



## Northwestern University Electricity Dialogue on “Reliability, Planning, and Emerging Markets in the Western U.S.”

Hyatt Centric Park City (Park City, Utah)  
Thursday, December 5 - Friday, December 6, 2024

### Thursday, December 5, 2024

- 11:00-12:30      **Lunch** (White Pine Rotunda)
- 12:30-12:45      **Convening & Welcome** (Wasatch Ballroom)  
**Derek Gundersen**, Assistant Director of Program Operations  
Northwestern Center on Law, Business, and Economics  
**Brigham Daniels**, Professor of Law and Co-Director, Wallace  
Stegner Center Law & Policy, University of Utah, S.J. Quinney  
College of Law
- 12:45-1:30      **Opening Keynote Address: *Reliability First: Resource Adequacy as the  
Foundation for a Well-Functioning Integrated Electric System***  
**Introduction:**      **John S. Harvey**, Commissioner, Public Service  
Commission of Utah  
**Keynote Speaker:**      **Sarah Edmonds**, President and CEO, Western  
Power Pool (WPP)
- 1:20-1:30      **Break**
- 1:30-3:00      **Session One — Reliability, Resource Adequacy and Load Growth  
Trends: How to Keep the Lights On?**  
**Moderator:**      **Mary Throne**, Chairman, Wyoming Public Service  
Commission

**Panelists:** **Jose Esparza**, Sr. Vice President Public Policy, Arizona Public Service

**Briana Kobor**, Head of Energy Market Innovation, Google

**Kris Raper**, Vice President, Strategic Engagement and External Affairs, WECC

**Joel Yu**, Vice President of Policy, Enchanted Rock

3:00-3:30 **Break**

3:30-5:00 **Session Two — Transmission: What is Needed? Why? Where? How to make Sure that Need is Met? And, Who Pays?**

**Moderator:** **Megan Decker**, Chair, Oregon Public Utility Commission

**Panelists:** **Raymond L. Gifford**, Denver Office Managing Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP

**Danielle Osborn Mills**, Principal for Infrastructure Policy Development, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)

**Megan Vetula**, Vice President, Federal Regulatory Affairs, Berkshire Hathaway Energy

**Jordan White**, Executive Director, Development, GridLiance, a NextEra Energy Transmission Company

5:00-6:00 **Break**

6:00 – 7:00 **Cocktail Reception** (White Pine Rotunda)

7:00 **Dinner** (Wasatch Ballroom)

7:45 **Dinner Keynote Address: *Making Energy Work Better for the Customer and Communities We Serve***

**Introduction:** **Gabriel Aguilera**, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

**Keynote Speaker:** **Robert Kenney**, President, Xcel Energy – Colorado

**Friday, December 6, 2024**

7:30-8:30                   **Breakfast** (White Pine Rotunda)

8:30-10:00               **Session Three — Energy Markets in The West: Where are They Now, How are They Doing, and Where are They Going?** (Wasatch Ballroom)

**Moderator:**               **Nick Myers**, Commissioner, Arizona Corporation Commission

**Panelists:**               **Adam Benshoff**, Head of Government and Regulatory Policy - Commodities Markets, Citadel

**Anna McKenna**, Vice President of Market Design and Policy, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)

**Carrie Simpson**, Senior Director, Seams and Western Services, Southwest Power Pool (SPP)

**Kathleen Staks**, Executive Director, Western Freedom

10:00-10:15               **Break**

10:15-11:45               **Session Four — Customer Benefits of Western Energy Markets: Making Sure All the Work is Worth It**

**Moderator:**               **Letha Tawney**, Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission

**Panelists:**               **Michele Beck**, Executive Director, Utah Office of Consumer Services

**Caitlin Liotiris**, Chair, WPTF Wider West Committee; Principal, Energy Strategies

**Paul Suskie**, Executive Vice President, Regulatory Policy and General Counsel, Southwest Power Pool

**Jessica Zahnow**, State and Regional Policy—Regional Markets, Puget Sound Energy

11:45                       **Adjourn**

**Confirmed Utility Commissioners (as of 12/5/2024):**

1. **Gabriel Aguilera**, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (*Keynote Introduction*)
2. **Lori Cobos**, Commissioner, Public Utility Commission of Texas
3. **David W. Danner**, Chair, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
4. **Megan Decker**, Chair, Oregon Public Utility Commission (*Session Moderator*)
5. **Hwikwon Ham**, Commissioner, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
6. **John S. Harvey**, Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Utah (*Keynote Introduction*)
7. **Jason R. Holsman**, Commissioner, Missouri Public Service Commission
8. **Nick Myers**, Commissioner, Arizona Corporation Commission (*Session Moderator*)
9. **Pat O'Connell**, Chair, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
10. **Katerine Peretick**, Commissioner, Michigan Public Service Commission
11. **Les Perkins**, Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission
12. **Joseph K. Sullivan**, Vice Chair, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
13. **Letha Tawney**, Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission (*Session Moderator*)
14. **Emile C. Thompson**, Chairman, Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia
15. **Mary Throne**, Chairman, Wyoming Public Service Commission (*Session Moderator*)
16. **Hayley Williamson**, Chair, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

**Confirmed Participants (as of 12/5/2024):**

17. **Michele Beck**, Executive Director, Utah Office of Consumer Services
18. **Adam Benshoff**, Head of Government and Regulatory Policy - Commodities Markets, Citadel
19. **Sarah Edmonds**, President and CEO, Western Power Pool (WPP)
20. **Jose Esparza**, Sr. Vice President Public Policy, Arizona Public Service
21. **Raymond L. Gifford**, Denver Office Managing Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP
22. **Robert Kenney**, President, Xcel Energy – Colorado
23. **Briana Kobor**, Head of Energy Market Innovation, Google
24. **Caitlin Liotiris**, Chair, WPTF Wider West Committee; Principal, Energy Strategies
25. **Anna McKenna**, Vice President of Market Design and Policy, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
26. **Danielle Osborn Mills**, Principal for Infrastructure Policy Development, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
27. **Kris Raper**, Vice President, Strategic Engagement and External Affairs, WECC
28. **Carrie Simpson**, Senior Director, Seams and Western Services, Southwest Power Pool (SPP)
29. **Kathleen Staks**, Executive Director, Western Freedom
30. **Paul Suskie**, Executive Vice President, Regulatory Policy and General Counsel, Southwest Power Pool
31. **Megan Vetula**, Vice President, Federal Regulatory Affairs, Berkshire Hathaway Energy
32. **Jordan White**, Executive Director, Development, GridLiance, a NextEra Energy Transmission Company
33. **Joel Yu**, Vice President of Policy, Enchanted Rock
34. **Jessica Zahnow**, State and Regional Policy—Regional Markets, Puget Sound Energy

**Confirmed Registrants (as of 12/5/2024):**

35. **Meredith Aitken**, Director, Power, Powerex Corp
36. **Omayya Ahmad**, Manager Regional Market, Arizona Public Service
37. **Robin Arnold**, Director of State, Federal, and International Affairs, Western Interstate Energy Board
38. **Kevin Baker**, Deputy General Counsel, Hydro, rPlus Energies

39. **Sara Baldwin**, Sr. Director, Energy Innovation
40. **Tony Braun**, President, Braun Blaising & Wynne, P.C.
41. **Sean Brewer**, Senior Manager – Transmission, Invenergy
42. **Denise Buffington**, Senior Director Federal Regulatory Affairs, Evergy Companies
43. **Meghan Busse**, Associate Professor of Strategy, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University
44. **Max Carpenter**, Director of Market Operations, Guzman Energy
45. **Lauren Cormany**, Research Attorney, Office of General Counsel, University of Utah
46. **Brigham Daniels**, Professor of Law and Co-Director, Wallace Stegner Center Law & Policy, University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law
47. **Andy Dressel**, VP – Energy, Charles River Associates
48. **Frank Durnford**, Executive Director, Market Policy, Powerex
49. **Melanie Frye**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Western Electricity Coordinating Council
50. **Jennifer Gardner**, Director, Regulatory & External Affairs, Hydrostor
51. **Edward Garvey**, Regulatory Strategist, AESL Consulting
52. **John Gunnells**, Senior Manager, State Affairs, American Gas Association
53. **Sam Johnston**, Policy Director, Interwest Energy Alliance
54. **Jennie Jorgenson**, Senior Engineer, Grid Planning and Analysis Center, National Renewable Energy Laboratory
55. **Casey Kelly**, Program Manager - Research & Electricity, ClearPath
56. **Lynne Kiesling**, Director, Institute for Regulatory Law & Economics; Senior Research Affiliate, Northwestern Center on Law, Business, and Economics, Institute for Regulatory Law & Economics
57. **Agnes Lut**, Regulatory Affairs, Salt River Project
58. **Philip D. Moeller**, Executive Vice President, Business Operations Group and Regulatory Affairs, Edison Electric Institute
59. **Elliott Nethercutt**, Senior Director, State Regulatory Affairs, Edison Electric Institute
60. **Kimberly O'Guinn**, Senior Director State Regulatory Policy, Southwest Power Pool
61. **Delia Patterson**, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance, Salt River Project
62. **Jacob Richardson**, Sr Transmission Policy Advisor, WRA
63. **Rodney Ross**, Director State Affairs & Compliance, Arizona Public Service
64. **John C. Ruple**, Professor of Law and Program Director, Wallace Stegner Center Law & Policy, University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law
65. **Nick Schou**, Policy Director, Advanced Energy United
66. **Lizzie Stephani**, DOE Clean Energy Innovator Fellow, Wyoming Public Service Commission
67. **Dylan Sullivan**, Head of Energy Market Development, US-West and Latin America, Google