

Welcome to



**March 20, 2023
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

PUBLIC

Technical Talk with RF

March 20, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

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conversation at
Slido.com
#TechTalkRF



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Tech Talk Reminders

Please keep your information up-to-date

- CORES, Generation Verification Forms, Entity Profile Questionnaires (quarterly)

Following an event, send EOP-004 or OE-417 forms to disturbance@rfirst.org
CIP-008-6 incident reports are sent to the [E-ISAC](#) and the [DHS CISA](#)

Check our [monthly CMEP update](#) and [quarterly newsletter](#) for:

- [2023 ERO Periodic Data Submittal schedule](#)
- Timing of Standard effectiveness

BES Cyber System Categorization (CIP-002-5.1a)

- Assess categorization (low, medium, or high) regularly and notify us of changes

CIP Evidence Request Tool V7.0 is online, see [website](#)



Tech Talk Announcement

Certification Reminder

This reminder is to ensure Entities registered as a **Balancing Authority (BA)**, **Reliability Coordinator (RC)**, and/or **Transmission Operator (TOP)** are aware of the Organization Certification Review and Readiness Evaluation processes. Readiness Evaluations may be required for Entities taking on responsibilities for certified Entities (e.g., **Transmission Owners (TO-LCCs)** in the PJM footprint).

The decision to certify and evaluate changes to an already operating and certified Registered Entity is a collaborative decision between the affected Regional Entity and NERC. Items that are to be considered in this decision include one or more of the following:

- Changes to Registered Entity's footprint (including de-certification changes to existing JRO/CFR assignments or subset list of requirements):
- Relocation of the Control Center:
- Modification of the Energy Management System (EMS) which is expected to materially affect CIP security perimeters or the System Operator's: 1) situational awareness tools, 2) functionality, or 3) machine interfaces.

If you are planning a change that falls into one of these categories, an Organizational Certification Review or Readiness Evaluation may need to be performed. Please complete the form titled "RF Certification Notification and Preliminary Questionnaire" that is located [here](#).

In order to allow for time in scheduling, it is requested, if possible, that you **provide 12 months advance notice** of your changes to allow sufficient time for RF to review the changes and begin the process.



Tech Talk Announcement



Reliability and Security Technical Committee (RSTC) Meeting Materials Posted

- [March 21 RSTC Informational Session](#)
- [March 22 RSTC Meeting Day 1](#)
- [March 23 RSTC Meeting Day 2](#)



Tech Talk Announcement



New CMEP Practice Guide Posted *Using the Work of Others*

NERC
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

This is a Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) Practice Guide. It is developed exclusively by the ERO Enterprise under its obligations for independence and objectivity. This CMEP Practice Guide is intended for use by ERO Enterprise Staff to support consistency as they perform CMEP activities. This CMEP Practice Guide is posted publicly solely to provide transparency.

ERO Enterprise CMEP Practice Guide

Using the Work of Others
March 14, 2023

Background

To support successful implementation and compliance with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Reliability Standards, the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) Enterprise¹ adopted the Compliance Guidance Policy.² The Compliance Guidance Policy outlines the purpose, development, use, and maintenance of guidance for implementing Reliability Standards. According to the Compliance Guidance Policy, Compliance Guidance includes two types of guidance – (1) Implementation Guidance and (2) Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) Practice Guides.³ This document summarizes some of the requirements in NERC Reliability Standards, but the language of the Reliability Standards is enforceable and supersedes any description in this document.

Purpose

This CMEP Practice Guide provides guidance to CMEP staff⁴ when reviewing evidence, provided by registered entities, that is generated “Using the Work of Others.” Work of Others can include an assessment of the registered entity’s compliance with a Reliability Standard or an independent internal control review may be conducted by: 1) an independent Subject Matter Expert; 2) a government entity (such as the Government Accountability Office or Nuclear Regulatory Commission); 3) a contractor who has been commissioned by the registered entity as an independent third party; or 4) an internal department within the registered entity that is independent of the department performing Reliability Standards operations.

The use of the word “others” in this Practice Guide refers to internal or external parties that perform work for the registered entity. Similarly, “independent” refers to the internal or external party that can objectively carry out its work for the registered entity in an unbiased manner.

Using the Work of Others

A registered entity may seek to rely on the work of others to support a registered entity’s demonstration of compliance with a Reliability Standard. This may include internal or external party.

¹ The ERO Enterprise consists of NERC and the six Regional Entities.
² The ERO Enterprise Compliance Guidance Policy is located on the NERC website at: <https://www.nerc.com/na/comp/guidance/Documents/Compliance%20Guidance%20Policy.pdf>
³ Implementation Guidance provides a means for registered entities to develop examples or approaches to illustrate how registered entities



Tech Talk Announcement



Level 2 NERC Alert Issued *Inverter-Based Resource Performance Issues*

A screenshot of a document titled "Industry Recommendation: Inverter-Based Resource Performance Issues" from NERC. The document is dated March 14, 2023. It discusses widespread loss of inverter-based resources (IBRs) in 2021 and 2022, particularly in Odessa, Texas, and the potential for future outages as IBR penetration increases. It provides recommendations for Generator Owners (GO) to review and implement actions to mitigate performance risks. The document includes a note on applicability to battery energy storage systems (BESS) and links to further information.

NERC
NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Industry Recommendation

Inverter-Based Resource Performance Issues

Initial Distribution: March 14, 2023

NERC analyzed multiple large-scale disturbances on the bulk power system (BPS) involving widespread loss of inverter-based resources (IBRs). In 2021 and 2022, two disturbances in Odessa, Texas, resulted in abnormal performance across several Bulk Electric System (BES) solar photovoltaic (PV) generating resources. These resources have exhibited systemic performance issues that could lead to unexpected losses of BPS-connected generation, with the potential to cause widespread outages. As the penetration of BPS-connected IBRs continues to rapidly increase, it is paramount that any performance deficiencies with existing (and future) generation resources be addressed in an effective and efficient manner.

While this Level 2 alert is being distributed to Generator Owners (GO) of BES solar PV resources, the recommendations should also be reviewed and implemented by owners of all BPS-connected¹ solar PV resources (See Background section for more information). The alert also seeks to gather data from solar PV asset owners to understand whether additional actions are necessary to mitigate possible BPS performance risks. Applicable GOs are strongly encouraged to consult their inverter- and plant-level controller manufacturers, review inverter settings and controls currently installed in the field, and implement the recommendations described herein, and review this information with the associated Generator Operators (GOPs) as applicable.

Note: This alert pertains specifically to solar PV resources, however, the recommendations may be applicable to BPS-connected battery energy storage systems (BESS). This alert does not pertain to wind resources as the observed performance issues are different.

For more information, see the NERC Major Event Analysis Reports [webpage](#). All recipients are strongly encouraged to read the findings from these reports, particularly the 2021 Odessa Disturbance [report](#) and the 2022 Odessa Disturbance [report](#).

[Why am I receiving this? >>](#)
[About NERC Alerts >>](#)

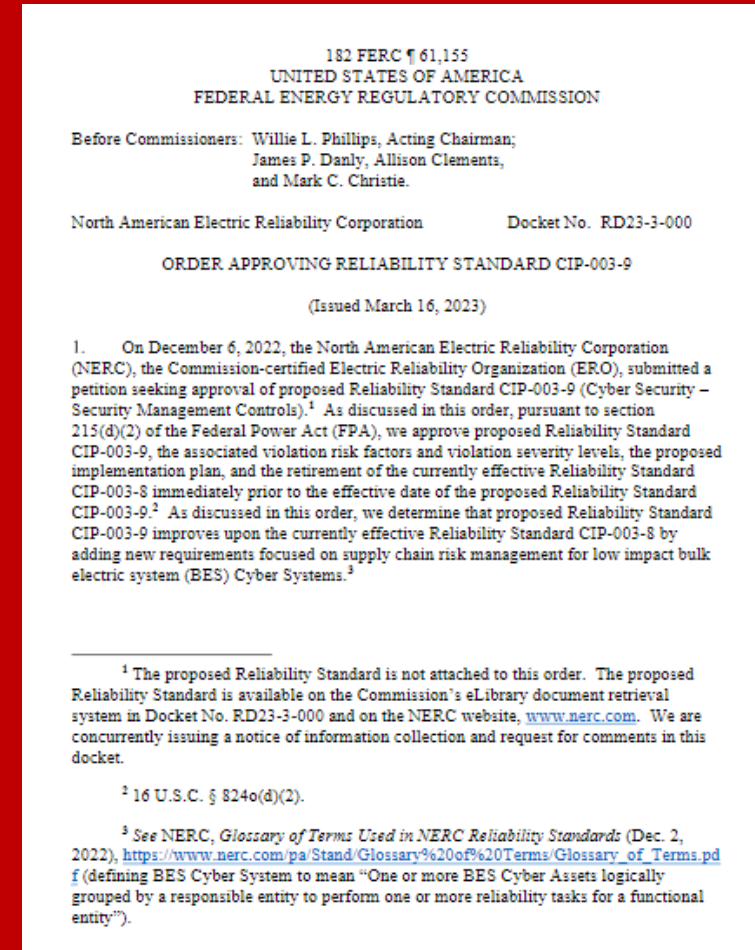


Tech Talk Announcement



FERC issues order approving Reliability Standard CIP-003-9

- The approved implementation plan for the Standards is 36 months



Tech Talk Announcement

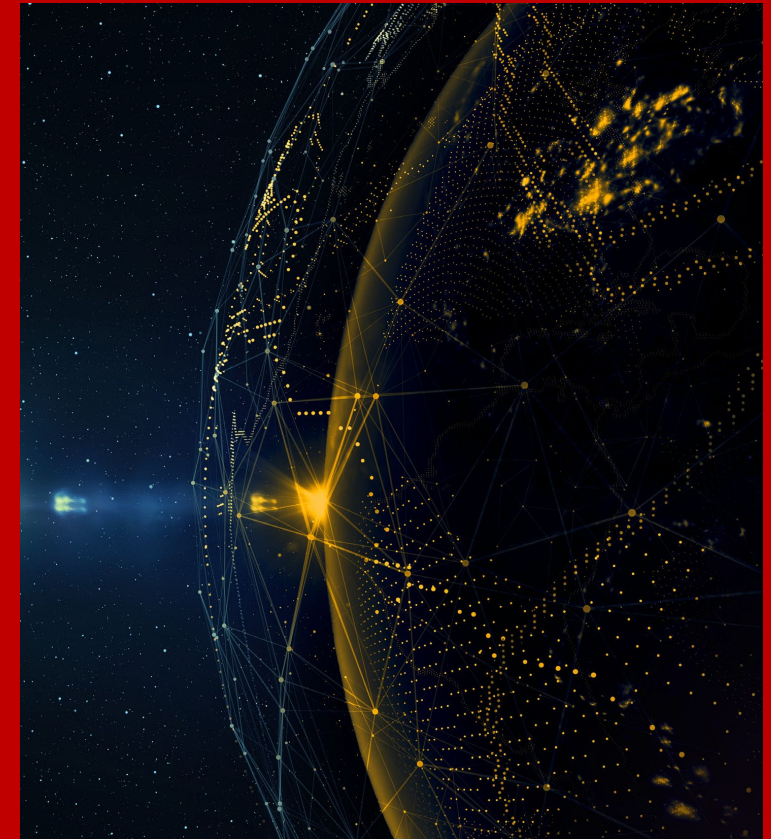


GridSecCon 2023

- October 17-20 Save the Dates

NERC, the E-ISAC, and Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) are co-hosting the 12th annual grid security conference on October 17–20, 2023 in Québec City, Canada.

GridSecCon brings together cyber and physical security leaders from industry and government to deliver expert training sessions, share best practices and effective threat mitigation programs, and present lessons learned. Conference and hotel registration will open in May and more details will be available on the E-ISAC, NERC and NPCC websites.





Women's Leadership in Grid Reliability & Security Conference

- March 23 ([Link](#))

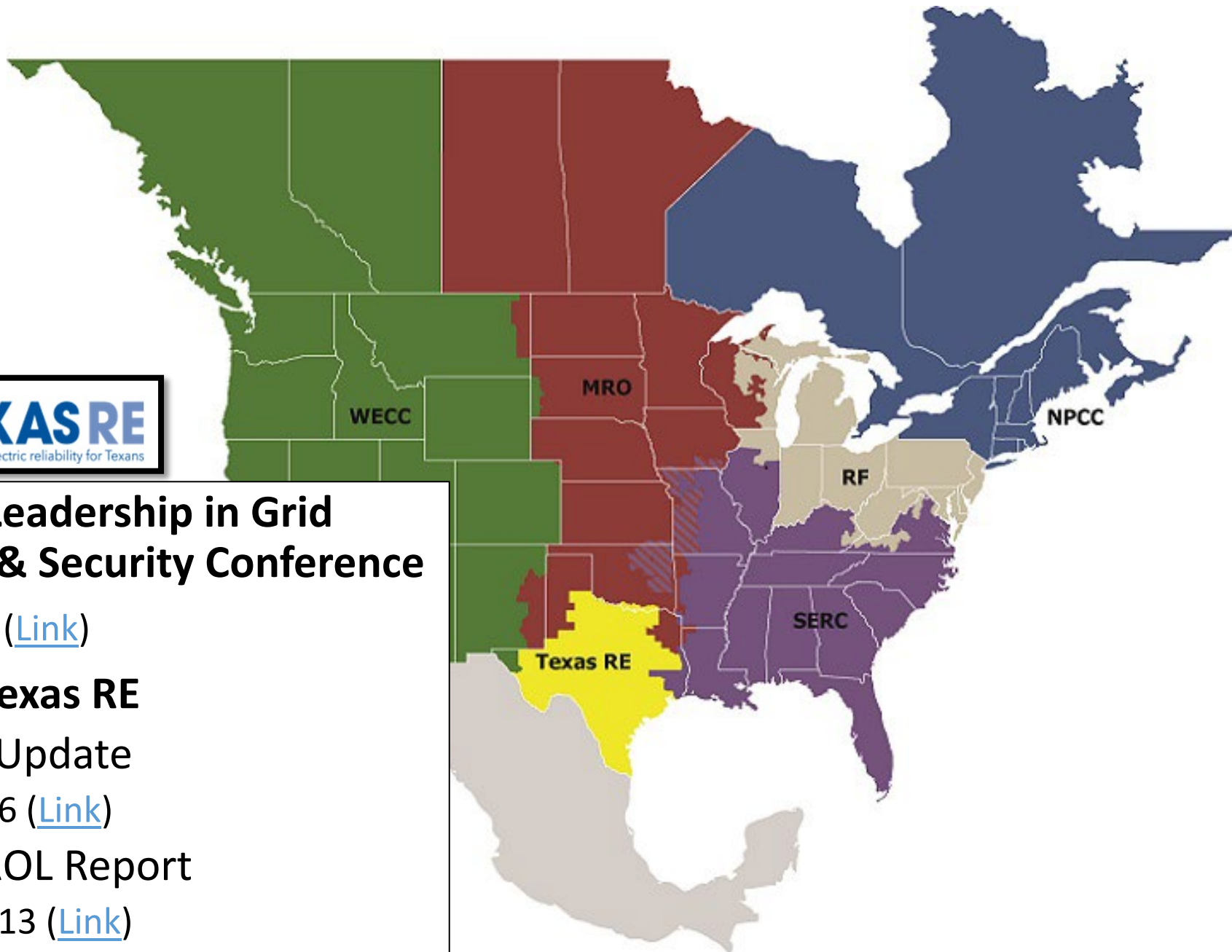
Talk with Texas RE

E-ISAC Update

- April 6 ([Link](#))

FERC IROL Report

- April 13 ([Link](#))



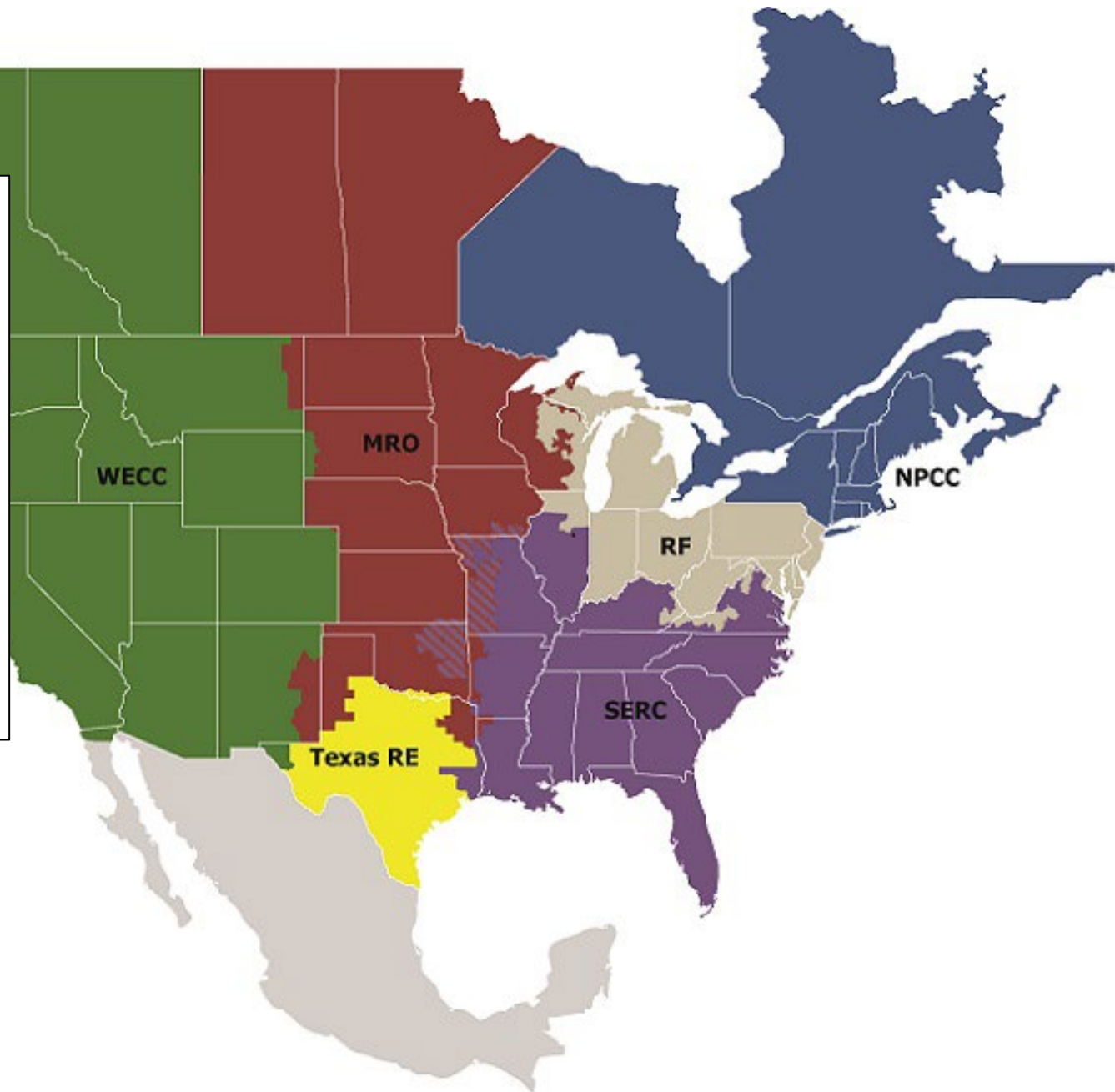


WECC Reliability & Security Workshop - Virtual

- March 21 ([link](#))
 - Align, COPs, Risk Assessments, Cold Weather, Supply Chain, Enforcement & Mitigation

Resource Adequacy Discussion Series

- April 6 ([link](#))
 - Navigating a regional approach



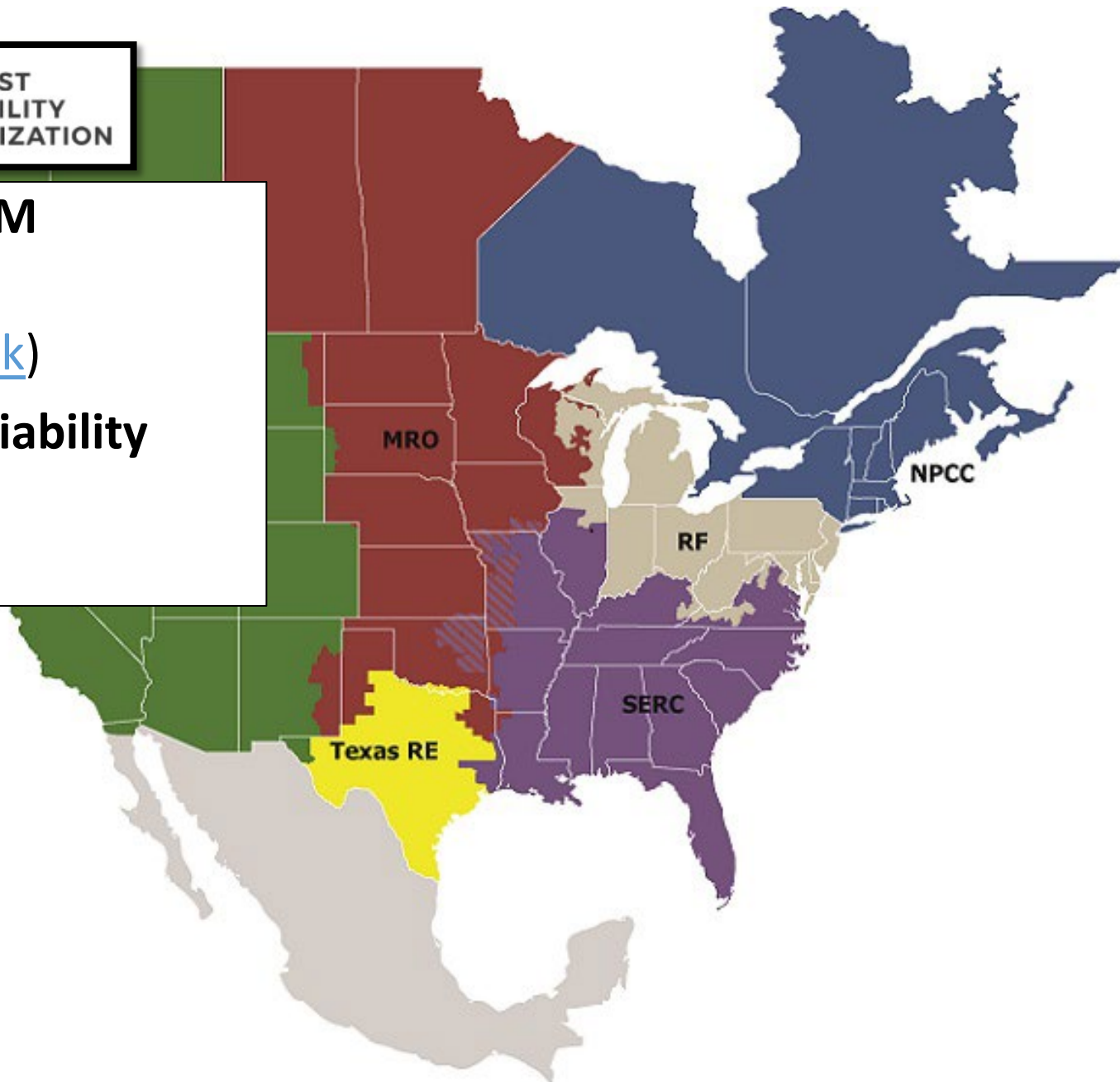


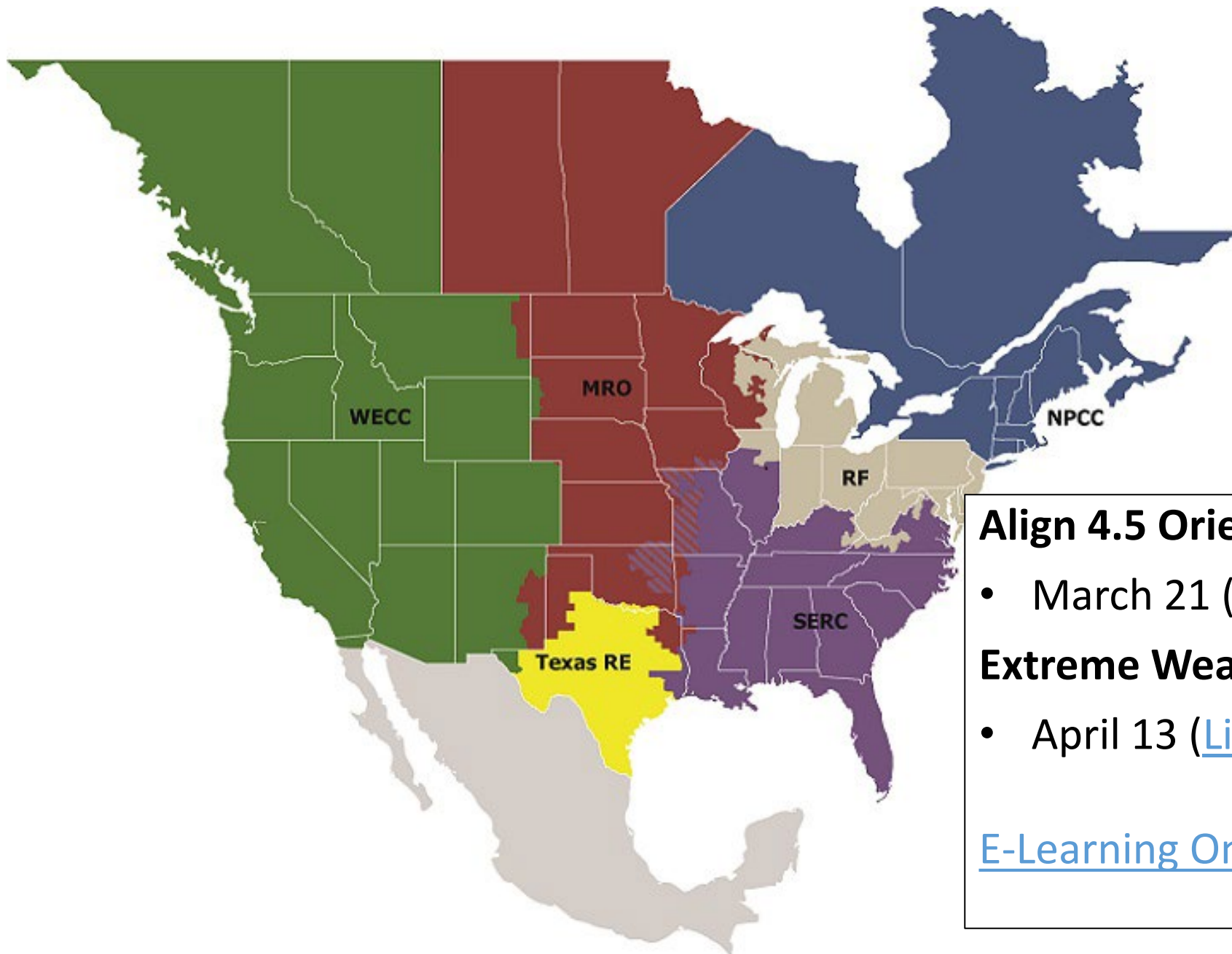
MRO Hybrid RAM Conference

- March 22 ([Link](#))

MRO Hybrid Reliability Conference

- May 17 ([Link](#))





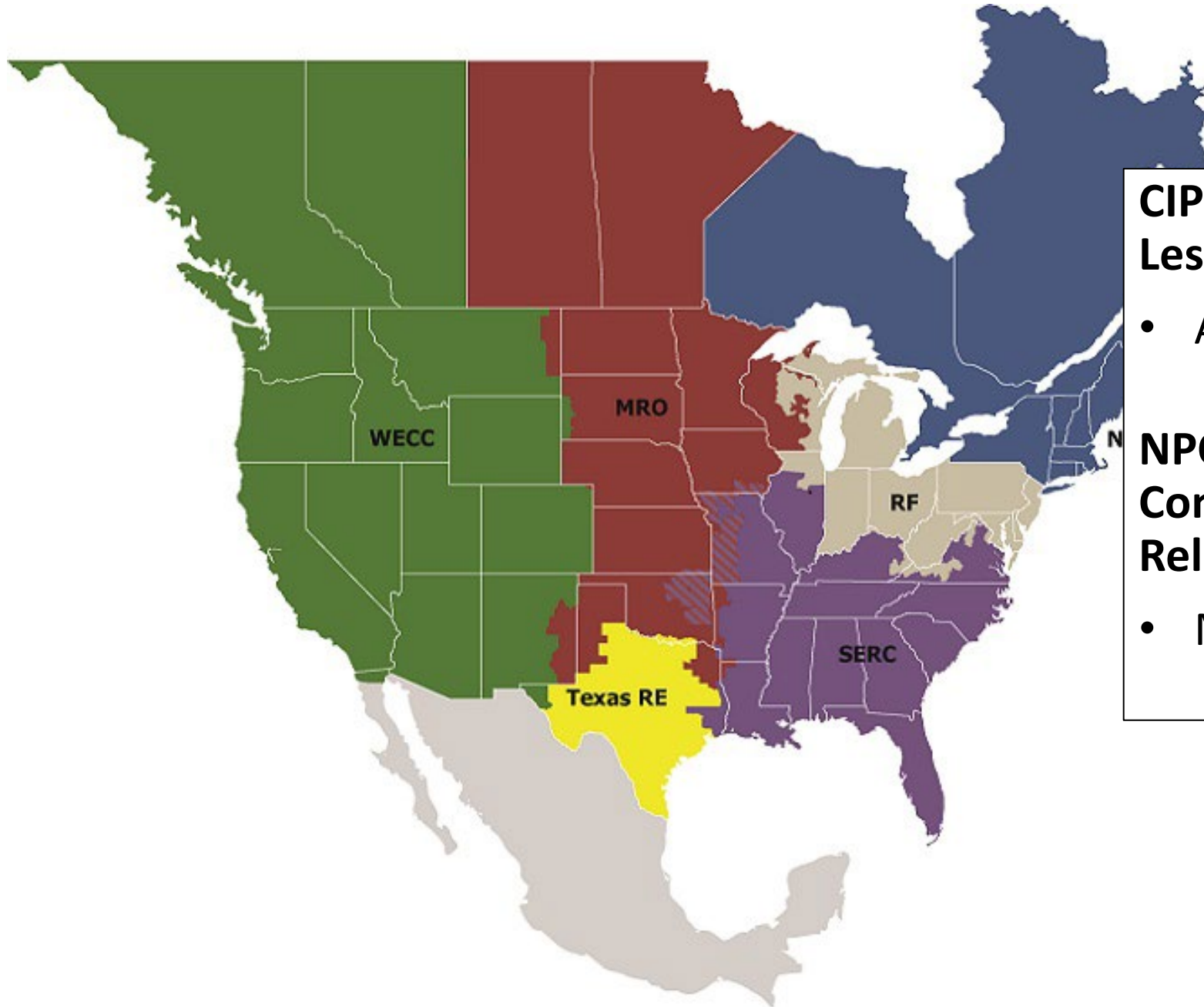
Align 4.5 Orientation

- March 21 ([Link](#))

Extreme Weather Webinar

- April 13 ([Link](#))

[E-Learning Online Courses](#)

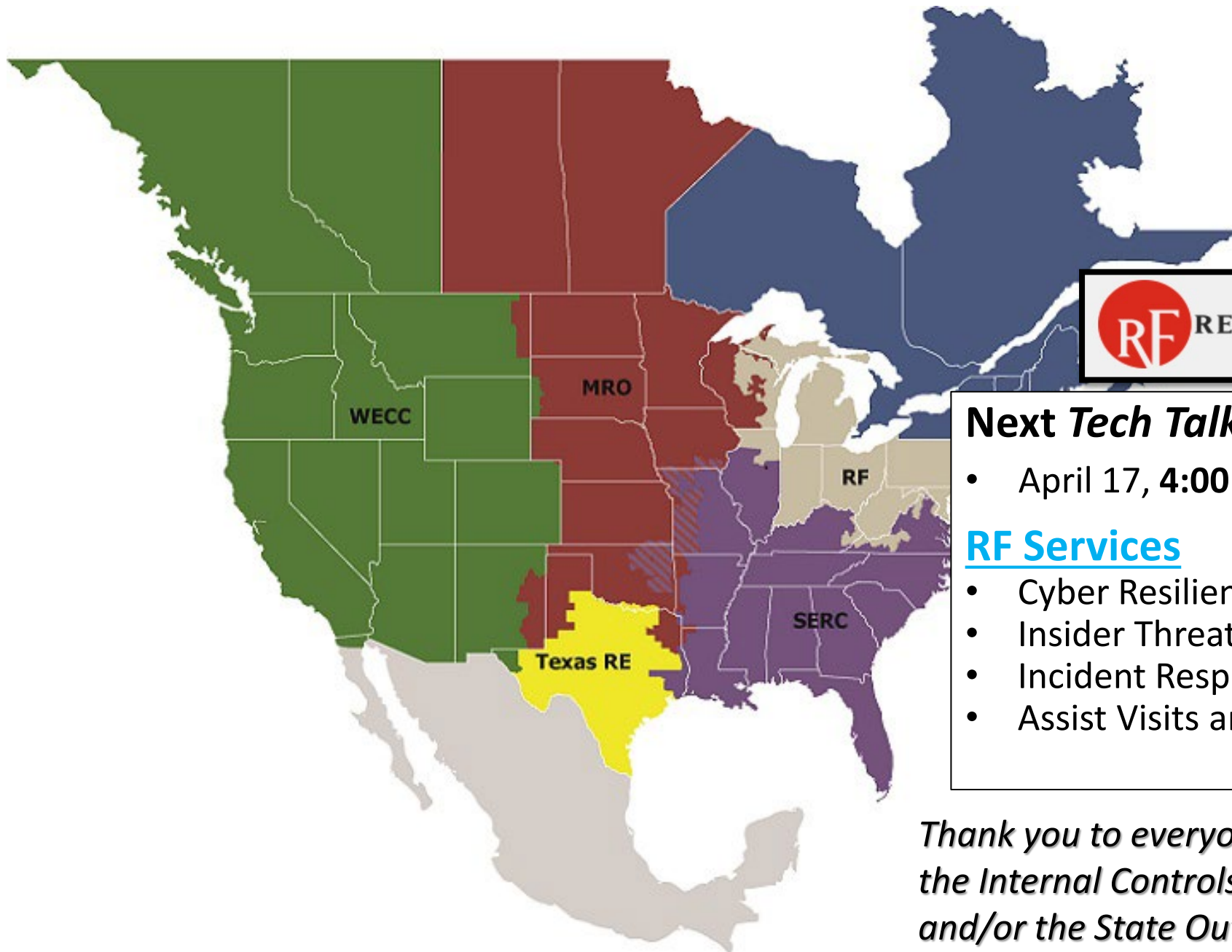


CIP ERT Overview and Lessons Learned

- April 7 ([Link](#))

NPCC Spring Compliance and Reliability Webinar

- May 18 ([Link](#))



Next *Tech Talk with RF*

- April 17, 4:00 – 5:30 PM

RF Services

- Cyber Resilience Tool
- Insider Threat Assessment
- Incident Response Tabletops
- Assist Visits and Appraisals

Thank you to everyone who attended the Internal Controls Workshop and/or the State Outreach Webinar!

Tech Talk Announcement

No Registration Required

- [Calendar Link](#)
- [Webex Link](#)



Tech Talk for April is our regularly scheduled date (third Monday of the month) **however**, we are starting at **4:00 PM Eastern** with a special guest presentation from our friends in Southern Australia talking about their transition to renewable energy.



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Monday, March 20, 2023

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Tech Talk Reminders

Tech Talk with RF announcements are posted on our calendar on www.rfirst.org under **Upcoming Events**



UPCOMING EVENTS [VIEW ALL](#)

March 20, 2023

Technical Talk with RF



Anti-Trust Statement

It is ReliabilityFirst's policy and practice to obey the antitrust laws and to avoid all conduct that unreasonably restrains competition. This policy requires the avoidance of any conduct which violates, or which might appear to violate, the antitrust laws. Among other things, the antitrust laws forbid any agreement between or among competitors regarding prices, availability of service, product design, terms of sale, division of markets, allocation of customers or any other activity that unreasonably restrains competition.

It is the responsibility of every ReliabilityFirst participant and employee who may in any way affect ReliabilityFirst's compliance with the antitrust laws to carry out this policy.



Tech Talk Agenda

Establishing and Communicating System Operating Limits

- **Dean LaForest** – Project 2015-09 Chair (2019-2021) and Manager of Real-Time Studies at ISO-New England
- **Vic Howell** – Project 2015-09 Chair (2015-2019) and Director of Reliability Risk Management at WECC
- **Stephen Whaite** – Technical Auditor, Operations & Planning Compliance Monitoring at RF

Operational Analysis and Awareness (OAA) Update

- **Tony Purgar** – Senior Manager, OAA, RF
- **Kellen Phillips** – Principal Analyst, OAA, RF
- **Dwayne Fewless** – Principal Analyst, OAA, RF

