



# Western Interstate Energy Board

TO: Western Interstate Energy Board  
FROM: Maury Galbraith  
DATE: October 21, 2022  
SUBJECT: **WIEB 2022 Semi-Annual Update**

This memo is a semi-annual progress report on recent, current, and upcoming activities undertaken by the Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB).

## WESTERN INTERSTATE ENERGY BOARD (WIEB)

### STANFORD SUMMER INTERNSHIP – ENERGY IMPACTS FROM TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION TRENDS IN THE WESTERN STATES

In the summer of 2022, WIEB staff welcomed two Shultz Energy fellows from Stanford University, Evan Savage and Jake Hofgard, to analyze temperature and precipitation data from 20 cities in the West to find out its impacts on grid planning and operations. In doing this analysis, the fellows closely worked with a data expert from Catalyst Cooperative to establish the data base and set up the modeling environment. In addition, the Shultz Energy fellows conducted multiple expert interviews with forecasting staffs from utilities and public councils. The results were publicly presented to regulators and industry experts in the West on August 19, 2022.

The results of their work are available through their presentation on the WIEB webpage: [WIEB Webinar: Incorporating Temperature and Precipitation Trends in Long-Term Planning](#)

Additionally, the forecasting software developed by the fellows is available here: [peaktemp 0.2.2](#)

#### Problem: Assuming historical weather

- Several utilities base their load forecast on weather data from in its service territory, using daily mean temperatures 2000-2019.
- This method may obscure climate trends not already present in current data that may appear in the future.

Photo credit: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021\\_Western\\_north\\_America\\_heat\\_wave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021_Western_north_America_heat_wave)

#### Solution: Using historical and climate model data

- Utilities moves to using an ensemble model that takes into account historical data and multiple global climate models to predict future temperatures.
- This method better captures long-term climate trends and captures some uncertainty in climate forecasts.

Los Angeles Historical and Projected Maximum Temperatures: SSP5-8.5

## WESTERN GREEN HYDROGEN INITIATIVE

During the first half of 2022, WIEB continued to work with its partners at the Green Hydrogen Coalition (GHC) and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) to host and facilitate meetings for the Western Green Hydrogen Initiative (WGHI). Through this effort, the GHC, NASEO, and WIEB convened western state energy officials, state regulators, industry leaders, utilities, and non-governmental organizations to accelerate progress for the green hydrogen market and infrastructure development in the West. WGHI kicked off working group efforts to develop tangible resources for the states to help inform policy, including partnering with WECC to model long-duration energy storage and its role in maintaining the reliability of the Western Interconnection.

## RESERVE EXPENDITURE PROGRAM

### DEMAND RESPONSE REPORT

WIEB surveyed western states on demand response policies throughout the West. This work collected information on the Western States' existing policy approaches to encourage and regulate demand response and identify the existing or potential benefits to utilities and customers. WIEB staff presented this report at the Annual WIEB Board Meeting on June 30.

The report is available on the WIEB website: [Electric Demand Response: Policies in the West](#)

### INVENTORY OF CLEAN ENERGY POLICIES WEBPAGE

The purpose of the Inventory webpage is to provide a central source that summarizes energy policies of western states and provinces in such areas as renewable portfolio standards, clean energy targets, greenhouse gas targets, energy efficiency, energy storage, and electric vehicles.

At the WIEB Board Meeting on June 30, WIEB staff demonstrated to the Board a beta version of the Inventory webpage and solicited feedback from the states over the summer to ensure the information

**WIEB Inventory of Clean Energy Policies**  
as of March 14, 2022

The WIEB Inventory of energy policies seeks to identify and summarize the major clean energy policies of the states and provinces of the Western Interconnection. The Inventory is based upon multiple sources of public information and will be reviewed and updated by the states and provinces on a biennial basis.

State / Province

- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Idaho
- Montana
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- Oregon
- Utah

Colorado - Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS)	▼	Colorado - Clean Energy Targets for Electric Sector	▼
Colorado - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Economy-wide	▼	Colorado - Distributed Energy Policy - Net Metering	▼
Colorado - Energy Efficiency Policies	▼	Colorado - Electric Vehicle Policies	▼

contained in the Inventory was accurate. WIEB intends to work with the states and provinces on an annual basis to update and enhance the Inventory webpage and ensure that it remains an accurate source of information.

The Inventory Webpage is available on the WIEB website: [WIEB Inventory of Clean Energy Policies](#)

## WIEB LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS AND GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS

- On June 30, at the 2022 Annual WIEB Board Meeting, WIEB representatives elected the following officers:
  - **WIEB Chair – David Bobzien** (Director, Nevada Governor’s Office of Energy)
  - **WIEB First Vice Chair – Sarah Cottrell Propst** (Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department)
  - **WIEB Second Vice-Chair – Janine Benner** (Director, Oregon Department of Energy)
  - **WIEB Treasurer – Brian Goretzki** (Chief, Bureau of Radiation Control, Arizona Department of Health Services)
- During the period the following appointments were made to WIEB:
  - **Idaho:** Richard Stover (August 19, 2022)
  - **Washington:** Michael Furze (January 26, 2022)

## WIEB ADMINISTRATION

### STAFFING UPDATES

- On April 5, 2022, Gia Anguiano joined WIEB as a Government Relations Specialist focused on SPP Markets+ and the WPP Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP). Gia will be supporting the Committee of State Representatives (COSR) for the WRAP.
- On April 18, 2022, Bonnie Lamond joined the WIEB staff as a Program Manager for Wholesale Electricity Markets managing and providing support to the Western Energy Imbalance Market Body of State Regulators (WEIM BOSR).
- On May 1, 2022, Laura Rennick joined WIEB as the Director of State, Federal, and International Affairs where she is responsible for supporting the WIEB Board of Directors, coordinating with the Department of Energy, and collaboration efforts with other regional, national, and provincial partners.
- On May 24, 2022, Melanie K Snyder re-joined WIEB as the Nuclear Energy Program Manager for WIEB’s high-level radioactive waste program and Committee, where she works with the Committee to engage with the U.S. Department of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

and other state regional and tribal groups on the transportation component of the nation's program for disposition of commercial spent nuclear fuel and high-level defense waste.

## FALL 2022 JOINT CREPC-WIRAB MEETING

The Fall 2022 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting took place again in Tempe, Arizona on September 28-30, 2022. Meeting topics included Wholesale Electricity Market Expansion in the West, the Western Resource Adequacy Program and Electricity Market Interoperability, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Energy Equity, and Lessons Learned on Cross-Jurisdictional Communications from Wildfire Events. FERC Commissioners Christie and Danly made presentations. The CEO's of Arizona Public Service, NV Energy, and the Bonneville Power Administration shared information and their perspectives on electricity market expansion in the West. Representatives of eleven western states (i.e., Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming) and U.S. DOE participated in the Fall 2022 Joint CREPC-WIRAB Meeting.

## WESTERN INTERCONNECTION REGIONAL ADVISORY BODY (WIRAB)

During the first half of 2022, WIRAB advised WECC on its Strategic Planning Process and its efforts to identify Reliability Risk Priorities for the organization to address over the next two years. WIRAB also advised the WECC Board of Directors on WECC's 2023 Business Plan and Budget. WIRAB continues to engage with the WECC Joint Guidance Committee to implement recommendations from the WECC Board to improve WECC's stakeholder engagement process and technical committee structure.

On April 25, 2022, new WIRAB Leadership began their term:

- **WIRAB Chair – Amy Sopinka** (Director of British Columbia's Electricity Policy Branch Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation)
- **WIRAB Vice Chair – Mary Throne** (Commissioner, Wyoming Public Service Commission)

## MARKETS AND RESOURCE ADEQUACY

### WESTERN ENERGY IMBALANCE MARKET BODY OF STATE REGULATORS

This year, the Western Energy Imbalance Market Body of State Regulators (BOSR) has been actively engaged in multiple policy initiatives at the California ISO. In January, the BOSR submitted [consensus comments](#) on the Revised Final Draft Proposal of the WEIM Resource Sufficiency Enhancements Phase 1 initiative. Additionally, the BOSR is actively engaged in the California ISO's Extended Day-Ahead Market (EDAM) Initiative, which resumed at the beginning of 2022. With support from the staff, the BOSR has been following the initiative closely and staying well-informed of critical matters that may impact participating states. The BOSR filed [consensus comments](#) on the EDAM Straw Proposal issued April 28, 2022. The BOSR also filed [consensus comments](#) on the EDAM Revised Straw Proposal issued August 16, 2022. The BOSR will continue to follow the market design initiative and anticipates submitting consensus

comments to the Western EIM Governing Body on the final proposal prior to joint approval in December 2022.

Simultaneously, the BOSR is following the EDAM governance policy initiative being driven by the Governance Review Committee. The BOSR intends to file consensus comments on EDAM governance throughout the remainder of the year.

#### SPP MARKETS+

WIEB staff began working with the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) to engage regulators on Markets+, a day-ahead market offering that could enhance system reliability and increase economic opportunity in the West. WIEB hosted multiple webinars with Kara Fornstrom and Paul Suskie from SPP's Governance Design team to walk-through their governance design and proposal with officials from the public utility commissions and state energy offices. State and provincial representatives worked closely with WIEB staff to submit comments on this issue with 15 representatives from 8 states signing on. WIEB staff is continuing to work with representatives on Markets+ governance and the design of the Markets+ service offering.

#### WESTERN RESOURCE ADEQUACY PROGRAM COMMITTEE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVES

WIEB and the Western Power Pool (WPP) have finalized their Memorandum of Understanding for staff support to the Committee of State Representatives (COSR) in the Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP). The WPP hopes to complete a dry run of the proposal development and review process with the various committees ahead of program implementation, and WIEB staff will work closely the COSR at that time to fulfill their role in the WRAP process.

#### NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM

In May of 2022, WIEB's High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee (HLRW Committee) and Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Transportation Technical Advisory Group (WIPP TAG) held their first in-person meeting in over two years in Philadelphia, PA. There, they explored some of the finer details of the HLRW Committee's spent nuclear fuel (SNF) transportation policies, as well as exchanged ideas about and best practices for effective training and other preparation activities for transuranic waste transportation to WIPP. Earlier in the year, the HLRW Committee elected longtime participant and Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects Executive Director Dr. Fred Dilger as Chair. They also sent comments to the Department of Energy (DOE) in response to its Request for Information on consent-based siting of spent nuclear fuel consolidated interim storage facilities, and on DOE's continuing initiative to develop a reciprocal rail inspection protocol for SNF shipments.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### WINTER WILDFIRE MEETING

TBD

Vancouver, British Columbia

### SPRING 2023 JOINT CREPC-WIRAB MEETING

April 12-14, 2023

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, Nevada