

ESCC



Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council

Protecting the energy grid from threats that could impact national security is a responsibility shared by both the government and the electric power sector.

The Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC) serves as the principal liaison between the federal government and the electric power sector, with the mission of coordinating efforts to prepare for, and respond to, national-level disasters or threats to critical infrastructure. The ESCC includes electric company CEOs and trade association leaders representing all segments of the industry. Its counterparts include senior Administration officials from the White House, relevant Cabinet agencies, federal law enforcement, and national security organizations.



Background

In October 2010, the National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC) issued a report, *A Framework for Establishing Critical Infrastructure Resilience Goals*, that included nine recommendations. The first recommendation was:

NIAC Recommendation: “The White House [will] initiate an executive-level dialogue with electric and nuclear sector CEOs on the respective roles and responsibilities of the private sector in addressing high-impact infrastructure risks and potential threats... .”

This recommendation was the impetus for initial meetings in July 2012 between an ad hoc group of industry CEOs and Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Steven Chu and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano. These meetings resulted in a classified briefing for the industry in September 2012 and led to the formation of the Joint Electric Executive Committee, which was convened in January 2013 and which had a commitment to meet quarterly with the Deputy Secretaries of DOE and DHS.

Ultimately, the Joint Electric Executive Committee transitioned to its current official role as the ESCC.



ESCC Areas of Focus

Industry and government leaders have agreed to focus on four main areas that improve the security posture of the industry and the nation. To support the deployment of tools, improve the flow of threat information, prepare for incidents, and work closely with other interdependent infrastructure sectors, the ESCC has organized into strategic committees with the following missions:

Threat Information Sharing: Improve and institutionalize the flow of, and access to, actionable information among public- and private-sector stakeholders.

Industry-Government Coordination: Establish unity of effort and unity of messaging between industry and government partners to support the missions of the ESCC both during crises and in steady state.

Research & Development: Coordinate government and industry efforts on strategic infrastructure investments and R&D for resilience and national security-related products and processes.

Cross-Sector Liaisons: Develop strong partnerships at all levels of the Electricity, Communications (Telecommunications), Oil and Natural Gas (Downstream Gas), Financial Services, Transportation Systems, and Water and Wastewater Systems (Water) sectors to plan and respond to major incidents, to better understand and protect our mutual dependencies, and to share information effectively and efficiently to improve cross-sector situational awareness.

Security Executive Working Group

To support the mission of the ESCC, a Security Executive Working Group (SEWG) convenes by phone on a monthly basis and creates ad hoc teams to accomplish the goals identified by the CEOs and Deputy Secretaries. In parallel to this effort, the government also has organized around these goals with a commitment to align government and industry efforts.

ESCC Official Roster

June 2017

Leadership (3)

Tom Fanning, Southern Company (co-chair)
Kevin Wailes, Lincoln Electric System (co-chair)
Duane Highley, Arkansas Electric Cooperative (co-chair)

Steering Committee (9)

Sue Kelly, American Public Power Association
Sergio Marchi, Canadian Electricity Association
Tom Kuhn, Edison Electric Institute
John Shelk, Electric Power Supply Association
Andrew Ott, PJM (representing the ISO/RTO Council)
Mike Wallace, National Infrastructure Advisory Council
Jim Matheson, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
Gerry Cauley, North American Electric Reliability Corporation
Maria Korsnick, Nuclear Energy Institute

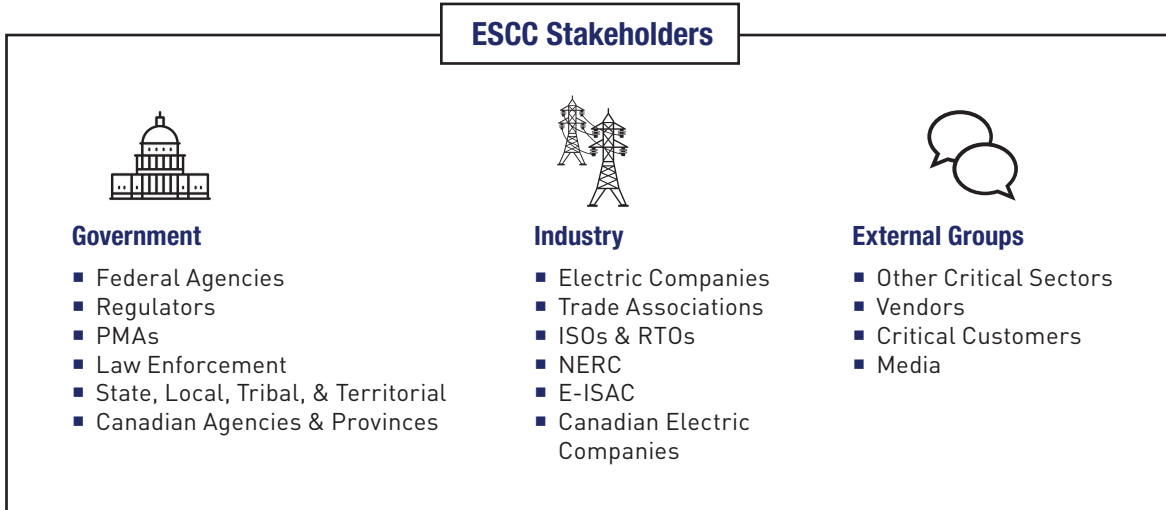
Asset Owners

(19: 13 investor-owned electric companies; 3 electric cooperatives; 3 municipal electric companies)

Nick Akins, American Electric Power
Jim Torgerson, Avangrid
Scott Miller, City Utilities of Springfield
John McAvoy, Consolidated Edison
Tom Farrell, Dominion
Lynn Good, Duke Energy
Pedro Pizarro, Edison International
Gianna Manes, ENMAX Corporation
Chris Crane, Exelon Corporation
Greg Ford, Georgia System Operations Corporation
David Saggau, Great River Energy
Connie Lau, Hawaiian Electric Industries
William Fehrman, MidAmerican Energy Co.
John Bilda, Norwich Public Utilities
Jack Reasor, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative
Tony Earley, PG&E Corporation
Bill Spence, PPL Corporation
Lonnie Carter, Santee Cooper
Ben Fowke, Xcel Energy

ESCC Coordination

Coordination among senior government and industry executives helps to ensure an effective response, appropriate prioritization and allocation of resources, and support for deviation from standard procedures during an incident.



Coordination

- Security to support restoration
- Media and public affairs messaging
- Logistical support, staging

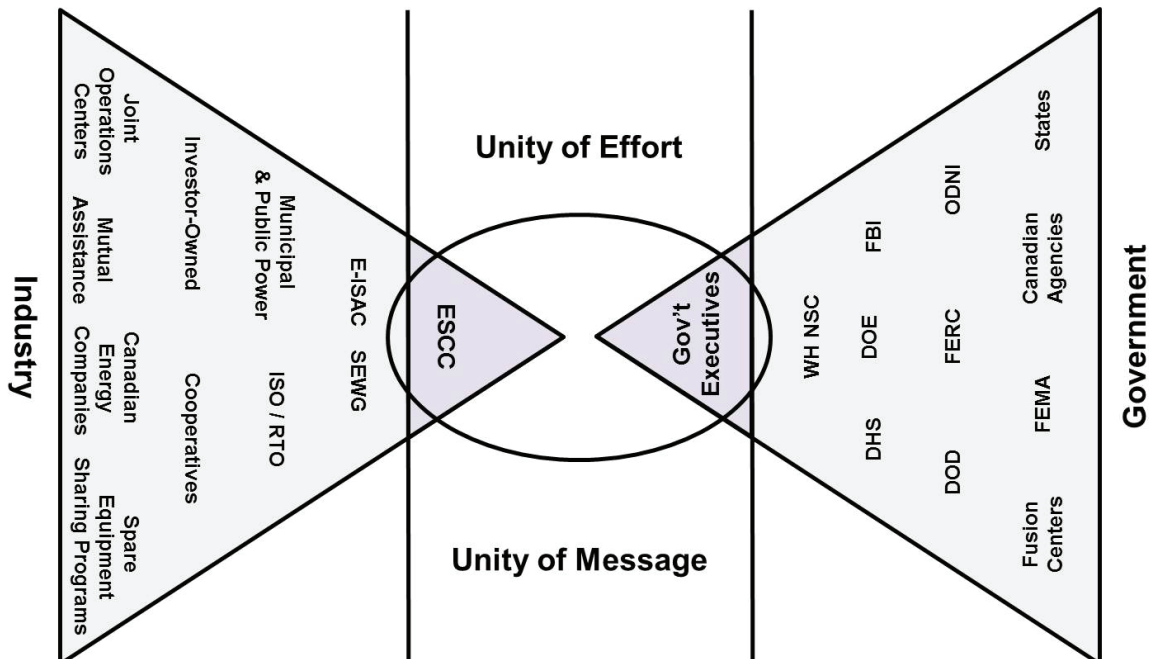
Resource Allocation

- Equipment, hardware, and materials
- Human resources and expertise

Conflict Resolution

- Investigation versus restoration
- Prioritization of recovery
- Distribution of limited resources

Industry-Government Coordination



ESCC Member Structure



Energy Sector-Government Organizational Structure

