

MSC Capacity Building Plan Session #3: Markets+ Governance and Commissioner Oversight

Date: Friday, June 26th at 12:00 PM PDT/1:00 PM MDT/2:00 PM CDT

Estimated Length of Session: 60 minutes of presentation followed by 20 minutes Q&A

Speakers & Expert Guests:

- Paul Suskie – Executive Vice President of Regulatory Policy & General Counsel, Southwest Power Pool
- Jim Gonzales – Senior Director of Seams and Western Services, Southwest Power Pool
- *Jessica Zahnow* – Manager of Federal and Regulatory Affairs, Puget Sound Energy & Chair of the Markets+ Interim Governance Task Force
- *Omayya Ahmad* – Manager of Regional Market Policy and Regulatory Engagement, Arizona Public Service & Vice Chair of the Markets+ Interim Governance Task Force

Session Description:

As Markets+ nears go-live in 2027, the Markets+ State Committee (MSC) is working to enhance committee capacity by hosting educational sessions that focus on different aspects of Markets+. In this third installment, we will be looking back at the governance framework of Markets+ and commissioner oversight. This session will focus on how operational and policy decisions are to be made in Markets+ and the specific role of the MSC within the broader Markets+ organizational hierarchy. Key topics will be:

- Review of Markets+ governing hierarchy and processes through that hierarchy.
- How issues get developed and analyzed and where the participants' have input at various stages of that process.
- The specific role of the MSC within the Markets+ construct and the role of states and commissioners more broadly across the Western Interconnection.
- Deep-dive into transparency requirements and the mechanisms available for dispute resolution.
- What happens if/when an entity (be it MSC, a sector, an individual state or participant or outside 3rd party) disagrees with a decision.

Attendance at these educational sessions will be restricted to MSC members, staff, other interested state representatives, and invited guests. A recording of the presentation will be posted on the Western Interstate Energy Board website following the session.