

# RELIABILITY FIRST

## 2021 Reliability and Compliance Workshop

September 22-23, 2021

Forward Together  ReliabilityFirst

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# Day 1: Wednesday, September 22

1:00 pm - 1:05 pm

## Welcome

**Presenter:** Brian Thiry, Manager Entity Engagement, RF

1:05 pm - 1:35 pm

## Keynote Address

**Presenter:** Joanna Burkey, Chief Information Security Officer, HP, Inc. and RF Independent Director

1:35 pm - 2:05 pm

## Sustainability in the ERO

**Presenter:** Scott Nied, Vice President Compliance, NPCC

This presentation will review ERO activities promoting sustainability and how Entities can support these efforts to enhance their own programs.

2:05 pm - 2:50 pm

## Building Sustainable Compliance Programs

**Presenters:** Zack Brinkman, Manager CIP, and Jim Kubrak, Manager Operations and Planning, RF

This presentation will explain what we mean by "sustainable programs," the importance of the topic, the benefits of program sustainability, and suggestions for improvement.

2:50 pm - 3:00 pm

## BREAK

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

## Sustainability-minded EMS Upgrade

**Presenters:** Jennifer Burke, IT Director, and Matt Guarneri, Utilities Transmission Ops Support Manager, Exelon

This presentation will focus on Exelon's recent EMS upgrade and how compliance was integrated into the entire process.

3:30 pm - 4:00

## CIP and O&P Perspectives on CIP-012

**Presenters:** Lew Folkerth, Principal Reliability Consultant, and Mike Hughes, Principal Technical Auditor, RF; Tom Foster Manager, NERC Compliance, PJM; Brian Kiefer, Manager Operations Technology Integration, and Brian Scalf, Manager, Networking Operations, MISO

# Day 1: Wednesday, September 22

4:00 pm - 4:10 pm

**BREAK**

4:10 pm - 4:25 pm

## **CIP and O&P Perspectives on Engagement Scoping Process**

**Presenters:** Ryan Mah, Senior Technical Auditor, and Curtis Crum, Principal Technical Auditor, RF

This presentation will give both CIP and O&P perspectives on the process and timeline for determining the scope of an audit.

4:25 pm - 4:55 pm

## **Importance of Technical Controls in Building Sustainable Mitigation Plans**

**Presenters:** Kyle Down, Manager NERC Reliability Assurance, PSEG; Mike Hattery, Associate Counsel, RF; and Jim Ruddell, Manager IT Business Coordination, PJM

This presentation will discuss the relationship between preventative controls and sustainable programs using CIP-004-6 R2 and CIP-010-2 R1 as examples.

4:55 pm - 5:00 pm

## **Wrap-up and What's next on Day Two**

**Presenter:** Brian Thiry, Manager Entity Engagement, RF









# Technical Talk with RF

RF offers a regularly scheduled [monthly call](#) to provide Entities and stakeholders with a forum for addressing topics and questions relevant to reliability, resiliency and security. These calls are held on the third Monday of each month from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Eastern time.

In addition to compliance-related content, these calls cover other risk areas, such as cyber security, misoperations, situational awareness and much more. Please invite your Operations, Planning, Cyber, Design, IT, and/or Maintenance personnel, if you see an agenda topic they would be interested in!

**Join the next call on October 11, 2021**



## Assist Visits

**Contact Brian Thiry,**  
**Manager, Entity Engagement**  
**Email: [brian.thiry@rfirst.org](mailto:brian.thiry@rfirst.org)**

**[Assist Visit Request](#)**

## RF Newsletter

Are you reading our newsletter? If not, subscribe today to stay up to date on RF news, industry updates and upcoming events.

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Forward Together



ReliabilityFirst

## Day 2: Thursday, September 23

1:00 pm - 1:05 pm

### **Welcome**

**Presenter:** Brian Thiry, Manager Entity Engagement, RF

1:05 pm - 1:20 pm

### **Sustainability in Relation to RF CMEP**

**Presenter:** Niki Schaefer, Vice President and General Counsel, RF

This presentation will review elements of CMEP sustainability and the vision for RF's CMEP team.

1:20 pm - 2:05 pm

### **Keynote Speaker**

**Presenter:** Mark Hoog, President, Vector Academy

2:05 pm - 2:15 pm

### **BREAK**

2:15 pm - 2:45 pm

### **Facility Ratings Regarding ERO Expectations and Lessons Learned**

**Presenter:** Joel Rogers, Senior Compliance Auditor, SERC

This presentation will share the ERO perspective on building a sustainable Facility Ratings program, including trends and violations, analyzing risk, Internal Controls and walk-downs.

2:45 pm - 3:15 pm

### **Facility Rating Internal Controls**

**Presenter:** Joe Pilch, Manager of Transmission Planning & Interconnection, Duquesne Light Company

This presentation will focus on the various facets of Duquesne's Internal Controls for building a sustainable Facility Ratings program.

3:15 pm - 3:25 pm

### **BREAK**



## Day 2: Thursday, September 23

3:25 pm - 4:10 pm

### **CIP-013 Building a Sustainable Supply Chain Program**

**Presenters:** Scott Pelfrey, and Shon Austin, Principal Technical Auditors, RF; Lee Felter, Principal Risk Assessment & Mitigation Engineer, CIP, MRO; Jordan Kethley, CIP Cyber & Physical Security Analyst I, Texas RE; and Holly Peterson, Senior Compliance Auditor, Cyber Security, WECC

This ERO panel discussion will provide insights on how to take your Supply Chain program to the next level.

4:10 pm - 4:40 pm

### **CIP-014 Practice Guide Overview**

**Presenter:** Jamie Calderon, Senior Engineer, Grid Planning & Operations Assurance, NERC

This presentation will provide an overview of CIP-014-2 R1 Risk Assessments.

4:40 pm - 4:55 pm

### **RF Community Appraisal Project**

**Presenter:** Brian Hallett, Principal Reliability Consultant, RF

This presentation introduce RF's innovative Community Appraisal Project.

4:55 pm - 5:00 pm

### **Wrap-up**

**Presenter:** Brian Thiry, Manager Entity Engagement, RF





**Shon Austin**

*Principal Technical Auditor, RF*

Mr. Austin currently works in the CIP department and is responsible for monitoring, measuring and reporting the compliance to ERO Reliability Standards for the Registered Entities in the RF footprint. These functions are accomplished through database management, real-time monitoring techniques, and on-site visits. He has an extensive knowledge of industrial and technical cyber security information. Mr. Austin has 21+ years progressive experience in the Electrical Energy Industry, with 18+ years professional experience in Information Security and 14+ years specialized experience in NERC/FERC Compliance & Enforcement. Previously Mr. Austin served as a Lead Compliance Specialist Southwest Power Pool (SPP) and a senior level Application Developer/System Engineer for the SPP Regional Transmission Organization.



**Zack Brinkman**

*Manager CIP, RF*

Mr. Brinkman is responsible for planning, developing, coordinating, and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the CIP Compliance Monitoring. His primary responsibilities include development of the annual CIP audit plans to assess regional risk and providing oversight of compliance engagements. Prior to this position, Mr. Brinkman worked in the Compliance Department as a Senior Technical CIP Auditor. Mr. Brinkman has experience in numerous Information Security fields, including policy development and management, risk assessments and analysis, control development and testing, internal and external audit facilitation, vulnerability remediation, and security deficiency remediation and tracking. Prior to joining ReliabilityFirst, Mr. Brinkman worked at the Charles Schwab Corporation focusing on the development of a second line of defense by developing and implementing an information security control testing program. Mr. Brinkman also spent 5 years at Early Warning Services as a Security Compliance Specialist and an Information Security Consultant in the security compliance department focusing on industry and regulatory compliance activities and application, network, and physical security risk assessments. Mr. Brinkman graduated from the Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Security and Risk Analysis with a concentration in Social Factors and Risk. Mr. Brinkman obtained the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) certification in September 2019.



**Jennifer Burke**

*IT Director, Exelon*

Ms. Burke is Exelon IT Director in the IT NERC CIP Compliance (INCC) organization. In her role, Jennifer leads IT NERC CIP Oversight, which includes implementation of new and updated NERC CIP standards, NERC CIP Audits, program level support, and CIP operational activities. Jennifer has over 23-years of IT operations and compliance/security experience across a varied group of Exelon affiliates including BGE and Exelon. She has done Unix System Administration support for BGE, ITIL Incident Management, managed Storage/Backup infrastructure, and lead major NERC CIP implementations (including v3 and v5) and operations. In 2010, Jennifer helped establish the BGE NERC CIP compliance program. Jennifer's NERC CIP Compliance journey continued in 2015 with the implementation of the NERC CIPV5 for Exelon where she was named the Enterprise Standard Owner (ESO) for CIP-005, 007, 009 and 010. Jennifer moved into her current role as the IT Director for Exelon's NERC CIP compliance organization in 2019. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Information Systems from Stevenson University and a Master's Degree in Information Technology from Towson University.



**Joanna Burkey**

*Independent Director, RF and Chief Information Security Officer, HP, Inc.*

Ms. Burkey currently leads global cybersecurity efforts for HP, Inc. where she is responsible for the organization's cybersecurity program, including IT infrastructure, technology platforms and business units. Her career has been dedicated to cybersecurity and technology, spending roles in engineering, product strategy, security evangelism and business development. She is a publicly recognized thought leader and speaker who is passionate about growing diversity throughout technology roles.



**Jamie Calderon**

*Senior Engineer, Grid Planning & Operations Assurance, NERC*

Ms. Calderon in her role includes working with industry to identify, develop, and implement best practices, monitoring approaches, and implementation guidance for complying with NERC Reliability Standards. Current work includes applying risk-based approaches for audit observations, key reliability standard spot checks, internal control(s) evaluations, mitigation plan(s) evaluations through cross departmental efforts to identify and mitigate known industry trends or gaps with compliance approaches. Prior to joining Grid Planning and Operations Assurance, Jamie joined NERC in 2015 as an engineer in the Reliability Assessment department. As an engineer for Reliability Assessments, Jamie coordinated and developed data collections efforts, metrics, and analyses for the North American bulk power grid with regional entities. Efforts involved developing improved data analytics to conduct reliability assessments for the North American bulk power system to identify probability-weighted risks and notable trends. Prior to joining NERC, Jamie served as a Transmission Planning Engineer for the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG). The responsibilities in this role were to assist in securing multiple cities' transmission requirements and future development needs while representing their needs through co-planning of the bulk transmission network. Additionally, Jamie served as a dispatcher for MEAG's bulk power generation for several years. Jamie Calderon received her bachelor's degree of science in Electrical Engineering Technology from Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia.



**Curtis Crum**

*Principal Technical Auditor, RF*

Crum's current primary responsibilities are performing Operation/Planning engagements. Before joining ReliabilityFirst, Mr. Crum held several positions with NIPSCO, including the position as a director, where he was in charge of resource planning and generation dispatch. Previously, Mr. Crum was the manager of Market Issues and Strategies, where he coordinated the efforts necessary for NIPSCO to join MISO. Mr. Crum has actively participated in various RTO stakeholder meetings. He has experience with distribution and transmission planning, resource planning, transmission operations, and generation dispatch. Mr. Crum was a certified NERC System Operator, while at NIPSCO, and maintained his NERC Certified System Operator – Reliability certification through 2016. Mr. Crum holds a BSEE from Purdue University Calumet.

# Speaker Biographies



## **Kyle Down**

*Manager NERC Reliability Assurance, PSEG*

Mr. Down is the Manager of NERC Reliability Assurance for PSEG within their centralized NERC Compliance Group, which provides governance and oversight for all PSEG Registered Entities. Kyle is responsible for managing and leading the NERC Reliability Assurance function, and serves as the Primary Compliance Contact for PSEG. Kyle obtained a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certification in 2019 following the completion of a NERC Compliance Risk Reduction Green Belt project. Prior to joining PSEG's NERC Compliance Group, Kyle was an engineer for PSEG Nuclear with a primary focus on equipment reliability for generating station systems and assets through performing troubleshooting, root cause analyses, and performance monitoring.



## **Lee Felter, PE**

*Principal Risk Assessment & Mitigation Engineer, CIP, MRO*

Mr. Felter joined MRO in March 2020 as a Principal Engineer, CIP in the Risk Assessment and Mitigation department. Prior to joining MRO, Mr. Felter had 17 years of power system engineering experience with Protection and Controls (P&C), SCADA, and Telecom with projects in transmission, distribution, and renewable generation. Those projects included standards development, infrastructure overhaul, design and testing of: transmission substation control systems; wind farms; solar farms; and energy storage. Mr Felter is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering Technology, and a registered professional engineer (PE) in the State of PA.



## **Lew Folkert**

*Principal Reliability Consultant, RF*

Mr. Folkert joined ReliabilityFirst (RF) in 2009 as a CIP auditor, where he helped shape the form and substance of CIP audit processes and procedures. Mr. Folkert has been in the electric utility industry for more than 40 years. Mr Folkert is active in RF's outreach activities. He frequently participates in Assist Visits. He is the author of "The Lighthouse," a regular column that discusses various CIP issues in the RF newsletter. Mr. Folkert studies the security of industrial control systems, with a focus on developing new ways to protect these essential systems.

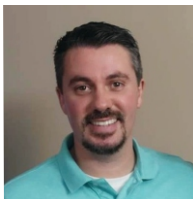


## **Tom Foster**

*Manager NERC Compliance, PJM*

Mr. Foster joined PJM in 2010 as a security analyst. In his 11 years at PJM, Mr. Foster held various roles in compliance, security identity and access management, and IT production systems support. In his current role, Mr Foster is responsible for both the NERC Reliability and NERC CIP Standards compliance programs at PJM. Prior to PJM, Mr Foster held positions in commercial real estate, pharmaceutical, and consulting companies. Mr. Foster is a graduate of LaSalle University (Bachelor's degree in Computer Science), Drexel University (MBA), and obtained a graduate certificate in Information Assurance from Iowa State University

# Speaker Biographies

**Matt Guarneri**

*Utilities Transmission Ops Support Manager, Exelon*

Mr. Guarneri is Exelon Utilities Transmission Ops Support Manager, Procedures and Compliance. In his role, Matt ensures transmission operational procedures meet the needs of all transmission control rooms across the Exelon fleet and are fully compliant with all NERC standards. Matt has been with Exelon for 15 years, beginning his career at Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) as an engineer in BGE Transmission & Substation in the Substation Engineering team after graduating from the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) with an Electrical Engineering degree. In 2011, Matt joined the BGE Transmission System Operations team, where he held various engineer, supervisor and manager roles. Matt has a strong compliance background, having been involved with nine NERC/PJM audits across Exelon between 2010 and 2021.

**Brian Hallett**

*Principal Reliability Consultant, RF*

Mr. Hallett joined ReliabilityFirst as a Senior Reliability Consultant in 2015, where he focused on reliability of the bulk electric system and continuous improvement of internal controls and management practices. Previously, Mr. Hallett worked at FirstEnergy Corp in Akron, Ohio, for 12 years. At FirstEnergy, Mr. Hallett spent 10 years as an Electrical Engineer focusing on Transmission Planning for the ATSI system (Ohio Transmission subsidiary of FirstEnergy). After Planning, Mr. Hallett served as FirstEnergy's Basecase Developer, where Mr. Hallett coordinated system modeling data through both PJM and Multiregional Modeling Working Group (MMWG) efforts. Mr. Hallett has served as a core-team member of the North American Transmission Forum – Models Working Group and as a working group member of the EPRI Grid Planning Research Program (Program 40). Mr. Hallett graduated from Kent State University.

**Mike Hattery**

*Associate Counsel, RF*

Mr. Hattery joined ReliabilityFirst in 2019, where he primarily resolves violations of the NERC Reliability Standards for the Registered Entities. For the past year and a half, he has worked in the Enforcement Department. In this role, he has served as a Case Manager for approximately 25 Registered Entities. Mr. Hattery has substantial experience proposing penalties and sanctions to deter noncompliance; working with subject matter experts to accurately assess the risk posed by noncompliances; and drafting, filing, and negotiating regulatory filings concerning the disposition of enforcement actions. Mr. Hattery collaborates extensively with the Legal & Regulatory Affairs Department providing in-house legal assistance. Prior to joining ReliabilityFirst, Mr. Hattery worked for Cleveland Cliffs Inc., Case Western Reserve University School of Law, and the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Mr. Hattery is a 2015 graduate of Clarkson University and a 2018 graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Law.



# Speaker Biographies



## **Mark Hoog**

*President, Vector Academy*

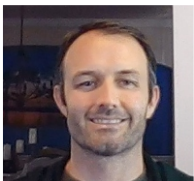
Mark Hoog is a successful entrepreneur, a sought-after motivational speaker, a bestselling author, the Executive Director of the Children's Leadership Institute, and a Captain with United Airlines. Having launched his career in the aviation field, Mark has delivered command and leadership training to the aviation industry's top pilots. With an emphasis on leadership, human potential, and achievement, Mark has trained pilots from around the world. Inspired by the loss of friend and mentor Jason Dahl (Captain of United Flight 93 on September 11), Mark authored the bestselling Growing Field children's leadership book series and founded the Children's Leadership Institute. Through the Growing Field series, Mark is introducing children across the globe to the life-changing messages of personal growth, self-empowerment, and leadership. A National Award Winner, recognized in 2008 as the "Most Inspirational Youth Author," Mark has established the Growing Field as the voice in children's leadership literature. With a presentation that transcends age and industry, Mark's powerful message of Conscious Leadership is changing lives. Invited by corporations, professional organizations, and students of all ages, Mark travels the country inspiring people of all walks of life to make their own conscious decisions to live life without limit.



## **Mike Hughes**

*Principal Technical Auditor, RF*

Mr. Hughes started with ReliabilityFirst June 2020 in the Compliance Monitoring – Operations and Planning Department. Mr. Hughes is currently responsible for performing compliance audits and has over 38 years of electric utility experience. Mr. Hughes has experience in Nuclear Power, Substation and Transmission Design, SCADA, and Protective Relay Systems. Experience includes work as an O&P Auditor with another NERC Region as well as participation in the NERC and stakeholder working groups. Mr. Hughes is a graduate of the University of Arkansas, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering.



## **Jordan Kethley**

*CIP Cyber & Physical Security Analyst I, Texas TRE*

Mr. Kethley joined Texas RE in January 2020 as a CIP Cyber and Physical Security Analyst I. Prior to joining Texas RE, Jordan worked as an Operations Manager at a chemical and gas distribution company in Austin. He completed his Master's in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance in November 2019 from National University and completed a Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Physics in 2016 from The University of Texas at Austin. Before returning to school in 2014, Jordan spent 10 years on Active Duty as an Officer in the United States Navy working on both nuclear and conventionally powered ships and submarines. Jordan still serves as a Reservist in the US Navy Reserves.

# Speaker Biographies



**Brian Kiefer**

*Manager Operations Technology Integration, MISO*

Mr. Kiefer is currently the manager of Operations Technology Integration at MISO. He holds a bachelor's degree in Physics from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and a Master's in Electrical Engineering from Arizona State. He started his career as a consultant at Utilicast in 2011 and worked with a diverse set of clients and projects. Eventually in 2015 he took a position with MISO and was responsible interregional dispatch and coordination and later management of the EMS and Market System Support team. He is currently focused on ensuring MISO Operations Technology is prepared for the future.



**Jim Kubrak**

*Manager Operations and Planning, RF*

Mr. Kubrak started with ReliabilityFirst on May 2019 in the Compliance and Monitoring - Operations and Planning department. Mr. Kubrak is responsible for overseeing all operations and planning monitoring activities, including audits, spot-checks, and self-certifications. In this role, he leads a team that not only assesses compliance with the NERC Reliability Standards but also evaluates the internal controls in-place to preserve and enhance reliability. Mr. Kubrak has extensive experience in Substation Design/Commissioning, Substation Operations, Large Commercial Industrial Customer Design, Power Network Analysis, Contingency Analysis and Relay Protection. Prior to joining ReliabilityFirst, Mr. Kubrak worked for FirstEnergy holding positions in Engineering Substation Design, Engineering Distribution Protection, Power Network Analysis Engineer, Substation Services Field Engineer, and Substation Supervisor. Mr. Kubrak graduated from the University of Detroit Mercy with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering. Mr. Kubrak graduated from Ashland University with a Master of Business Administration degree specializing in finance.



**Ryan Mah**

*Senior Technical Auditor, RF*

Mr. Mah is currently works in the Compliance Monitoring department as a CIP Senior Technical Auditor, evaluating Cyber Security programs and systems for compliance with the NERC CIP Standards. Mr. Mah has experience in many Information Security fields, including vulnerability management, vulnerability mitigation, patch management, security analysis, validation, root cause analysis, and compliance. Prior to joining ReliabilityFirst, Mr. Mah previously held a position with FoxGuard Solutions as a Client Operations Engineer where he was a key member on the Patch and Update Management team. In this position, Mr. Mah monitored the current state of cyber vulnerabilities and exposures and provided up-to-date mitigation strategies. Mr. Mah also spent time working at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, where he explored potential IoT and cyber security implications related to autonomous vehicle systems. Mr. Mah graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Mr. Mah holds the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) certification.

**Scott Nied**

*Vice President Compliance, NPCC*

Mr. Nied has 29 years in the electric utility industry and has been with NPCC since 2010. As part of his current duties, he leads a team of NPCC Compliance professionals whose mission is to ensure reliability and security of the interconnected Bulk Electric System in Northeastern North America through collaboration with the Regions and stakeholders in order to implement the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) in independent and objective fashion. Mr. Nied's current oversight includes entity registration and certification, inherent risk assessments, compliance oversight plans, and compliance monitoring. Since 2017, Mr. Nied has served as the chair of the NPCC Compliance Committee. Immediately prior to NPCC, Mr. Nied spent nine years at Consolidated Edison Company of New York. Mr. Nied also spent time at DTE Energy Services in Ann Arbor, MI as a Project Manager facilitating energy projects for customers at the onset of electric utility deregulation. Mr. Nied holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Michigan State University and a Master's in Business Administration from Loyola University Chicago. He is certified as a NERC Reliability Coordinator, holds a Siemens Power Technology International certificate, is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors, and has completed the NERC Lead Auditor and Compliance Violation Investigation training courses.

**Scott Pelfrey**

*Principal Technical Auditor, RF*

Mr. Pelfrey is responsible for audits, Technical Feasibility Exception review, and constant review of the CIP standards, as they relate to infrastructure, networking, desktop, and data security. Mr. Pelfrey brings 37 years of extensive experience with 25 of those years in the electric utility sector at FirstEnergy and ReliabilityFirst. Mr. Pelfrey's experience includes EMS transmission and distribution systems (AREVA e-terra), Plant Information (PI), Nuclear Personnel Access Data Systems (PADS), and support of real-time systems in research, manufacturing, physical access, nuclear dosimetry, and generation resource management (DCS). Mr. Pelfrey holds a Bachelor's degree in Systems Analysis from Miami University in Ohio, and a Master's degree in Business Administration in Management Information Systems from George Washington University in Washington DC.

**Holly Peterson**

*Senior Compliance Auditor, Cyber Security, Texas WECC*

Ms. Peterson joined WECC in 2016 as a Cyber Security Auditor. She began her career with a four-service municipality. In her seven years there, she developed her background in SCADA administration, NERC CIP compliance, and organizational Cyber Security practices with some background in Energy Supply and Substation Maintenance. This experience includes successfully implementing a new Industrial Control/Energy Management System, conducting Cyber Vulnerability Assessments, familiarization with Bulk Power System operation, and implementing corporate policies leveraging NIST publications. In 2010, Holly earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and has obtained her CompTIA Security+ as well as ISACA Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and Certified in Risk and Information System Controls (CRISC) certificates. In 2019, Holly obtained the (ISC)2 Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) accreditation.

# Speaker Biographies



## **Joe Pilch**

*Manager of Transmission Planning & Interconnection, Duquesne Light Company*

Mr. Pilch has been employed at Duquesne Light Company (DLC) since 2015, where he joined the team as a Transmission Planning Engineer. It was at this time Joe was introduced to the DLC FAC-008 program and became one of DLC's subject matter experts. Joe now oversees DLC's FAC-008 program in his role as Manager of Transmission Planning & Interconnection. Prior to his time at DLC, Joe worked for a naval contractor responsible for designing and delivering nuclear propulsion plants for the United State Navy. Joe received his Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering from The Pennsylvania State University and is a Licensed Professional Engineer.



## **Joel Rogers**

*Senior Compliance Auditor, SERC*

Mr. Rogers joined SERC Reliability Corporation as a Compliance Auditor in June 2014. Previously, Mr. Rogers was the Compliance Administrator for Cooperative Energy formerly known as South Mississippi Electric Power Association (SMEPA). In this role, Joel provided counsel to management and directed operations, planning, and critical infrastructure protection staff regarding NERC Reliability Standards compliance. Before taking on the Compliance Administrator role, Joel worked in operations planning for 3 years and Transmission Planning for 1 year. During this time, Joel performed engineering studies, prepared publications, and trained System Operators on peak loading, blackstart restoration, and abnormal transmission system conditions. Joel maintained power system models for both operations and transmission planning and he participated in the development of long-range transmission plans. Joel represented Cooperative Energy on SERC's Long Term Study Group, Operations Planning Subcommittee, and Near Term Study Group. Prior to joining Cooperative Energy, Mr. Rogers worked for Southern Company Services in Transmission Planning and Mississippi Power Company in Distribution Engineering and Operations. Mr Rogers graduated from Mississippi State University with a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering, with an emphasis in power in December 2005. Joel is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Mississippi, a NERC Certified System Operator at the Reliability Coordinator level, and a Certified Government Auditing Professional. Mr. Rogers served in the U.S. Navy from 1995 to 2000 as an aviation electrician on the F/A- 18 Hornet.



## **Jim Ruddell**

*Manager, IT Business Coordination, PJM*

Mr. Ruddell, Manager, IT Business Coordination has over 21 years of experience in information technology, security and compliance. Mr. Ruddell joined PJM in 2013 and is responsible for managing business relationships in the ITS division, prioritizing and supporting the division's objective, process improvements and automation. Previously at PJM, Mr. Ruddell worked in the CIP compliance space, leading audits and implementing CIP Standards. Prior to joining PJM, Mr. Ruddell was an independent consultant specializing in cyber security and compliance with Food and Drug Administration, Payment Card Industry and HIPAA regulations. Before starting a consulting practice, Mr. Ruddell was involved in datacenter management, operations and software engineering. Mr. Ruddell has a BS in Computer Science from West Chester University and has held the CISSP certification since 2006.



**Brian Scalf**

*Manager, Networking Operations, MISO*

Mr. Scalf is the Manager of Networking Operations at MISO. He holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from the University of North Dakota. Brian started his career with MAPPCOR in 2000 as a network analyst in the information technology space. After MAPPCOR merged with MISO in 2001, Brian continued working up through several networking and IT roles until becoming the Networking Operations Manager in 2019. In his current role, he manages a team that supports the day-to-day operations of MISO information technology networks, telecommunication, firewall systems, and wide area network connections. Brian is MISO's requirement owner for CIP-012 and CIP-005.



**Niki Schaefer**

*Vice President and General Counsel*

Ms. Schaefer returns to RF from Eaton Corporation, where she served as counsel to senior leadership teams across multiple business units within Eaton's electrical sector supporting more than \$2 billion in revenue. Prior to Eaton, she was the managing enforcement counsel at RF and directed the teams' responsible for carrying out enforcement of electric reliability regulations. Before working in the electric industry, she was a trial lawyer for a large Cleveland law firm litigating commercial and personal injury cases in State and Federal Courts across the country. Ms. Schaefer received her B.A. in American Studies from Cornell University, and graduated cum laude from CWRU School of Law, where she received an academic scholarship. In addition to earning multiple professional awards – most recently being named to the 2020 Super Lawyers list by Cleveland Jewish News – Schaefer is very active in the Cleveland community through volunteer work for University Hospitals Partnership for Families and the American Heart Association. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of The Gathering Place, a non-profit that provides free therapeutic services to people with cancer and their loved ones.



**Brian Thiry**

*Manager, Entity Development*

Mr. Thiry is responsible for ReliabilityFirst's assist visit program, certifications, and appraisals. In this role, he leads a dedicated team that works with industry to assess and mitigate risks inside and outside of standards, plus provide outreach in the form of education to industry. Entity Engagement also evaluates the internal controls in-place to preserve and enhance reliability, resiliency, and security for both Operations & Planning and Critical Infrastructure Protection risks to the Bulk Power System. Mr. Thiry has over 11 years of electrical utility experience from his time at FirstEnergy Corp., mostly in transmission operations. Mr. Thiry also has a background in substation and transmission line design. In previous roles at ReliabilityFirst, he has worked in Compliance Monitoring and Events Analysis & Situational Awareness. Mr. Thiry holds a Professional Engineering License in the state of Ohio, and has a Bachelor's Degree of Electrical and Computer Engineering from The Ohio State University.





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