

## DOCKETED

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## **RETI 2.0 Western Outreach Project – Workshops in Portland Aug. 12 and Las Vegas Sept. 1**

The Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0 Western Outreach Project is being conducted by the Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB) and National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) at the request of the California Natural Resources Agency. The purpose of the project is to gather stakeholder input from across the Western Interconnection regarding the availability of renewable energy and electric transmission that could contribute to meeting California’s renewable energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) objectives by 2030.

This project will collect and summarize stakeholder comments on a set of focus questions by way of two in-person/webinar-broadcast workshops: (1) a Northwest-focused workshop in Portland on August 12, 2016; and (2) a Southwest-focused workshop in Las Vegas on September 1, 2016. The focus question themes (which will also form the agenda for the workshops) are provided below, along with additional information about the RETI 2.0 Western Outreach Project. A more detailed agenda and the full list of focus questions will be released soon.

<u>Portland Workshop:</u> <b>August 12, 2016</b> , 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Bonneville Power Administration BPA Rates Hearing Room 1201 Lloyd Blvd, Suite 200 Portland, OR	<u>Las Vegas Workshop:</u> <b>September 1, 2016</b> , 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Nevada Gaming Control Board 555 East Washington Avenue, Room 2450 Las Vegas, NV 89101
Webinar Connection for both Workshops: Link: <a href="http://westgov.adobeconnect.com/wieb2016/">http://westgov.adobeconnect.com/wieb2016/</a> Phone: <b>888-407-5039</b> Passcode: <b>39296759</b>	

### **Thematic Agenda for Portland and Las Vegas**

#### **Setting the Stage: The Future of Renewable Energy Markets in the West**

- California’s 2030 RPS and GHG goals and the RETI 2.0 project
- Western renewable energy demand by 2030
- Western renewable energy supply by 2030
- Potential future patterns of renewable energy trade and power flows

#### **Today’s Grid: Existing Capacity, Constraints, and Current Trends**

- Existing and planned transmission capacity and known constraints
- Changes in the generation fleet and implications for transmission capacity
- Institutional and market issues affecting transmission utilization

#### **Future Expansion: Examining New Transmission to Access High-quality Renewables**

- Current transmission expansion proposals
- Pros and cons of different expansion options, configurations, and scenarios
- Next steps

*Meeting logistics and details can be found on the WIEB website:  
<http://westernenergyboard.org/2016/07/reti-2-0-western-outreach-project/>.*

## Additional Information

California's RETI 2.0 is a non-regulatory cooperative project of the California Natural Resources Agency, California Energy Commission, and California Public Utilities Commission, along with the California Independent System Operator and US Bureau of Land Management California Office. More information about RETI 2.0 is available here: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/reti/>.

The RETI 2.0 Western Outreach Project is a distinct component of the broader RETI 2.0 project, initiated to provide regional perspectives about the future of Western renewable energy development and the transmission necessary to bring it to market. Though the sponsors for the project are California-based agencies, the Western Outreach Project will result in a summary report that other Western states, utilities, industry, and advocates should also find useful.

The California agencies' main purpose for requesting the Western Outreach Project is to better understand the transmission implications of accessing renewable energy from elsewhere in the West, as well as identifying potential markets for California's own excess renewable energy production that may help meet California's 2030 RPS and GHG goals most efficiently. The project is based around a set of focus questions that will be provided to stakeholders before the workshops, and stakeholders will be asked to respond directly to the questions through both verbal and written comments. The agenda of each workshop will feature a series of panels centered on providing responses and discussion around the focus questions. Western state agencies, regulators, utilities, system operators, generation developers, transmission developers, members of the consumer and environmental advocacy communities, and other stakeholders are all invited to participate.

The information received from these workshops and in written comments will be gathered and summarized by WIEB staff, and common themes will be noted. A final report will be prepared that summarizes stakeholder responses to the focus questions, and to the extent possible, draws conclusions based on consensus comments or technical data. The report will be used by the California agencies involved in RETI 2.0 as an input into the RETI 2.0 process. The Western Outreach Report will inform the conclusions and recommendations made in the RETI 2.0 Report, expected in late 2016. The Western Outreach Report will also be made available by WIEB and NASEO for state and federal agencies, utilities and developers, and advocates to inform planning processes throughout the West.