

## Global Energy Risk Forum Virtual Series: Part Four

### Enhancing Network Security and Critical Infrastructure Resilience

14 September 2021

The successful uptake of clean technologies and renewable power generation depends, ever more, on investment in smart infrastructure and the incorporation of digital solutions to make energy systems more diversely connected, flexible, efficient, and stable. Infrastructure, and electricity sector networks are key enablers of orderly and smart energy transitions to mitigate the impacts of climate change, accelerate the momentum towards net-zero emissions, and enhance access to affordable energy services.

The introduction of new digital technologies in combination with more distributed energy supply and demand sources, ranging from wind and rooftop solar to rising electric vehicles power demand, create new interfaces with “prosumers,” at the grid edge. This imposes new flexibility and inclusivity demands on network operators that must invest in reinforcing infrastructure as well as deploying new network interconnections.

Rehabilitating and replacing aging infrastructure with systems that are sufficiently agile to manage growing electrification rates and new transport requirements for hydrogen and carbon dioxide, requires multistakeholder-cooperation to reduce regulatory hurdles and accelerate permitting.

Reliance on digital technologies and off grid solutions create vast opportunities but raise cyber-security and grid stability concerns as well. These call for greater optionality and more robust emergency response mechanisms to ensure networks and critical infrastructure continue to provide reliable and affordable services to all and can withstand extreme weather events.

The Fourth GARP-IEF Risk Forum explores how critical energy networks and infrastructure will adapt to rising climate demands and a more dynamic market environment while addressing longstanding energy equity and affordability issues as energy transitions accelerate.



**Global Energy Risk Forum Virtual Series: Part Four**  
Enhancing Network Security and Critical Infrastructure Resilience  
14 September 2021

**DRAFT AGENDA (ALL TIMES IN EST)**

**9:00-9:10am**

Welcome and Introduction

**Richard Apostolik**, President & CEO, GARP

**Joseph McMonigle**, Secretary General, International Energy Forum

**9:10-9:20am**

Opening Remarks

**9:20-9:40am**

Enhancing Network Security and Infrastructure Resilience

**Discussion Questions:**

- How do operators maintain network stability and incorporate technology advancements in the power sector as decarbonization, decentralization, and the rise of digitalisation impose new flexibility and connectivity demands?
- What measures can governments take to be more proactive in managing risks and facilitate investment in network security and critical infrastructure?
- How can countries and regions fortify aging and/or outdated networks and critical infrastructure and what government and market incentives are required to attract investment?

**Moderator:**

**Ed Morse**, Managing Director, Global Head of Commodity Research, Citi Group



**Global Energy Risk Forum Virtual Series: Part Four**  
Enhancing Network Security and Critical Infrastructure Resilience  
14 September 2021

**DRAFT AGENDA (ALL TIMES IN EST)**

**9:20-9:40am**

**Invited Speakers:**

- **Carmen Elena Cirnu**, Vice President Scientific Board, Head of Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure, National Institute for Research and Development in Informatics (ICI), Bucharest
- **Dennis Hesseling**, Head of Infrastructure, Gas & Retail, European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
- **Michael Powell**, Vice President, Government Relations, Canadian Electricity Association

**9:40-10:20am**

Discussion

**10:20-10:30am**

Closing Remarks

**Vincent Kaminski**, Chairman, Forum Steering Committee  
Professor, Practice of Energy, Rice University

Proceedings will be governed by the Chatham House Rule and will not be recorded or live streamed. Participation is by invitation only.

If you have a special interest in attending this event and have not received an invitation, please contact Aurangzeb Qureshi, Senior Energy Analyst at [aurangzeb.qureshi@ief.org](mailto:aurangzeb.qureshi@ief.org) or Caroline Berman at [caroline.berman@garp.com](mailto:caroline.berman@garp.com).

