

2018 Grid of the Future

PANELIST: THE ROLE OF THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT WITH THE FUTURE OF T&D



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Mr. Cummings joined NERC in 1996 and has extensive experience in the industry in system planning, operations engineering, and wide area planning. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Power System Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and is an IEEE Senior Member.

He is a member of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Electricity Advisory Committee, and its Energy Storage and Smart Grid Subcommittees.

Cummings is also a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of CURENT (Center for Ultra-wide Area Resilient Electric Energy Transmission Networks), a National Science Foundation and Department of Energy Engineering Research Center at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

His geographically diverse experience includes Central Vermont Public Service Corporation in System Planning (generation and transmission), Public Service Company of New Mexico (Operations Engineering and Wide Area Planning), and the East Central Area Reliability Coordination Agreement (ECAR), a former regional office of NERC.

He was a principal investigator of the 2003 Northeast Blackout and the more recent September 8, 2011 Arizona-Southern California Outage, leading multiple event analysis teams in the sequence of events development, modeling and studies (powerflow and dynamics analysis), and transmission/generation performance areas. He directed the NERC Event Analysis program for five years, leading or working on 12 major disturbance analyses.

Mr. Cummings is the senior staff technical advisor for the NERC System Analysis and Modeling and the System Protection and Controls Subcommittees, and is the technical advisor to the North American Synchro-Phasor Initiative. He is also the technical director of the NERC System Protection Improvement Initiative, the Modeling Improvements Initiative, and the Frequency Response Initiative.