

TRANSMISSION SUMMIT *West* 2010

September 20-22, 2010 | San Francisco, CA

Transmission Summit West 2010:
The Next Phase in the Great Western Build-out
Tuesday – Wednesday, September 21-22, 2010

September 21, 2010:



7:30-8:30

Networking Breakfast Sponsored by:

8:30

Welcome and Opening Remarks from the Summit Chair
Laurie Oppel, *Managing Director*, NAVIGANT CONSULTING, INC.

8:30-9:45

Panel Discussion: **Integrating Variable Energy Resources in the West—Federal & State Initiatives**

Interconnection policies are in a state of flux. FERC has launched a major initiative to ease the integration of Variable Energy Resources, while regional initiatives such as the California Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI, Texas' Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ), and more broad initiatives, such as the Western Renewables Energy Zone initiative (WREZ)—are providing an impetus to build transmission to bring power generated from far-flung assets to market. This panel will examine the impacts of these and other initiatives on integrating Variable Energy Resources.

Moderator:

Robert Henke, *Senior Vice President*, ICF INTERNATIONAL


Panelists:

James Avery, *Senior Vice President – Power Supply*,
SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC

Udi Helman, Ph.D., *Principal, Market & Infrastructure Development*,
CALIFORNIA ISO

Jason Marks, *Commissioner*,
NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

Robert Staton, *Control Center Manager*, XCEL ENERGY

- 9:45-10:15 Morning refreshment and networking break
- 10:15-10:45 Case Study 3: **Transmission to Meet California RPS Goals – Project Planning and Development**
Steve Metague, *Director, Transmission Project Development and Senior Director, Electric Transmission Rates*, PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC
- 10:45-Noon Panel Discussion: **Regulators’ Perspectives on Advanced Transmission Technologies and Grid Expansion to Accommodate Renewables**
Regulators have the ultimate responsibility for the effective planning, siting and cost allocation for transmission and other grid upgrades. However, the challenges now coming before commissions do not fit well in regulatory models developed for the most part for generation located close to load centers. What are the commissions doing about regional planning, interstate siting, and the integration of variable resources, demand response and smart grid technologies? What measurable benefits and verifiable information are they looking for from technology providers and project developers before granting approvals? Most importantly, how will state regulators balance the need for transmission with prudence and their requirement to keep rates as low as possible?
- Moderator:
Laurie Oppel, *Managing Director*, NAVIGANT CONSULTING, INC.
- Panelists:
Dian Grueneich, *Commissioner*,
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Donna Nelson, *Commissioner*,
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
James Tarpey, *Commissioner*,
COLORADO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Rebecca Wagner, *Commissioner*,
NEVADA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
- Noon-1:15 Group Luncheon Hosted by 
- 1:15-2:15 Case Study 4: **Environmentally Responsible Transmission Construction**
Jim Anderson, *Manager of Global Energy Sales*, ERICKSON AIRCRANE
Tom McShane, *Senior Vice President*, AIR2
Jim Palmer, *Director of Marketing, Steel Structures Division*, THOMAS & BETTS
Randy Richardson, HELICAL PIER STRUCTURES

2:15-3:15

Panel Discussion: Determining Benefits and Allocating Costs of Transmission in the New Environment

FERC's new NOPR seeks to establish closer links between cost allocation and regional transmission planning by identifying and establishing new cost allocation methods, as well as the removal from commission-approved tariffs or provisions that provide undue advantage to an incumbent developer. At the same time, major issues have been raised by state regulators regarding determining the benefits and allocating the costs of building large-scale transmission. How can benefits be measured and assigned? Can better methods be developed to accommodate consumer demand for a more diverse mix of power generators? This panel will examine these and other issues surrounding cost allocation for transmission projects.

Moderator:

Dave Adams, Director, SCOTTMADDEN INC.

Panelists:

Nancy Baker, Senior Policy Analyst, PUBLIC POWER COUNCIL

Charles Combs, Attorney,
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

Johannes Pfeifenberger, Principal, THE BRATTLE GROUP

3:15-3:45

Afternoon refreshment and networking break

3:45-4:15

Case Study 5: Update on Great Basin Transmission's Southwest Intertie Project

Mark Milburn, Assistant Vice President, LS POWER DEVELOPMENT, LLC

4:15-5:15

Panel Discussion: Creative Transmission Financing Approaches

For much of 2009 credit markets were frozen and capital was difficult to raise for even the highest rated organizations. Both the corporate finance and credit markets are now rebounding, but worthy projects of many types are fighting to obtain the limited amount of financing available in the market. What kind of appetite do capital and credit markets have for transmission projects? How are projects being structured and financed by both utility and independent developers? This panel will examine the state of financial markets and explore strategies to deal with the current market.

Moderator:


Paul Kraske, Partner,
SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM LLP & AFFILIATES

Panelists:


John Cogan, Managing Director, Global Energy Investment Banking,
CREDIT SUISSE

Richard Keefe, Senior Consultant, MACQUARIE CAPITAL

David Whitcher, Executive Director, MORGAN STANLEY

5:15-6:15 Summit Cocktail Reception Sponsored by: 

September 22, 2010:

7:30-8:30 Morning Networking Breakfast Sponsored by: 

8:30-9:45 Panel Discussion: **New Entrants and Emerging Business Models in Western Transmission**

The need to move power large distances through multiple service territories is fostering a plethora of new business models for transmission development. Utilities are forming cooperative efforts to study how to build regional transmission, merchant projects are competing with traditional rate-based developments, and municipalities have initiated joint ventures to develop and finance transmission to deliver renewable power to their service territories. This panel will explore these efforts.

Moderator:

Robert Daileader, *Partner*, NIXON PEABODY LLP

Panelists:

Robert Mitchell, *CEO*, TRANS-ELECT DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Ed Rahill, *President*, ITC GRID DEVELOPMENT

Brian Weber, *Vice President*, ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION AMERICA

Lawrence Willick, *Senior Vice President*,

LS POWER DEVELOPMENT, LLC

9:45-10:15 Morning Networking Break

10:15-11:15 Panel Discussion: **Latest Developments in Siting and Permitting on Public Lands**

One signal hurdle faced by Western transmission developments is the need to establish right of ways across BLM, Indian and state lands. This task is complicated by a basic contradiction between the Federal Land Policy Act (FLPA), which governs permitting by BLM and USDA, and NERC Reliability mandates regarding separation of transmission corridors. This panel will examine the issues surrounding permitting and siting on government lands, and how the process might play out for current and future projects.

Moderator:

Jayne Battey, *Director of Land and Environmental Management*,
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC

Panelists:

Walt George, *National Project Manager*,

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Rich Halvey, *Energy Program Director*,
WESTERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION

Roger Johnson, *Program Manager, Transmission Corridor Designation*,
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION (invited)