

# Protecting our Critical Infrastructures



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Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission  
United States of America



# August 14, 2003



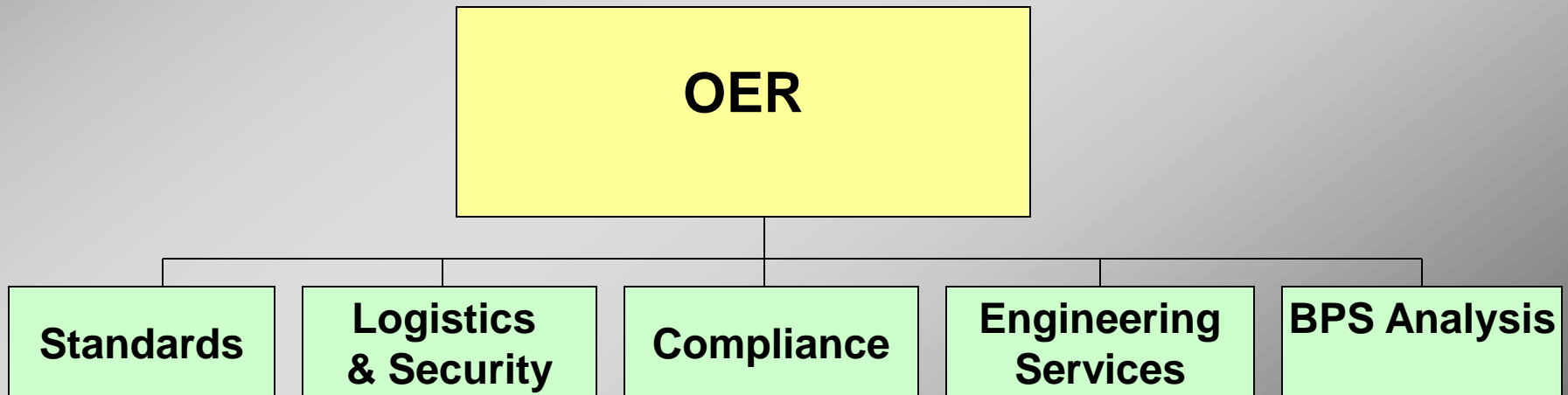
- Largest blackout in North American History strikes the United States and Canada
- 50,000,000 people interrupted
- Cost is estimated at \$4-10 billion
- Congress passes, and the President signs legislation that gives, new but indirect, authority to FERC (more later)
- Mandatory and enforceable reliability & security standards

# Office of Electric Reliability

## High Level Org Chart

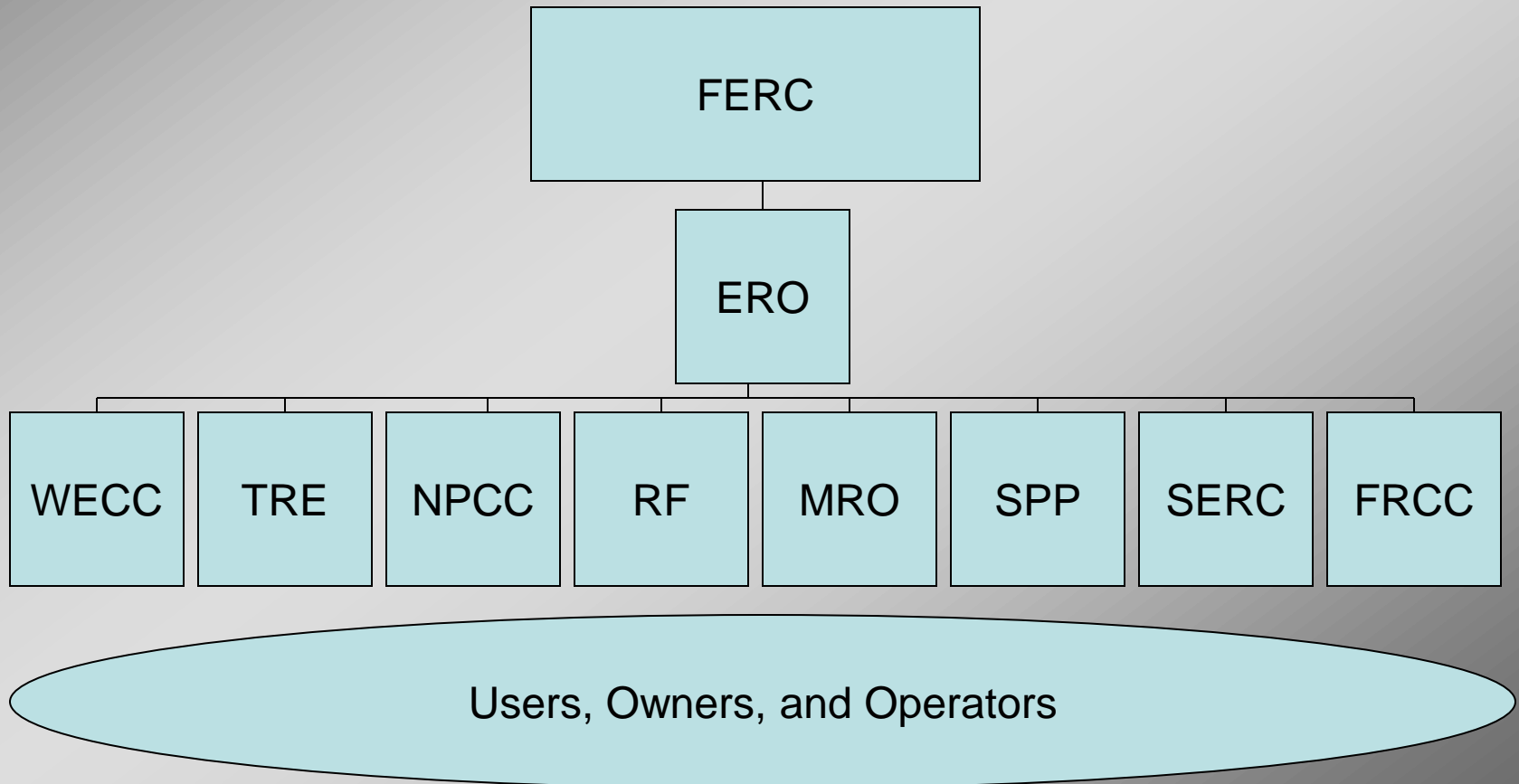


- Office is divided according to function
- Experience engineers - able to leverage other resources
- Initiates research when necessary





# FERC's Reliability & Security Authority is Indirect



# Findings of the FERC/DOE/DHS Joint EMP Study



- Study is a 3-agency accomplishment
- Conducted through Oak Ridge National Laboratory with Metatech as the primary subcontractor
- The study evaluated both natural and manmade EMP
- Solar storm activity is inevitable
  - 1-in100 year event last occurred in 1921
  - Its effects today would be far amplified
  - Unmitigated effects would be world-wide but in the US
    - 130,000,000 would be without power
    - Cost would range between 1 to 2 trillion dollars
    - Recovery would take years