

MAC Candidate Statement of Qualifications

As a MAC candidate, you are encouraged to give WECC Members a brief statement of qualifications. Your statement will be given to members before the MAC election, which will start on August 4, 2025, and conclude September 5, 2025. Results will be announced at the WECC Annual Meeting on September 18, 2025. Please complete and return this form to Brittany Huggins, buggins@wecc.org, **no later than July 30, 2025**, for presentation to WECC Members.

1. My name: Pablo Oñate
2. I am a candidate for the MAC in Member Class 1.
3. My qualifications for this position are as follows: (State your qualifications below or attach a resume to this form. Include relevant employment and positions held, previous service at WECC, and any other items that qualify you to serve on the MAC.)

I bring over 19 years of experience in electric utility operations, regulatory compliance, and program development, with a strong foundation in electrical engineering and a proven track record of leadership and collaboration across the Western Interconnection. My career has been dedicated to advancing reliability, transparency, and stakeholder engagement in alignment with WECC's mission.

In my current capacity, I oversee FERC tariff compliance at the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), where I will be representing CAISO at WECC Board meetings, monitoring policy developments and providing strategic insights to internal stakeholders. I lead efforts to ensure tariff compliance through risk assessments, control evaluations, and stakeholder coordination.

Previously, I held the role of Director of Reliability Compliance at El Paso Electric Company (EPE), where I led the creation, development, and continuous improvement of the company's WECC and NERC Internal Compliance Program. I managed regulatory reporting to WECC, coordinated internal audits, and championed the implementation of Archer Integrated Risk Management software to enhance compliance oversight. My tenure at EPE also included engineering roles that grounded me in system operations, standards development, and technical analysis.

My leadership within the WECC community includes over a decade of active participation in the Western Interconnection Compliance Forum (WICF), where I served as Steering Committee Chair (2018–2020) and as a long-standing committee member (2014–2025). These roles have deepened my understanding of regional challenges and fostered strong relationships with stakeholders across the interconnection.

I hold a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and an MBA with a concentration in Management. My technical foundation, combined with senior-level compliance leadership and a commitment to collaborative governance, uniquely positions me to contribute meaningfully to the MAC's mission. I am passionate about supporting WECC's strategic goals and ensuring that diverse perspectives are represented in broader policy discussions. I would be honored to continue serving the industry through this role.

Please see attached resume *Jesus Pablo Oñate*.



Pablo Oñate

California ISO • Lead Tariff Analyst
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Profile

Seasoned regulatory compliance professional with 19+ years in electric utility operations, program development, WECC industry participation, and NERC reliability standards. Proven leader and collaborator across the Western Interconnection, dedicated to transparency, stakeholder engagement, and continuous improvement.

Relevant Experience

California Independent System Operator

Lead Tariff Analyst

April 2025 - Present

- Served as CAISO representative at WECC Board meetings to monitor discussions for potential impacts on CAISO operations; documented key insights and provided strategic briefings to internal teams.
- Coordinated identification and resolution of tariff compliance issues through tariff interpretations, cause analysis, risk assessments, and corrective actions.
- Engaged with internal teams, regulators, and stakeholders to discuss and address tariff-related matters.
- Performed risk assessments and evaluated the effectiveness of tariff compliance controls.
- Supported internal compliance controls program via procedural updates and control testing tool development.

El Paso Electric Company

Director, Reliability Compliance

Nov 2012 – April 2025

- Supports all affected business units within EPE in identifying, assessing, managing, and reporting compliance with the WECC & NERC Standards by implementing an efficient and system internal compliance program.
- Manage continual improvement of the WECC & NERC Internal Compliance Program including, but not limited to employee awareness, internal controls program, standard development and ballot body processes, NERC Alerts, standards tracking and control, training, remediation efforts, risk assessments, internal audits, and governance.
- Participated in NERC, WECC & FERC committees as appropriate to develop and maintain industry relationships.
- Coordinated EPE internal audits and auditing services used to formulate and strengthen EPE's compliance efforts.
- Developed home-grown risk register with trending key-performance indicators that yielded risk averse results.
- Produced budgets and staffing requests for EPE's compliance work in accordance with NERC and WECC guidance, rules, and changing regulatory requirements.
- Coordinated all regulatory reporting to WECC including internal investigations and self-reports regarding compliance deficiencies, mitigation plans, data submittals, annual self-certifications, event reporting, event analysis reporting, and regulatory settlement negotiations.
- Championed the transition, onboarding, and maintenance of Archer Integrated Risk Management software tool for NERC Compliance Management and across various departments.

NERC Compliance Engineer

Dec 2008 – Nov 2012

- Assisted in development of the NERC Compliance Department; integral part of developing new programs, procedures, and processes.
- Assisted in the development and implementation of the internal compliance program to meet FERC recommended guidelines and support corporate culture compliance to all operational areas.
- Recommended, created & maintained procedures and policies according to the NERC Reliability Standards to support compliance requirements.
- Displayed leadership in special projects: Development and maintenance of intranet page; Advocate and maintain use of compliance data management system; oversight of NERC balloting program; Development and oversight of Reliability poster campaign; Development & delivery of NERC 101 presentation in multiple meetings and trainings.
- Worked independently with little supervision and meet reliability compliance goals.

Distribution System- Standards Engineer

Sept 2007 – Dec 2008

- Reviewed distribution materials and current distribution system construction practices to approve new material and equipment internally and with vendors.
- Independently conducted research in determining root cause of distribution bolt failures by researching installation technique and making recommendations to improve bolt installation.
- Developed specifications for distribution equipment and material to ensure safety and reliability. Tracked material and equipment performance and solve warranty issues.
- Conducted Overhead Standards Committee meetings and published meeting minutes concerning topics discussed and actions to be taken.

- Provided technical support, technical expertise and training on equipment and material to various departments in the company.

Territorial Planner – Assistant

June 2006 – Sept 2007

- Designed distribution line extensions according to electrical specifications, customer needs, and land easements.
- Prepared agreements, billings associated with company facilities and distribution services, work orders for construction of overhead & underground electrical systems
- Determined service voltages, load requirements, point of service for commercial and residential customers.

Real Estate Investor & Manager

August 2006 – Present

- Acquired a total of eleven rental units with two single family and three multifamily homes.
- Responsible for bookkeeping, receipts management, cash flow management, financial statements preparation and eventual tax document preparation to hand off to accountant.
- Assessed, repaired, and maintained rental portfolio for maximum profitability.

Education & Certification

University of Texas at El Paso

BS in Electrical Engineering

Masters Business Administration (Concentration: Management)

December 2005

August 2012

North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)

Reliability Certification

December 2012 – Lapsed 2017

Volunteer Experience

YMCA of El Paso

Board of Directors

September 2022 – April 2025

Western Interconnection Compliance Forum (WICF)

Steering Committee Chair

January 2018 – January 2020

Steering committee member

March 2014 – April 2025

City of El Paso – Zoning Board of Adjustments

Board member

April 2019 – May 2020

EPE Political Action Committee

Steering Committee Member

February 2017 – February 2020

Boys & Girls Club of El Paso

Board President

January 2014 – October 2015

Member: Resource Development Committee

January 2010 - October 2015

Skills

Proficient in:	Internal Controls and Risk Assessments; Creating and Implementing a Custom Compliance Frameworks; EPE System Operating Procedures; NERC Reliability Standards; Emergency Operations & Restoration Procedures; Creating, reviewing and mapping of operational procedures; Internal Controls & Risk Assessments; Power Point presentation development; Excel programming and data plotting, data extraction and graphing.
Fluent in:	Understanding team dynamics, motivation and delegation. Power system one-line diagrams; DOE Disturbance Reporting; Distribution system designs; FERC Structure and mandates.
Familiar with:	PUCT & NMPRC Outage Reporting Requirements; EPE Facility Ratings; Energy Interchange; Interconnection Reliability Operations and Coordination; EPE System Modeling Data and Analysis; EPE System Protection and Coordination; EPE Transmission Operations and Transmission Planning; NESC Code; NEC Code; AutoCAD; IEEE Standards; Fault & Fuse Studies.

Training

Auditor Training	Baker Tilly International	September 2009
Power System Dynamics	WECC	September 2013
DSTAC Restoration Training	Desert Southwest Training Advisory Committee	March 2014
7 Habits of Highly Effective People	El Paso Electric - Franklin Covey Certified Trainer	August 2014
Power System Protection	Operations Training Solutions	May 2016
DSTAC Restoration Training	Desert Southwest Training Advisory Committee	March 2018
Archer GRC/IRM Admin I & II	Archer Integrated Risk Management Staff	October 2022