

DOCKETED

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RETI 2 Western Outreach Portland Workshop Agenda and Focus Questions

August 12, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. PDT

Bonneville Power Administration

Rates Hearing Room

1201 Lloyd Blvd, Suite 200, Portland, Oregon

Webinar Connection:

Link: <http://westgov.adobeconnect.com/wieb2016/>

Phone: 888-407-5039

Passcode: 39296759

10:00 – 12:00 p.m. Panel #1 – Setting the Stage: The Future of Renewable Energy Markets in the West

Brian Turner, RETI 2.0 – *RETI 2.0 background and CA renewable demand*

Tom Carr, WIEB – *WECC 2026 Common Case overview*

Panelists:

Rick Link, PacifiCorp

Cameron Yourkowski, Renewables Northwest Project

Henry Tilghman, Tilghman and Associates

Tony Usibelli, Washington Dept. of Commerce

- a) **Renewable demand** – *How much additional renewable energy development in the west is likely? To serve state RPS mandates? To meet Clean Power Plan compliance? Driven by economics like declining costs, customer preferences and tax credits? To meet other policy objectives?*
- b) **Renewable supply** – *where, and in which technologies, is development of renewable energy most likely to occur in the next 15 years? Where are renewable developers pursuing projects? Where (and in which technologies) are utilities most interested in procurement? What role are consumer preferences playing in affecting supply?*
- c) **Patterns of trade** – *how will the future mix of renewable energy change the historic pattern of daily or seasonal power flows in the Western Interconnection? What load areas in the West could potentially import surplus generation from California on a daily or seasonal basis?*

12:00 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Panel #2 – Today’s Grid: Existing Capacity, Constraints, and Current Trends

Panelists:

John Fazio, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Ravi Aggarwal, Bonneville Power Administration
Kevin Harris, ColumbiaGrid

- d) *Existing transmission capacity and known constraints – what is the existing transmission capacity to deliver power from high-quality renewable energy areas to California load centers? Where are there known constraints that limit additional deliveries? What is the capacity or constraints to delivering California surplus renewables to potential out-of-state markets? What are the constraints to delivering out-of-state renewables to other load centers when California is in surplus? How is the deployment of advanced bulk electric system sensing and control technology expected to affect the need for transmission?*
- e) *Generation fleet trends – How will the current or potential coal plant closures affect the availability of transmission capacity for renewables to California? Will changes to the utilization of northwest hydro resources change the availability of transmission for renewable imports or exports to California? Are there other grid-scale storage projects that could materially impact the availability or need for transmission to deliver renewable energy to or from California?*
- f) *Institutional changes – How would increased use of “energy-only” (as opposed to fully-deliverable) renewables procurement affect transmission availability and need, and how likely are utilities to be interested in out-of-state energy-only procurement? How could the use of dynamic scheduling and other transmission contracting affect deliverability of renewables to California? How could the expansion of Energy Imbalance Market affect transmission availability? What other institutional reforms or balancing area agreements could improve utilization of existing capacity? Where are non-transmission alternatives processes in place and how will that affect the need for transmission?*

2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Panel #3 – Future Expansion: Examining New Transmission to Access High-Quality Renewables

Keegan Moyer, Energy Strategies – Overview of the Transmission System

Project Overviews:

Sandeep Arora, LS Power
Bob Smith, TransCanyon
David Smith, TransWest Express
Richard Vail, PacifiCorp

Panelists:

Rich Bayless, CPS
Fred Heutte, Northwest Energy Coalition and Energy Data Work Group

- g) *Current expansion proposals – Is the RETI 2.0 list of regional transmission project proposals complete? Is the WECC Common Case Transmission Assumptions accurate? How could the transmission cost assumptions for out-of-state renewable energy in the CPUC RPS Calculator be improved? Which proposals have received the most interest from utilities in other states and why? What potential expansion scenarios do you think are most likely? Where have proposals not been made, but should? Where would other kinds of line upgrades or new technology obviate the need for expansion?*
- h) *Costs and benefits of transmission expansion options – What are the pros and cons of different configurations of transmission expansion? How would different expansion options affect deliverability directly to California? Indirect (commercial) deliverability to California? Exports from California? Ability to defer imports during excess supply? Which configuration of potential transmission expansion options is most likely to support efficient dispatch and utilization of renewable diversity across the west? How should advanced transmission technologies and non-wires alternatives be considered in evaluating expansion options?*
- i) *Next steps - What additional planning initiatives could California pursue, alone or with federal or western state partners, to facilitate the more efficient utilization of existing transmission capacity for accessing renewable energy or the most efficient expansion of any new needed transmission capacity?*

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. Public Comment

4:00 Adjourn

Background

The Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0 Western Outreach Project is being conducted by the Western Interstate Energy Board and National Association of State Energy Officials 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. More information on the RETI 2.0 Western Outreach Project may be found at the [WIEB website](#) .

Stakeholders, including state or federal agencies and regulators, tribal governments, public and private utilities, transmission system operators, generation developers, transmission developers, and members of the consumer and environmental advocacy communities, are all invited and encouraged to provide comment on the focus questions. These comments will be gathered and summarized by WIEB and NASEO staff and consultants, and any common themes or conclusions noted, in a final report expected in late September 2016.