

# WIRAB Monthly Meeting

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January 5, 2023



# Introductions



# Outline



- **WECC Activities:**
  - WECC Update
  - WECC's Role in Transmission Planning
- **Upcoming WIRAB Meetings**
  - WECC Training for WIRAB Members



# WECC Update

January 5, 2023

Victoria Ravenscroft  
Sr. Policy and External Affairs  
Manager

# Updates: General

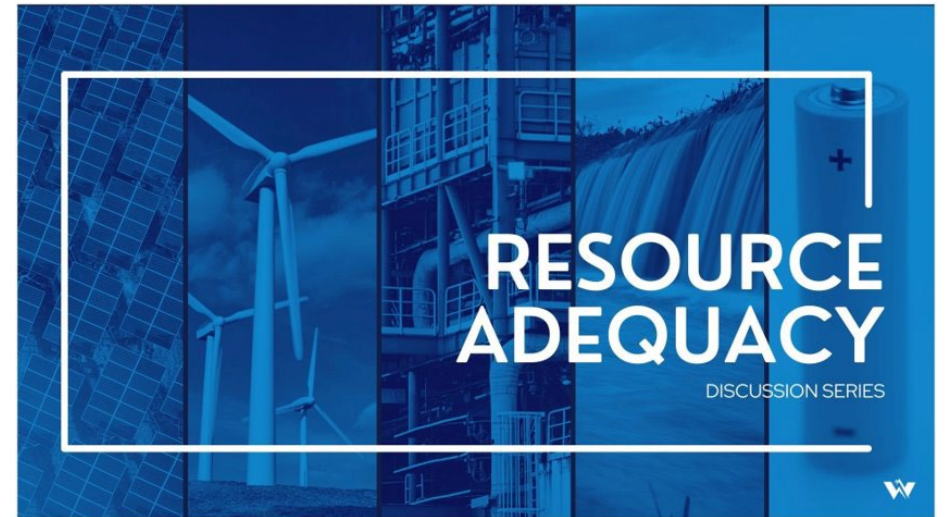
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- 2024 Budget work starts this month
- Refresh of WECC Long-Term Strategy in 2023
- NERC [Board of Trustees](#) meeting
  - February 15, 2023
  - Tucson, AZ



# Updates: Resource Adequacy

- Resource Adequacy Discussion Series
  - Returns Thursday February 2, 2023, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. MT
  - Topic: NERC Long-Term Reliability Assessment
  - Thereafter, first **Thursday** of the month at 10:00 a.m. MT
- Western Assessment of Resource Adequacy webinar
  - Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. MT
  - Focused for state regulators and policymakers



# Updates: Study Program

- Seven studies underway
- Participation opportunities
  1. [Studies Subcommittee](#)
    - [Jon Jensen](#) (WECC Liaison)
  2. Study-specific advisory groups
    - Email WECC staff lead
    - OR
    - Email [engage@wecc.org](mailto:engage@wecc.org) and include study name

Study Name	WECC Staff Lead
Year 10: Extreme cold weather event	Tyler Butikofer
Year 20: Long-duration Energy Storage— Extended extreme weather event	BK Ketineni
Year 20: Extreme hot weather	Bhavana Katyal
Year 20: Extreme cold weather event	Jon Jensen
Year 20: Impacts of compound changes in loads/electrification	Katie Rogers
Impact of grid-forming inverters on spring conditions with low inertia	Doug Tucker
Impact of changes in generation resources using short circuit ratio (compare 2019 to 2022)	Tyson Niemann



# Transmission Planning Update— WIRAB Monthly Meeting

January 5, 2023

Branden Sudduth  
VP Reliability Planning  
& Performance Analysis



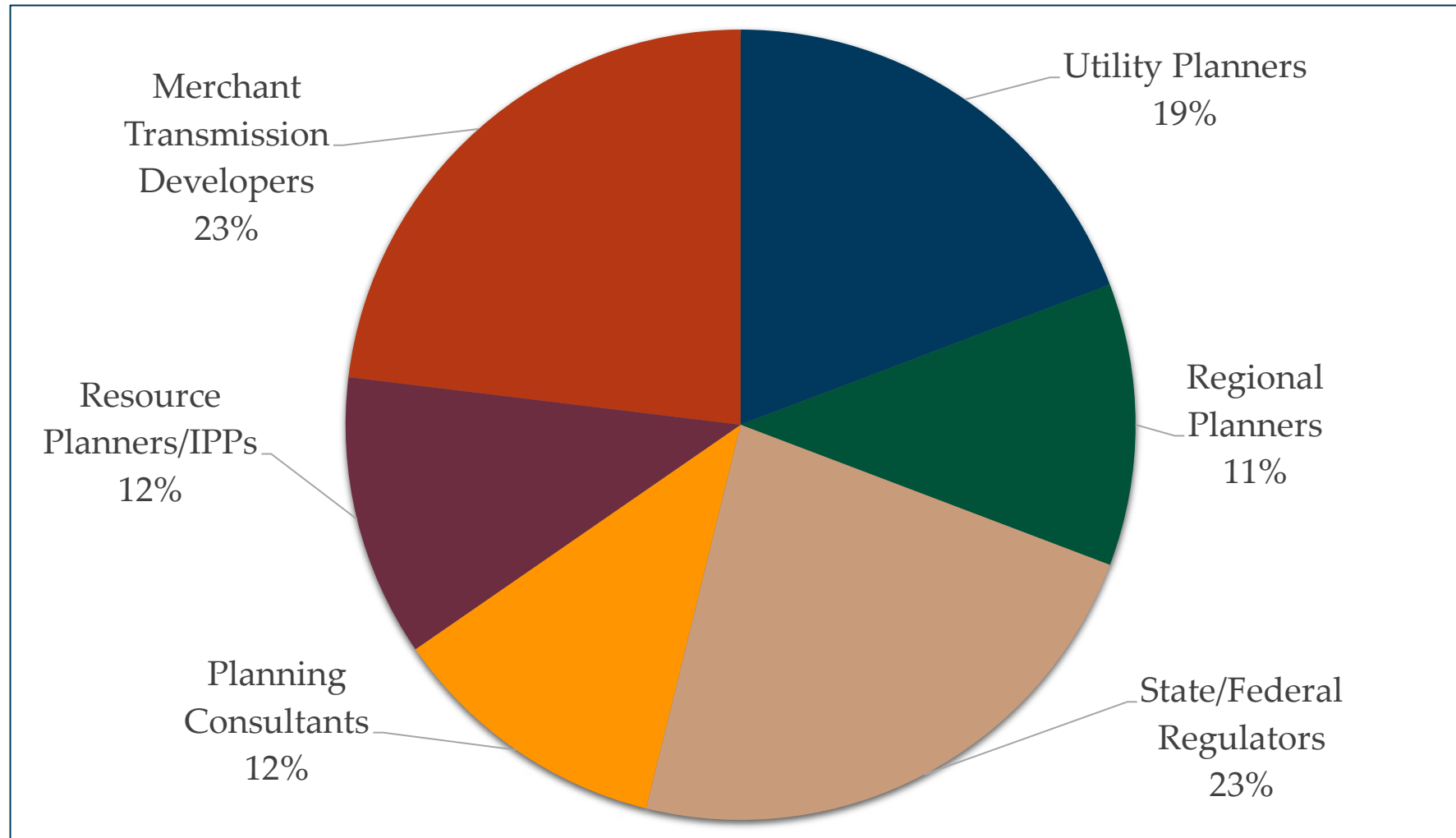
# Transmission Planning

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## June 2022 WECC Board Meeting Action Item

*Perform a gap analysis to identify challenges with existing transmission planning processes and report back on potential activities on how to add value to transmission planning in the West.*

# Transmission Planning—26 Stakeholders Interviewed



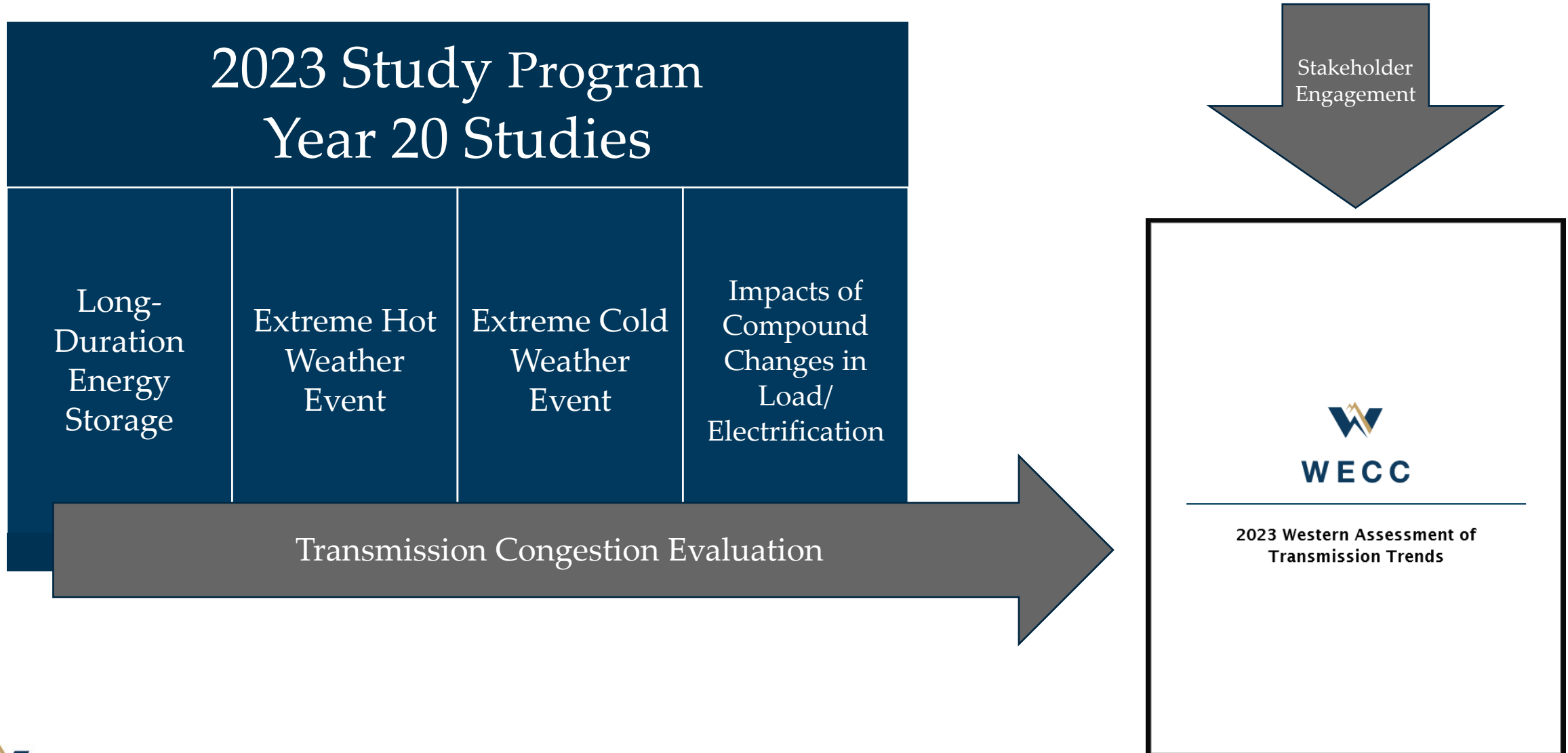
# WECC Transmission Planning Roles

Opportunity	Pros	Cons	Resources Needed
Data collection, compilation, and distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of model development</li> <li>Critical to WECC and stakeholder study efforts</li> <li>Centralized effort</li> </ul>	Certain efforts may not be directly in line with reliability objectives	Dependent on scope of work (0 to several new FTEs, power system modeling software, contracted services)
Support for longer-term transmission planning	Uses WECC's coordination and model development functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possible duplication of effort</li> <li>Complexity of uncertainty</li> <li>Limited benefits</li> </ul>	1 to 2 new FTEs
Interconnection-wide transmission trends assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top-down assessment approach</li> <li>Complements existing processes</li> </ul>	New approach to planning—process and information needs not yet known	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot in 2023</li> <li>Possibly 2 new FTEs</li> </ul>
Training	Can be built on existing processes (e.g., model building)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competing with existing training programs</li> <li>Identification of specific interconnection-wide training needs</li> </ul>	1 new FTE

# WECC Transmission Planning Roles (cont.)

Opportunity	Pros	Cons	Resources Needed
Engagement in state and federal approval processes	Uses WECC's interconnection-wide perspective and coordination abilities	Not in WECC's typical scope of reliability work	Dependent on scope of work (0 to several new FTEs)
Understanding of new technologies/techniques (e.g., DLR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May lead to modeling enhancements</li> <li>• Increased sensitivity analysis</li> </ul>	Modeling complexity and assumptions for planning models	Could be considered part of transmission trends assessment, but could also be one-off scenarios requiring contractor funding
Enhanced Project Coordination processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increases stakeholder engagement in Project Coordination</li> <li>• Predefined process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possible duplication of effort</li> <li>• Voluntary nature of existing process</li> </ul>	1 FTE and engagement from RAC

# WECC Transmission Trends Assessment



## Contact:

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# WIRAB Advice: Next Steps



## **WECC BOD Action Item:** WIRAB and MAC provide advice on WECC's Role

- **January 5:** WIRAB Monthly Meeting (today)
- **January 9:** Begin scoping WIRAB Advice and solicit input from WIRAB
- **February 2:** WIRAB Monthly Meeting – Discuss potential Advice
- **February 10:** Send Draft Advice for WIRAB Review
- **February 24:** WIRAB Approval
- **March 1:** Submit to WECC Board
- **March 8:** WECC Board of Directors Meeting

# Upcoming Meetings



## WIRAB Monthly Meeting

First Thursday of the Month

**Next Meeting: February 2, 2023**

## 2023 Winter Wildfire Meeting

March 1-2, 2023 in Vancouver, B.C.



# Thank You!

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Eric Baran

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