

Fall 2021 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting

Westin – San Diego Gaslamp Quarter
910 Broadway Circle
San Diego, CA

Webinar Information

<i>Monday October 18, 2021</i>	<i>Tuesday October 19, 2021</i>	<i>Wednesday October 20, 2021</i>
<i>9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Fall 2021 EIM-BOSR Meeting</i>	<i>8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting</i>	<i>8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting</i>
<i>1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting</i>		

COVID-19 Policy: Proof of Vaccination and Masks Required

All in-person attendees of the Fall 2021 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting and the Fall 2021 EIM-BOSR Meeting will be required to provide proof of vaccination at check-in. Attendees will also be required to wear masks in all indoor conference spaces. Food and beverages will be provided outside on the conference room terrace. Masks and hand-sanitizer will also be provided. Social distancing and frequent handwashing are strongly encouraged. Please notify WIEB if you test positive for coronavirus within ten days of attending the meetings.

Monday October 18th Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting

1:00 – 1:15 p.m. Welcome and Introductions

The Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC) and the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB) welcome you to the Fall 2021 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting.

- John Chatburn, co-Chair, Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation
- Megan Decker, co-Chair, Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation
- Kristine Raper, Chair, Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body
- Amy Sopinka, Vice-Chair, Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body

1:15 – 2:15 p.m. Western Resource Adequacy Program

The Northwest Power Pool is designing a Western Resource Adequacy Program to increase the reliability of the regional power system through enhanced coordination and increased visibility and transparency, while maintaining

existing frameworks for planning, purchasing, and delivering electricity. The Forward Showing Program will ensure the regional power system has enough demonstrated capacity to meet established reliability metrics. The Operational Program will provide participants with pre-arranged access to capacity resources during extreme events. A key benefit of the program is its ability to unlock load and resource diversity within the region. Panelists will discuss the design of the proposed Western Resource Adequacy Program.

- Mark Holman, Managing Director – Power, Powerex [[pdf](#)]
- Ryan Roy, Director of Technology, Northwest Power Pool
- Maria Pope, President and CEO, Portland General Electric

2:15 – 3:00 p.m. FERC Commissioner Danly’s Perspectives on Electricity Policy in the West

FERC Commissioner Danly will share his perspectives on important electricity policy matters with state and provincial policy makers and utility regulators, including his thoughts on electric system reliability and resource adequacy, expansion of wholesale electricity markets, transmission planning and development, and other topics.

- Honorable James Danly, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 – 4:15 p.m. Governance of the Western Resource Adequacy Program

The proposed governance of the Western Resource Adequacy Program is driven by FERC’s oversight of certain elements of the RA Program and by impacts the program is expected to have on participants and a broad array of stakeholders, including state and provincial policy makers and utility regulators. Proposed governance provisions include: an independent Board of Directors, a Board of Directors Nominating Committee, a Resource Adequacy Program Participant Committee, a Committee of State Representatives, and an Independent Program Evaluator. Panelists will discuss the proposed governance of the Western Resource Adequacy Program.

- Sarah Edmonds, Director of Transmission Services & Reliability, Portland General Electric [[pdf](#)]
- Megan Decker, Chair, Oregon Public Utility Commission
- Thad LeVar, Chair, Utah Public Service Commission
- Eric Blank, Chair, Colorado Public Utilities Commission

4:15 – 5:00 p.m. FERC Commissioner Clements’s Perspectives on Electricity Policy in the West

FERC Commissioner Clements will share her perspectives on important electricity policy matters with state and provincial policy makers and utility

regulators, including her thoughts on electric system reliability and resource adequacy, expansion of wholesale electricity markets, transmission planning and development, and other topics.

- Honorable Allison Clements, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

5:00 p.m.

Recess

Tuesday October 19th
Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting

7:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

FERC Chairman Glick’s Perspectives on Electricity Policy in the West

FERC Chairman Glick will share his perspectives on important electricity policy matters with state and provincial policy makers and utility regulators, including his thoughts on electric system reliability and resource adequacy, expansion of wholesale electricity markets, transmission planning and development, and other topics.

- Honorable Richard Glick, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) have formed a joint federal-state task force on electric transmission. Members of this first-of-its-kind task force will explore transmission-related issues to identify and realize the benefits that transmission can provide, while ensuring that the costs are allocated efficiently and fairly. Western representatives on the joint task force will share their thoughts on making this effort impactful in the West.

- Kristine Raper, Commissioner, Idaho Public Utilities Commission
- Cliff Rechtschaffen, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Transmission Planning in the West: Need Assessment!

Many states, cities, and electric utilities in the West have recently adopted clean energy or carbon-free electricity goals. A key question is whether new transmission lines will need to be developed to achieve these goals. Who should policy makers and utility regulators turn to for comprehensive analysis and assessment of west-wide resource needs and resulting transmission needs? Are regional transmission planning entities motivated to provide meaningful analysis and are they being properly informed by their members’ goals, obligations, and

objectives? Is WECC willing to revive its transmission planning capability to identify specific paths that need expansion? Do we need a new regional entity tasked with, or process for, conducting comprehensive west-wide transmission planning? What lessons can we learn from our past experiences? What are the keys to success in the future?

- Elliot Mainzer, President and CEO, California ISO
- Melanie Frye, President and CEO, WECC
- Maury Galbraith, Executive Director, Western Interstate Energy Board

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Transmission Siting in the West: Federal – State Cooperation?

Interminable transmission permitting and siting processes have long been a barrier to the development of new transmission in the West. Impediments are encountered in both federal and state siting processes. What can be done to synchronize and streamline siting processes across state and federal lands? What reforms should be implemented at both the state and federal levels?

- Lisa Grow, President and CEO, Idaho Power Company
- Carolyn Barbash, Vice President of Transmission Development & Policy, NV Energy
- Scott Bolton, Senior Vice President of Transmission Development, PacifiCorp [[pdf](#)]

11:30 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Update on Federal Activities

Representatives of federal agencies will provide updates on the many changes taking place in the U. S Government.

- Andrea Spring, Policy Advisor, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Michelle Manary, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Energy Resilience Division, Office of Electricity, U.S. Department of Energy

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. State-Led Market Study

The State-Led Market Study project, funded through a U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Program Competitive Grant awarded to the state energy offices in Utah, Idaho, Colorado, and Montana, had the overall goal of helping Western states evaluate generic market expansion options while enhancing regional dialog on the matter. The resulting project report provides states with an independent, neutral, and state-specific technical evaluation of potential market outcomes that consider both services offered and alternative market footprints. Expanding current and planned real-time-only markets to include day-ahead market services could result in annual savings of up to \$642 million. An

“overnight” RTO could generate as much as \$1.3 billion of benefits annually. While the RTO is likely to be more expensive to implement, and is not without regulatory and political challenges, regional benefits significantly surpass the high-end day-ahead market estimates, even after considering the different costs required to administer the two markets. Presenters will discuss these and other key findings of the State-led Market Study.

- Keegan Moyer, Principal, Energy Strategies [[pdf](#)]

2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Legislative Campaigns for Regional Transmission Organizations

Campaigns to pass state legislation requiring electric utilities to join a regional transmission organization (RTO) were recently successful in Nevada and Colorado. The bill passed in Nevada sets a requirement to join an RTO by 2030, although there are options to delay or bypass that requirement. The bill passed in Colorado requires utilities join an organized wholesale market, such as an RTO, by 2030. Panelists will discuss the intended results of the legislative campaigns and why the legislative approach offers the best hope of success.

Moderator:

- Letha Tawney, Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission

Panelists:

- Chris Hansen, Senator, Colorado General Assembly
- Lee Beyer, Senator, Oregon State Legislature
- Spencer Gray, Executive Director, Northwest & Intermountain Power Producers Coalition
- Leah Rubin Shen, Policy Director, Advanced Energy Economy

3:30 – 4:00 p.m. Break

4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Southwest Power Pool RTO Update

The Southwest Power Pool’s Board of Directors has approved policy-level terms and conditions for regional transmission organization (RTO) expansion in the Western Interconnection. Prospective western participants include Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU), Deseret Power Electric Cooperative, the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Wyoming Municipal Power Agency, and the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). The next step to expand the RTO into the Western Interconnection is to resolve outstanding terms and conditions, including cost allocation for the direct-current ties between the Eastern and Western Interconnections. Panelists will discuss extending the reach and value of SPP’s services in the West.

- Barbara Sugg, President and CEO, Southwest Power Pool
- Kara Fornstrom, Director of State Regulatory Policy, Southwest Power Pool [[pdf](#)]

4:30 – 5:00 p.m. California ISO Update

The California ISO will provide a brief retrospective on the results and lessons from this summer including enhanced operational coordination, the role of energy storage and new procurement policies in maintaining grid reliability, and work on improving the wheel-thru protocols. They will discuss the key outcomes and next steps stemming from the October 13 Extended Day Ahead Market (EDAM) Forum, the process to ensure maximum engagement by the broad stakeholder community in the EDAM policy and governance reforms, with the goal of this market evolution providing significant benefits and value to consumers around the West.

- Elliot Mainzer, President and CEO, California ISO
- Stacey Crowley, V.P. of External and Customer Affairs, California ISO
- Anna McKenna, V.P. of Market Policy and Performance, California ISO [\[pdf\]](#)

5:00 p.m. Recess

Wednesday October 20th
Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting

7:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Wildfire Risk: Preparation and Response

Over the last several years, wildfire incidents have become more frequent and more severe across the West. Many electric utilities are working to strengthen their wildfire prevention, preparedness, and mitigation plans. What can state and provincial policy makers and utility regulators do to drive, advance, or incentivize preparation and emergency response?

Moderator:

- David Morton, Chair and CEO, British Columbia Utilities Commission

Panelists:

- Michael Wara, Commissioner, California Commission on Catastrophic Wildfire Cost and Recovery
- Caroline Thomas Jacobs, Director, California Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety [\[pdf\]](#)
- William M. Messner, Director Wildfire Mitigation & Resiliency, Portland General Electric [\[pdf\]](#)
- John Christopherson, Deputy Administrator, Nevada Division of Forestry

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Low- and Zero-Carbon Hydrogen: How Should States Prepare?

What can state policy makers and utility regulators do to advance the production and use of low- and zero-carbon hydrogen in all sectors of the economy to accelerate the transition to a carbon free energy system? How can states partner with the U.S. Department of Energy Hydrogen Program to promote the development of hydrogen production infrastructure across the transportation, industrial, and electric power sectors?

- Dr. Laura Nelson, Special Advisor to the Green Hydrogen Coalition
- Andrew McAllister, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
- Dan Lloyd, Bureau Chief, Montana Department of Environmental Quality

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Aggregation of Distributed Energy Resources at High Penetrations

Panelists will discuss the growth of aggregation of behind-the-meter distributed energy resources - including demand response - and ways that aggregation can improve integration in wholesale electricity markets and regional resource adequacy programs. Better integration of DERs can improve local grid reliability and utility infrastructure planning, reduce the cost of electricity service, contribute to GHG reductions, and support achievement of clean energy goals.

- Michael Picker, Partner, Caliber Strategies [[pdf](#)]
- Debra Lew, Associate Director, Energy Systems Integration Group [[pdf](#)]
- Gabe Petlin, Supervisor, Grid Planning and Reliability Section, Energy Division, California Public Utilities Commission

12:00 p.m. Adjourn