

Northwestern University Electricity Dialogue

Electricity System Adaption: Solving the Issues of the West

Thursday, December 1, 2022 – Friday, December 2, 2022
Wasatch Ballroom — Hyatt Centric at Park City, Utah

Thursday, December 1, 2022

11:00-12:30 **Lunch** (White Pine Rotunda)

12:30-12:45 **Convening, Welcome, and Introduction** (Wasatch Ballroom)

- **Derek Gundersen**, Assistant Director, Program Operations, Northwestern Center on Law, Business and Economics
- **Elizabeth Kronk Warner**, Dean, S.J. Quinney College of Law, University of Utah
- **Thad LeVar**, Chair, Public Service Commission of Utah

12:45-1:30

Opening Keynote Address: Reliability, Infrastructure Development and Market Evolution in the West

Heat, drought, supply chain challenges and institutional barriers are all creating unprecedented challenges to meeting Western clean energy objectives. Mr. Mainzer will discuss the specific steps that CAISO is taking in cooperation with state agencies and other key partners across the West to support reliability, affordability and environmental sustainability.

- **Introduction: John Chatburn**, Commissioner, Idaho Public Utilities Commission
- **Keynote Speaker: Elliot Mainzer**, President and Chief Executive Officer, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)

1:30-3:00

Session One—Weather Impacts on Resiliency & Resource Adequacy

The lands are parched! A record-breaking drought is affecting everyone and everything. This panel will discuss the drought's impacts and how the region's electricity providers are handling the resulting complications on electricity production and delivery.

- **Moderator: Hayley Williamson**, Chair, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
- **Josh Novacheck**, Electricity System Research Engineer, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)
- **Branden Sudduth**, Vice President, Reliability Planning and Performance Analysis, WECC
- **Jonathan Woldemariam**, Wildfire Mitigation Director, San Diego Gas & Electric Co.

3:00-3:30

Break

3:30-5:00

Session Two — Transmission: How to Get It Done?

Since it seems to be well-recognized that more transmission is needed throughout the West to assure reliability, enhance resiliency, enable economic delivery, etc., this panel will tackle how to move beyond the discussion of transmission needs to the difficult issues of how to get more interregional transmission planned and built. What are the barriers and how can/should they be overcome?

- **Moderator: Lea Márquez Peterson**, Chair, Arizona Corporation Commission
- **Stefan Bird**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Power
- **Jeffrey B. Guldner**, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer, Pinnacle West Capital Corp.; Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Arizona Public Service Company
- **Robert S. Kenney**, President, Xcel Energy-Colorado
- **Philip D. Moeller**, Executive Vice President, Business Operations Group and Regulatory Affairs, Edison Electric Institute

- 5:00-5:15 **Break**
- 5:15 – 5:45 **Keynote Address: FERC’s Role as the West’s Approach Continues to Evolve** (Wasatch Ballroom)
- **Introduction: Melanie Frye**, President and CEO, WECC
 - **Keynote Speaker: Richard Glick**, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- 5:45-6:00 **Break**
- 6:00-7:00 **Networking Reception** (White Pine Rotunda)
- 7:00 **Dinner** (Wasatch Ballroom)

Friday, December 2, 2022

- 7:15-8:15 **Breakfast** (White Pine Rotunda)
- 8:30 **Reconvening & Welcome** (Wasatch Ballroom)
- 8:30-10:00 **Session Three — Electrification: Can We Have Our Cake & Eat It Too?**
- The pressures, desires, and economics of electrification of everything, from transportation to space heating is likely to put significant pressures on an already straining regional bulk power system. But, with the resource adequacy constraints, weather changes, and other pressures is a hard push toward electrification just too much? Can the system handle it? Are we asking too much, too fast? This panel will discuss (and answer?) these questions, as well as explaining how everything will come together perfectly (or not!).*
- **Moderator: Megan Decker**, Chair, Oregon Public Utility Commission
 - **Chris Hansen**, Senator, Colorado General Assembly; Director & Co-Founder, Colorado Energy & Water Institute (CEWI)
 - **Philip Jones**, Executive Director, Alliance for Transportation Electrification
 - **Erik Takayesu**, SVP of Asset Management & Planning, Southern California Edison
- 10:00-10:30 **Break**

10:30-12:00

Session Four — Nesting Dolls: Working Together to Solve State and Regional Issues

This panel will discuss how the multiple jurisdictional authorities in the West can, will, must work together to address common regional issues. States and their utility regulators and have very clear jurisdictional lines but the region requires solutions beyond state lines to provide reliable, resilient and lowest cost power. So, how can regional dialogue (and the development of regional solutions) be encouraged and/or enhanced without hindering a commissioner's ability to meet the needs in their particular state?

- **Moderator: Letha Tawney**, Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission
- **Stacey Crowley**, Vice President, External Affairs, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
- **Matthew S. Larson**, Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP
- **Joseph Sullivan**, Vice Chair, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
- **Jordan White**, Executive Director, Development, GridLiance, a NextEra Energy Transmission Company

12:00-1:00

Wrap-Up and Informal Lunch

With thanks to our sponsors:

Wallace Stegner Center for Land, Resources, and the Environment at The University of Utah S.J. Quinney School of Law; California Independent System Operator; Edison Electric Institute; and Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP

Confirmed Utility Commissioners (as of 12/1/2022):

1. **James Brown**, President, Montana Public Service Commission
2. **John Chatburn**, Commissioner, Idaho Public Utilities Commission (*Keynote Introduction*)
3. **David Clark**, Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Utah
4. **Lori Cobos**, Commissioner, Public Utility Commission of Texas
5. **Tammy Cordova**, Commissioner, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
6. **Megan Decker**, Chair, Oregon Public Utility Commission (*Panel Moderator*)
7. **Kristie Fiegen**, Vice Chair, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
8. **Richard Glick**, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (*Keynote Speaker*)
9. **Cynthia Hall**, Chair, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
10. **Thad LeVar**, Chair, Public Service Commission of Utah (*Welcome*)

11. **Joseph Maestas**, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
12. **Katherine Peretick**, Commissioner, Michigan Public Service Commission
13. **Lea Márquez Peterson**, Chair, Arizona Corporation Commission
14. **Tricia Pridemore**, Chair, Georgia Public Service Commission
15. **Michael Richard**, Commissioner, Maryland Public Service Commission
16. **Katie Sieben**, Chair, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
17. **Joseph Sullivan**, Vice Chair, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (*Panelist*)
18. **Letha Tawney**, Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission
19. **Hayley Williamson**, Chair, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (*Panel Moderator*)

Confirmed Participants (as of 12/1/2022):

20. **Stefan Bird**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Power
21. **Stacy Crowley**, Vice President, External Affairs, California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
22. **Melanie Frye**, President and CEO, WECC
23. **Jeffrey B. Guldner**, Chairman, President, CEO, Pinnacle West Capital Corporation
24. **Chris Hansen**, Senator, Colorado General Assembly; Director & Co-Founder, Colorado Energy & Water Institute (CEWI)
25. **Philip Jones**, Executive Director, Alliance for Transportation Electrification
26. **Robert S. Kenney**, President, Xcel Energy-Colorado
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33. **Elizabeth Kronk Warner**, Dean, S.J. Quinney College of Law, University of Utah
34. **Jordan White**, Executive Director, Development, GridLiance, a NextEra Energy Transmission Company
35. **Jonathan Woldemariam**, Wildfire Mitigation Director, San Diego Gas & Electric Co.

Confirmed Registrants (as of 12/1/2022):

36. **Poonum Agrawal**, Senior Manager, Regulatory Affairs - Western U.S., Enel North America
37. **Matthew Alvarado**, Senior Utility Analyst, Iowa Utilities Board
38. **Mayane Barudin**, Deputy Program Director, Vote Solar
39. **Scott Bolton**, SVP, Transmission & Market Development, PacifiCorp
40. **Kate Bowman**, Interior West Regulatory Director, Vote Solar
41. **Tony Clark**, Senior Advisor, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP
42. **Chance Cobb**, Co-Founder & COO, Blip Energy
43. **Jose Esparza**, VP, Regulatory, Arizona Public Service (APS)
44. **Edward Garvey**, Regulatory Strategist, AESL Consulting

45. **Keith Hay**, Sr. Policy Director, Colorado Energy Office
46. **Yvonne Hogle**, Executive Staff Director, Public Service Commission of Utah
47. **Sam Johnston**, Policy Manager, Interwest Energy Alliance
48. **Mark Klein**, Chief Development Officer, Broad Reach Power LLC
49. **Briana Kobor**, Energy Market Development, Google
50. **Aly Koslow**, Director- Federal Regulatory Affairs, Arizona Public Service
51. **Mallory Lebovitz**, Chief Of Staff, Pinnacle West Capital Corp.
52. **Ivy Lyn**, Director, State and Regulatory Affairs, Edison Electric Institute
53. **Emily McKay**, 3L student, University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law
54. **Amanda Myers Wisser**, Policy and Regulatory Affairs Manager, WeaveGrid
55. **Bruce Rew**, Senior Vice President, Operations, Southwest Power Pool
56. **Vijay Satyal**, Regional Energy Markets Manager, Western Resource Advocates
57. **Kathleen Staks**, Deputy Director, Western Freedom
58. **Rachel Stanford**, Director, Transmission Operations, UAMPS
59. **Paul Suskie**, Executive Vice-President and General Counsel, Southwest Power Pool
60. **Hollie Velasquez Horvath**, Regional Vice President of Government Affairs and
Community Relations, Xcel Energy
61. **Ben Walker**, Vice President, Energy Strategies, Environ Energy
62. **Emily Wegener**, General Counsel, UAMPS