Increasing Renewable Energy in the Western Grid: A Dialogue Among Stakeholders

May 10-11, 2010
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Golden, Colorado

Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

- Review current transmission planning initiatives and studies in the Western Interconnect.
- Identify siting activities that will integrate large amounts of renewables in the West.
- Identify the unique needs of each renewable resource.
- Explore synergies and additional opportunities for collaboration. What gaps are not being filled by other organizations? (WECC, WGA, ERCOT, and sub-regional planning groups.
- Discuss expanding the scope of the NWCC Transmission Workgroup to include the interests of other renewables in the Western grid.
- Identify actions each sector can carry forward.

May 10		
12:30-1:00	**Registration**	**Proposed Discussion Leaders**
1:00-1:05	**I. Welcome**	*Mike Jacobs, DOE Energy Office of Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)*
1:05-1:20	**II. Meeting Purpose and Introductions**	*Brian Parsons, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), & Jennifer DeCesaro, DOE Solar Technologies Program*

1:20-2:45	**III. <u>Review of Current Transmission Planning and Siting Activities in the West</u>**
	• *What are the current transmission planning and siting initiatives and studies in the West that will support the integration of large amounts of renewables?*
	  ○ *WECC interconnect wide planning processes*
	  ○ *WGA and sub-regional and independent transmission developer activities*
	  ○ *WWSIS and other study findings that demonstrate alternative scenarios options*
		Byron Woertz, WECC
		
		Thomas Carr, WGA
		
		Brian Parsons, NREL

2:45-3:00	**Break**	
3:00-4:00	**IV. <u>Renewables and a New Transmission Planning Paradigm</u>** • *How do renewable energy zones facilitate the planning and siting processes?* • *How will each renewable resource benefit from engaging in renewable energy zone planning processes?* • *What questions do land-use and wildlife advocates want the REZ and transmission planning processes to address?*	*David Hurlbut, NREL* *Ron Lehr, AWEA* *Carl Zichella, Sierra Club*
4:00-5:15	**V. <u>Renewables and Transmission in the West: Industry and Technology Perspectives</u>** • *Where does each renewable energy resource fit in the picture? What are the gaps, opportunities, and challenges?* • *What are the questions each renewable resource should ask to engage in transmission planning and siting processes in the Western Interconnect and what additional needs remain?*	**Solar** *Jim Baak, Vote Solar Initiative* *Jennifer DeCesaro, DOE Solar Technologies Program* **Wind** *Ron Lehr, AWEA* *Mike Jacobs, EERE, Lynn Coles, NREL/ DOE Wind Technologies Program* **Geothermal** *David Hurlbut, NREL* **Hydropower** *Gia Schneider, National Hydropower Association*
5:15-5:30	**VI. <u>Day One Wrap Up and Overview of Day Two</u>**	*Abby Arnold, Kearns & West/NWCC*

May 11		
8:30-8:45	**VII. <u>Review of Day Two Agenda</u>**	*Abby Arnold, Kearns & West/NWCC*
8:45-9:15	**VIII. <u>Renewables and Transmission West: Industry and Technology Views</u>**	*Discussion continued from previous day*
9:15-10:15	**IX. <u>Coordination, Collaboration Opportunities and Potential Actions</u>** • *What resources are available to each renewable resource and what is missing?* • *Discuss expanding the scope of the NWCC Transmission Workgroup to include the interests of other renewables in the Western grid.* • *What additional coordination is needed to move things forward and what actions can each sector carry forward?*	*Facilitated Discussion*
10:15-10:30	**Break**	
10:30-12:00	**IX. <u>Coordination, Collaboration Opportunities and Potential Actions (continued)</u>**	*Facilitated Discussion*
12:00-12:15	**X. <u>Closing Remarks and Adjourn</u>**	