

# Minutes of the Meeting

## Q4 2025 RSSC: Meeting #66

Meeting date: 2025-11-12

Chair/Sponsor: Pirouz Honarmand /Devon Huber

Scribe: Sarraa Garada

Meeting location: MS Teams/Hybrid

Meeting time: 09:30 a.m.

<b>Invitees</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Attendance Status</b>
Abbas Munir	Bruce Power	IESO - Adelaide
Adam Burlock	Transalta	Teleconference – MS Teams
Aditya Menon	Hydro One	IESO - Adelaide
Ahmad Khan	Atura Power	IESO - Adelaide
Alain Mukama	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Andrea Lemhenyi	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Andrew Burmaster	Evolugen	Teleconference – MS Teams
Angie Turek	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Anne Freer	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Aqsa Jafri	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Ashley Scheelar	Transalta	Teleconference – MS Teams
Charlie Recoskie	NAES Canada	Teleconference – MS Teams
Chris Moir	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Clark McClocklin	Northland Power	Teleconference – MS Teams
Constantin Chitescu	OPG	IESO - Adelaide
Dan Kathir	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
David Kwan	OPG	IESO - Adelaide
Desderius Ngunangwa	Bruce Power	Teleconference – MS Teams
Devon Huber	IESO	IESO - Adelaide
Doug Preston	OPG	Teleconference – MS Teams
Harout Manougian	OEB	IESO - Adelaide

Hassan Vahed Kalankesh	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Hassib El Murdea	OPG	Teleconference – MS Teams
James Locke	NAES Canada	Teleconference – MS Teams
Jean-Michel Blais	Boralex	Teleconference – MS Teams
Jesse Rocca	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Jo Duque	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Josstina Beshay	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Junqian (Andrew) Huang	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Karen Demos	FPL	Teleconference – MS Teams
Keshav Sarin	Guidehouse	Teleconference – MS Teams
Keven Van Velzen	BBA	Teleconference – MS Teams
Kevin Samuel	FPL	Teleconference – MS Teams
Kia Barkhordari	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Kurtis Chong	IESO	IESO - Adelaide
Leandra Andrews	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Lidija Efremova	Hydro One	IESO - Adelaide
Md Mostafa	OPG	Teleconference – MS Teams
Mernaz Malozewski	Guidehouse	Teleconference – MS Teams
Mischa (Mike) Beuthling	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Mohnish Bilimoria	Hydro One	IESO - Adelaide
Monica Adam	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Neema Mehrabi	Bruce Power	IESO - Adelaide
Nicola Presutti	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Nilu Talwar	Hydro One	Teleconference – MS Teams
Paul Barrette	NAES Canada	Teleconference – MS Teams
Pirouz Honarmand	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Prasath Selvanayagam	Entrustsol	Teleconference – MS Teams
Prithvi (Shawn) Nandy	Transalta	Teleconference – MS Teams

Ranime Cheikh-Salem	Boralex	Teleconference – MS Teams
Saad Ansari	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Scott Berry	IESO	Teleconference – MS Teams
Sergey Peschanyy	FPL	Teleconference – MS Teams
Suleman Khan	OPG	IESO - Adelaide
Tabasum Bandey	Bruce Power	Teleconference – MS Teams
Tim Moriarty	Bruce Power	Teleconference – MS Teams
Tobi Ajayi	OPG	Teleconference – MS Teams
Viknesh Venkatesan	OPG	Teleconference – MS Teams

## Agenda Item 1: Welcome Remarks

Pirouz Honarmand chaired and kicked off the 66<sup>th</sup> RSSC meeting at 9:30 am and welcomed participants. A round of introductions was conducted.

For the safety moment, Pirouz highlighted winter-related hazards including cold stress, frostbite, hypothermia, wind chill, slippery surfaces, and downed power lines. Participants were reminded to dress appropriately and remain vigilant during winter conditions.

## Agenda Item 2: Administrative Items

The agenda for the 66<sup>th</sup> RSSC meeting was reviewed by Pirouz H. along with the minutes of the previous RSSC meeting.

Kevin S. noted that his attendance was not reflected in the Q2 2025 RSSC meeting minutes and requested correction.

Pirouz H. initiated a motion to approve the Q2 2025 RSSC meeting minutes (with attendance adjustment) and the current agenda, which was moved and seconded by Aditya M. and David K respectively. The minutes were adopted.

## Agenda Item 3: CIP standards Development Update

### **Dan Kathir delivered the CIP Standards Development Update.**

Refer to the meeting materials package for details.

Dan K. provided an overview of CIP-015-1 – Internal Network Security Monitoring (INSM), which was approved by FERC (Order 907). The standard applies to High and Medium Impact BES Cyber Systems and requires entities to establish baseline internal traffic patterns within the Electronic Security Perimeters (ESP), identify anomalous activity, and investigate findings. The compliance date is September 2, 2028.

Pirouz H. inquired about applicability to routable communications and treatment of serial protocols. Dan K. clarified that routable protocols within the ESP are in scope and that serial communications are not in scope unless converted to network traffic.

Kurtis C. raised a question regarding monitoring expectations during emergency or peak operational conditions. Dan K. confirmed that entities are expected to investigate and document anomalous activity consistent with established monitoring procedures.

## Agenda Item 4: MACD Update

### **Monica Adam delivered updates from MACD.**

Refer to the meeting materials package for details.

Monica A. provided an overview of 2025 Compliance Monitoring Program (CMP) activities including completion of the O&P audit, progress on the CIP audit, and recent self-certifications for both O&P and CIP, but mainly for FAC-008 and PRC-005 standards. Monica A. shared that her team had followed up with Market Participants (MPs) to obtain updates on remediation related to non-compliances that were discovered in previous years.

Monica A. highlighted the new activity conducted in 2025, including site walkdowns for FAC-008 and PRC-005 with MPs as part of the self-certification process, and the common observations that included evidence inconsistencies with the installed field equipment.

Monica A. also shared that self-certification results for FAC-008 showed 100% instances of non-compliance, while self-certifications for PRC-005 reported around 70% non-compliance related to documentation gaps, maintenance interval evidence, and alignment with equipment ratings.

Monica A. announced a three-part PRC-005 webinar series scheduled for January and February 2026 to provide guidance on evidence expectations and compliance demonstration.

David K. inquired if the webinar sessions will include examples of “what good looks like” in terms of maintenance forms and best practices. Monica A. clarified that the examples with the sample evidence are intended to assist entities to demonstrate compliance and best practices.

Monica A. concluded with an overview of the 2026 CMP timeline, and indicated that publication is anticipated in mid-December 2025.

## Agenda Item 5: Emergency Preparedness Update

### **Saad Ansari delivered the Emergency Preparedness update.**

Saad A. provided an update on the Ontario Power System Restoration Plan (OPSRP). He explained his intention to reduce publication risk by changing the naming convention of the confidential edition, while maintaining the public edition as Market Manual 7.8: Ontario Power System Restoration Plan (OPSRP). The target release date is December 3, 2025.

Saad A. clarified that the Market Manual 7.8 is what will be released on December 3rd, 2025, however, further work on turning the manual into guidance for prospective restoration participants would occur over the next year and would be incorporated into the next review/publishing cycle (a specific issuance date was not confirmed during the meeting).

Pirouz H. inquired how document updates will be communicated to restoration participants. Saad A. assured that the Emergency Preparedness team continue to bring updates to RSSC meetings, as well as through the emergency preparedness task force on a quarterly basis.

D. Kwan inquired if any changes to the Market Manual 7.8 will warrant a regular stakeholder process approved by the board of directors like a market rule change would? Saad A. explained that revisions to this Market Manual do not go through the Technical Panel of the Board, but the IESO's Baseline Process after soliciting input from emergency preparedness task force.

Saad A. concluded with an outlined 2026 schedule of in-person Ontario Power System Restoration Workshops that would be issued to the Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) contacts via Online IESO by End-of-Year (EOY). The first workshop will take place in Toronto (March 11th), and the remaining workshops will take place in Niagara (May 21st), Kincardine (June 11th), Thunder Bay (October 7th), and Kingston (November 11th)

Saad A. mentioned that that 2027/2028 workshop locations (tentative) are planned for a rotating schedule (e.g., Ajax/Toronto alternation, Niagara held consistent, Kincardine rotated with Collingwood/London, Thunder Bay rotated with Sudbury/Sault Ste. Marie, and Kingston rotated with Ottawa) to support broader accessibility for our MPs across the province.

## Agenda Item 6: O&P Standards Development Update

### **Pirouz Honarmand delivered the O&P Standards Development update.**

Refer to the meeting materials package for details.

- FERC Order 901 – NERC completed milestone 3, by sending 5 standards to FERC on petitions for approval.
- Project 2022-04 – EMT Modeling for facility interconnection studies, opened for initial ballot during Nov 12, 2025 – Nov 21, 2025. This standard is going to require EMT models and studies for registered Inverter-Based Resources (IBRs) during interconnection planning.
- Project 2024-02 – Planning Energy Assurance, opened for initial ballot during Dec 1, 2025 – Dec 10, 2025. This project introduces a new standard that establishes requirements to perform long-term energy reliability assessments.
- Project 2025-04 – FERC Order 901, now that milestone 3 has been completed, NERC has initiated milestone 4 to be filed by November 4th, 2026. This project introduces requirements that ensure IBRs and Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) are properly modeled in bulk system planning studies.
- Revisions to EOP-012-3 – Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations. The IESO had advised MPs earlier in the months via Online IESO, that EOP-012-3 will not become effective in Ontario and that compliance with EOP-012-2 should be maintained. The informal comments and selection of drafting team members for developing a Canadian variance to EOP-012-3 were concluded on July 24th, 2025.

Pirouz H. also provided updates on NPCC Directory changes, their balloting period, and the task forces involved in the upcoming changes.

Pirouz H. gave a summary of a presentation by the NERC Modernization of Standards Processes and Procedures Task Force (MSPPTF) delivered on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025. MSPPTF provided their key recommendations spanning the standard initiation, drafting, and balloting phases, which are intended to improve efficiency, transparency, and stakeholder engagement. Pirouz H. noted that the recommendation document is available on NERC's website.

Pirouz H. highlighted that the changes discussed include enhanced prioritization and risk-based criteria, updated drafting approaches; including development of "version zero" drafts developed with AI assistance to accelerate drafting process, and adjustments to balloting practices, including eligibility criteria for ballot participation.

Kurtis C. encouraged the organizations to get involved with the changes being made to the standards development process and make SMEs available to get Canadian views represented.

Harout M. raised a question regarding revisions to the definition of Generator Operator and Generator Operator and potential impacts on applicable IBR owners and operators. Kurtis C. assured that the IESO and MACD are assessing the implications and that outreach to potentially impacted MPs will occur proactively ahead of the enforcement deadlines.

## Agenda Items 7 & 8: NERC Standards Implementation Roadmap & NERC Lessons Learned and NERC Alerts

[Refer to the details in the meeting materials package.](#)

Due to time constraints, updates under Agenda Items 7 & 8 were not formally presented. Attendees were advised to refer to the meeting materials package for details.

## Agenda Item 8: NERC Information Command Center (NICC) NextEra Energy

Sergey P. delivered a presentation on NextEra's compliance technology approach and their NERC Information Command Centre (NICC), a centralized continuous monitoring solution integrating compliance data across multiple enterprise systems. The NICC enables real-time monitoring of asset inventories, patch management activities, data integration, dashboards, and workflow automation to support audit readiness.

Sergey P. demonstrated automated ERT workbook generation, proactive patch tracking dashboards, storm impact projections, and AI-assisted compliance validation capabilities such as accessibility to guidance materials and internal knowledge bases.

Pirouz H. inquired if by implementing this approach, NextEra believes they are at the ever-ready stage for an audit. Sergey P. clarified that they've only started with some key standards and requirements for CIP-007, CIP-10, and 10 O&P requirements are currently underway to be integrated by EOY.

Pirouz H. followed up on the time it took NextEra to implement their solution and get to this point. Sergey P. noted that it took them 18 months to develop the framework once they integrated a few requirements because it was a replicative process. Additionally, NICC was not based on a tool, but it was built from scratch, the reason being that it pulls the information needed to monitor and demonstrate compliance from various data sources used by business units.

Pirouz H. inquired on whether the IT and compliance procedures are integrated such that patch management can be done within the system that monitors it as well. Sergey P. clarified that they use other tools to track the work, and then use NICC to integrate that information, to monitor the patch management process and generate compliance evidence.

Dan K. raised a question regarding patch management timelines under CIP requirements, and how NICC tool initiates and monitors that process, particularly from patch release through assessment, implementation, and closure. Sergey P. explained that the primary risk has been ensuring that all required assessments are completed and documented within prescribed timelines. Under the current model, the owner performs the patch assessment and records it within the ticketing system. NICC ingests this data, validates attachments against ticket information, tracks completion dates against timelines and flags upcoming due dates, reducing audit preparation time.

Dan K. sought clarification as to whether monitoring begins only after a human initiates the assessment. Sergey P. confirmed that in the current state, monitoring begins once the assessment is logged. Additionally, future AI enhancements may enable automated detection of vendor patch releases and partial workflow initiation, including suggested mitigation steps where immediate implementation is not feasible.

## Agenda Item 9: Closing Remarks

Pirouz H. invited final questions from attendees. No additional questions were raised; he thanked participants for their time and adjourned the meeting.

The meeting ended at 12:40 PM.

## Adjournment:

## Action Items at Completion of 2025 RSSC Q2 Meeting

ID	Date	Assignee	Action	Status	Comments
Q1-2026-01	11/12/2025	Aqsa Jafri	Update attendance list (Kevin Samuel) in Q2 RSSC Meeting Minutes	Closed	Kevin Samuel's attendance was already captured.