration projects. Mapping and modeling indicate multiple commercially attractive zones and rising developer interest. Discussion among the presenters and members of the Committee and Board included timing and scale of geothermal projects, project sizing, hurdles to large-scale deployment, and comparative advantages Texas has in developing geothermal energy as a resource.

**Notice of Annual Committee Self-Evaluation Questionnaire (Agenda Item 5)**

Chair Swainson presented the 2025 Annual Committee Self-Evaluation Questionnaire and indicated ERCOT staff will electronically administer the questionnaire to Committee members following today's meeting and the Committee will review results during the meeting scheduled for December 8, 2025.

**Committee Briefs (Agenda Item 6)**

**Projects and Technology Update (Agenda Item 6.1)**

JP Parakkuth presented the Projects and Technology update. He reported that project activity is lower than 2024 due to a deployment freeze related to Real-Time Co-Optimization (RTC) implementation. Projects continue in development but cannot deploy to production if they conflict with RTC. Mr. Parakkuth also reported that the DC-5 data center refresh project closed on time and under budget. Despite the freeze in deployments, project labor hours continue to exceed prior years.

**Real-Time Co-Optimization Implementation Update (Agenda Item 6.2)**

Mr. Parakkuth presented the RTC+B Update. He reported that the pre-execution budget of \$50 million was re-baselined at execution to \$35 million; however, current estimate to completion is \$32 million. Mr. Parakkuth also pointed out that the closed-loop test was completed successfully on September 11, 2025, with testing having validated critical systems, cutover processes, and cutback procedures. A second closed-loop test is planned for late October. Mr. Parakkuth, with input from Matt Mereness, went on to discuss the RTC+B cutover process, plan, and schedule with Committee members. Go-live for RTC+B is set for December 5, 2025. Further discussion with Committee members included estimation of total FTEs associated with the RTC+B effort.



### **Future Agenda Items (Agenda Item 7)**

Mr. Parakkuth and Chair Swanson identified a future topic of “Roadmap for AI Technology,” with Ms. England expressing an interest in understanding how AI might be applied to testing. Mr. Parakkuth mentioned a possible item on Energy Storage Resources (ESRs). Ms. England related a conversation she had recently with the dean of engineering at Texas Tech University regarding its stand-alone micro-grid they were testing for resiliency and stabilization, commenting that she had passed along his contact information to Mr. Parakkuth.

### **Other Business (Agenda Item 8)**

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 9:45 a.m. and convened Executive Session at approximately 9:52 a.m.

There were no voting items from Executive Session.

Chair Swainson adjourned the meeting upon the conclusion of Executive Session at approximately 10:45 a.m.

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

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Brandon Gleason  
Assistant Corporate Secretary