Region 3 Fall 2020 Meetings
September 22 – Membership Meeting
Sept 30 – Oct 1 – Fall Meeting
October 7 – Operating Principles Vote

All times are listed in EDT

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

10:00 AM   **Region 3 Core Member Meeting – Open to Utility Members Only**

Click here to request the Zoom Link via email

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

9:30 AM   **Narrowband IoT – A Robust 5G Private Network Technology for Connectivity of Thousands of End Points**

Description: Utilities are increasingly showing interest in the use of Private LTE and 5G wireless network technologies to support a growing range of applications. LTE NB-IoT has been specified by 3GPP as a 5G cellular IoT industry standard. Qualcomm, Sequans, and several suppliers of low-cost wireless modules are now supporting NB-IoT for the Upper 700 MHz A Block, which is held by FirstEnergy and 18 other utilities around the country. Private NB-IoT networks for utilities provide reduced capital and operating costs, carrier-grade security, increased range and improved propagation for deep indoor coverage.

This session will describe applications that are in use in the first private NB-IoT deployment in the U.S. in the Jacksonville & Tallahassee area. Also, the panelists will discuss the results of FCC-certification testing and efforts underway to add the Upper 700 MHz A Block as an official 3GPP 4G/5G band, formally incorporating the band into the LTE standard. Finally, 700 MHz NB-IoT Plugfest progress updates will be provided.

Speakers: **Robert Finch, President – Select Spectrum**
                       Kymberly Traylor, Director, Network and Telecommunications - JEA

11:00 AM   **TVC Presentation TBD**

2:00 PM   **Network Reliability through Security Controls**

As power utilities move toward digitalization for the purpose of grid optimization and economic advantage, grid reliability through security controls is paramount for the future. Furthermore, while the communications network reliability in utilities' Operational Technology (OT) has always been a top priority, in today's techno world and grid modernization, network reliability has become a major challenge. Even though the North American Electric Reliability Corporation for Critical Infrastructure Protection (NERC-CIP) has developed a set of requirements designed to alleviate those challenges and produce a safer and more-reliable power grid, the security strategy to protect the grid and maintain 24/7 reliability must go beyond NERC-CIP. It must permeate

the organization and include the utility's own security policy, industry-best practices and vendor's product embedded security features and support. The network is only as reliable as the security you build into it. Therefore, securing the network should be treated with the utmost priority and must be embedded in all aspects of the organization.

This presentation provides an overview of NERC-CIP requirements as it relates to security and network reliability. It also tackles the impact of security on network reliability both negatively and positively. Furthermore, the presentation analyzes the various security strategies the organization must employ to ensure that utilities can deploy a modernized network without compromising reliability, survivability, operational network needs and security; delivering power safely, reliably, securely while taking advantage of the grid digitalization.

Speaker: **Manny Duvelson, Product Manager – RFL/Hubbell Power Systems**

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3:30 PM   **Solutions Showcase with Vendors**

Network after today's sessions! How it works: Technology Partners hosts individual rooms and you rotate through the rooms every six minutes. Discuss new innovations and products, solve challenges, play games, learn, and speed network. Arrive early - it's only an hour!

Thursday, October 1, 2020

9:30 AM   **Managing Grid Modernization**

Innovation is a topic that is getting lots of attention these days. When it comes to innovation, technology and the resulting networked connectivity are key enablers in traditional industries such as Manufacturing, Transportation or Energy and Utilities. The innovation springing from greater interconnectivity is bringing about radical transformation in some utilities and gradual changes in other utilities. Utilities need to go beyond their current business model to grow further. The way forward to doing this is by adding new value-added services and revenue models, such as Broadband. Smart Grid will support the new value-added services.

Speaker: **Walker & Associates Representative TBD**

11:00 AM   **RADAR and Surveillance Systems**

Learn how advanced radar technology is being used by the subsidiaries of Southern Company for perimeter protection against intruders and other threats around secure areas of critical infrastructure such as transmission, generation, and hydro-electric sites. Education associated with integrations of other security

systems creating a full physical security experience. Discussion of additional advancements in technologies that compliment or enhance the existing layers of security.

Speaker: **Kenny Keenan, Business Development Manager – Alabama Power**

2:00 PM   **Neighborhood of the Future**

Description Pending

Speaker: **Speakers TBD**

3:30 PM   **Sustaining Event Sponsor Session**

Technology Partners to provide 10-minute sessions presenting a problem and offering a solution during their presentation.

Speakers: **Various Technology Partners**

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

10:00 AM   **Region 3 Operation Principles Approval Vote – Open to Utility Members Only**

Click here to request the Zoom Link via email