

**Southwest Power Pool
Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group
Organizational Group Charter
October 3, 2013**

Purpose

The purpose of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group (CIPWG) is to advance the physical and cyber security of the electricity infrastructure within the SPP footprint. This group will serve as a forum for discussing security issues, for establishing security policies, procedures, and best practices for SPP Member-common resources, and will serve as an interface between the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee (CIPC) and the SPP membership.

Scope of Activities

The CIPWG:

- a. Serves as an expert advisory panel to the SPP Board of Directors, committees, working groups and Members regarding cyber and physical security, to include best practices, emerging risks, and acceptable security compliance processes.
- b. Provides a forum for discussion of physical and cyber security issues impacting the electric sector.
- c. Serves as the primary interface between security-related electric sector agencies and the SPP membership, including:
 1. Serving as a conduit for information flow between the CIPC and SPP Members.
 2. Developing guidance and recommendations to the CIPC Members representing the SPP Region.
 3. Facilitating discussions, advisory notices, and security preparedness information between the FBI, DHS, Fusion Centers, DOE and the SPP membership.
- d. Develops best-practice recommendations for SPP-managed resources, including:
 1. Security of SPP Network (SPPNET) member connections.
 2. Security and acceptable use of confidential SPP (RTO) and Member data, focusing on data submission, distribution, and storage.
 3. Incident reporting and dissemination, focused primarily on region-impacting security events possibly warranting NERC Event Analysis and/or DOE reporting.
- e. Works on behalf of SPP membership to solicit, gather, and present comments, feedback, and information requests to NERC, FERC, and other regulatory and enforcement bodies for security-related standards development, interpretation requests, and security application discussions.
- f. Provides security and/or CIP subject-matter experts (SMEs) to other SPP organizational groups, as requested.

Representation

The Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group (CIPWG) is composed of at least thirteen voting members, including the chair and vice chair. CIPWG shall maintain a representation with Member's personnel directly responsible for cyber and physical security activities and programs. CIPWG meetings will be open in accordance with SPP practices and may allow for an executive session as called by the chair. Regular executive sessions may be deemed necessary by the chair due to the confidential nature of security discussions. The chairman is appointed by the Chairman of the SPP Board of Directors and will serve a term of two years coincident with the two-year term of the Chair of the SPP Board of Directors. SPP Bylaws do not prevent renewal of

the current Chair's term.

Duration

The CIPWG is permanent with a periodic review of responsibilities by the MOPC.

Reporting

The CIPWG reports to the MOPC.