

PACIFIC COAST INTER-STAFF COLLABORATION SUMMIT



OVERVIEW

On March 7th, 2017, the Chairs of the respective California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) and the Washington Utilities Transportation Commission (UTC) signed the “*Western Public Utility Commissions’ Joint Action Framework on Climate Change*” to support ongoing cooperation to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, improve reliability, and obtain cost benefits for ratepayers. The three Chairs signed on to joint principles and a series of the following action items:

- *“Review best practices and pursue joint opportunities to identify and secure cost effective conservation;*
- *Review best practices for demand response and develop joint activities to increase beneficial demand response capability;*
- *Examine opportunities to further support and implement renewable energy development to service the Pacific Coast states, including policies to encourage the development of cost effective transmission that provides access to prime low-cost resource sites;*
- *Seek opportunities to share analysis of the benefits, costs, and the reliability of variable generating resources;*

- *Explore the collaborative development and use of low-carbon energy capacity resources to lower customers’ costs and improve system reliability;*
- *Explore the cost and benefits of regional transmission markets to better utilize resources and protect ratepayers;*
- *Share best practices in grid modernization including distribution planning and operations, distributed resources, and distribution transmission interface;*
- *Work to ensure regional energy markets maximize benefits to ratepayers.”*

The Pacific Coast Inter-State Collaboration Summit will begin a process for the Commissions and related staff to cooperate on the topics above, with an emphasis on “*Sharing best practices in grid modernization including distribution planning and operations, distributed resources, and distribution transmission interface*”. The first day will discuss state activities to date linked with learning more about state and federal grid planning frameworks. The second day will be for PUC staff only focused on identifying future areas of cooperation amongst the states.

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce state representatives to federal and state grid modernization frameworks, such as the DOE Modern Distribution Grid program (DSPx);
- Assist state utility commissions in their consideration of the role of distributed energy resources (DER) in future utility grid planning, operations, and market design;
- Discuss opportunities and challenges related to DERs;
- Explore the planning and policies necessary to reduce emissions from the grid;
- Identify areas where ongoing collaboration will be of mutual benefit to each state.

This event is being coordinated by state utility commission staff and facilitated by More Than Smart. For more information contact Tony Brunello at tbrunello@morethansmart.org.

SCHEDULE MAY 24

LOCATION | Northwest Power and Conservation Council, 851 SW 6th Ave., Suite 1100 Portland, OR 97204-1348

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER/ FACILITATOR
9:30 am	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben Kujala, Northwest Power & Conservation Council (NWPCC) • Ruchi Sadhir, Oregon Governor's Office • More Than Smart (MTS)
10:00 am	Brief Overview of OR/WA/CA Joint Action Framework on Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brad Cebulko, UTC
10:30 am	Orientation to each state <i>Presentations from each staff introducing their respective PUC, regulated utilities, priorities & state DER markets.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaine Prause & Jason Salmi-Klotz, OPUC • Edward Randolph, CPUC • Deborah Reynolds, UTC
11:15 am	BREAK	
11:30 am	Overview of Major Trends Driving Industry Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorenzo Kristov, CAISO • Mike Florio, MTS
12:00 pm	Introduction to the US DOE DSPx Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph Paladino, US DOE
12:30 pm	LUNCH	
1:30 pm	Distribution Resource Plan Proceeding Examples from California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gabriel Petlin and Simon Baker, CPUC
2:30 pm	Technology in Focus Panel I: Electric Vehicle <i>This panel will focus on challenges and opportunities of electric vehicle deployment, including reducing carbon emissions, managed grid impacts, customer benefits and associated regulatory questions.</i>	FACILITATOR Lauren McCloy, UTC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Smart, ChargePoint • Brian Prusnek, SDG&E • Jeff Allen, Forth
3:30 pm	BREAK	
4:00 pm	Technology in Focus Panel II: Energy Storage <i>This panel will focus on aggregating DER services and defining their value both with and without specific DER markets.</i>	FACILITATOR Rebecca O'Neil, PNNL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiran Kumaraswamy, AES Storage • Manal Yamout, Advanced Microgrid Solutions • Walker Wright, Green Charge Networks • Brian Spak, Portland General Electric
5:00 pm	Wrap Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPUC/OPUC/UTC Leads • Matthew Tisdale, MTS
5:30 - 7:00 pm	RECEPTION <i>Jackknife Bar at the Sentinel Hotel, 614 SW 11th Ave</i>	

SCHEDULE MAY 25

LOCATION | Northwest Power and Conservation Council, 851 SW 6th Ave., Suite 1100 Portland, OR 97204-1348

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER/ FACILITATOR
DAY 2 - FOR PUC STAFF ONLY		
9:00 am	Welcome, Recap of Day 1, Overview of Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tony Brunello, MTS • Matthew Tisdale, MTS
9:30 am	<p>Staff Roundtable Sessions (see detailed description below)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Reducing Carbon Emissions: An examination of policies to reduce carbon emissions. Increasing RPS standards, “clean peak” standards, electrification of everything 2 Integrated Resource Plans: An examination of Integrated Resource Planning: exploration of sub-hourly modeling, resource adequacy, and flexibility analysis. 3 Energy Efficiency: An examination of integrating energy efficiency as a capacity resource, exploring areas for further collaboration for market transformation, models for implementation, and state approaches to EMV 	<p>PUC Staff will be split into 3 groups by facilitators to discuss the topic, identify key action areas by state, and to identify areas of cooperation. Facilitators will frame the topic for the session. The Next session will do the same thing, but have each person switch groups.</p> <p>FACILITATORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Shipley, Regulatory Assistance Project • Charlie Grist, NWPCC • John Fazio, NWPCC • John Ollis, NWPCC
10:45 am	BREAK	
11:00 am	<p>Staff Roundtable Sessions continued <i>Each person will switch to a different Roundtable topic.</i></p>	FACILITATORS Same as above
12:15 pm	LUNCH	
1:15 pm	Break out review by PUC staff on highlights and areas identified for cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPUC/OPUC/UTC Leads w/ MTS
2:00 pm	Stakeholder engagement successes/challenges by state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTS led discussion
2:45 pm	BREAK	
3:00 pm	ID of inter-state collaboration following Summit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPUC/OPUC/UTC Leads • Matthew Tisdale, MTS
3:45 - 4:00 pm	Final Words and Close of Summit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPUC/OPUC/UTC leads w/ MTS

PARTICIPANTS

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STAFF ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

1 | REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS

An examination of policies to reduce carbon emissions within each states legal and regulatory construct.

OVERARCHING THEMES | Increasing RPS standards, “clean peak” standards, beneficial electrification

Opening Question | Regulators must balance regulatory and legislative mandates as well as the directives of their overarching mission in decision making: reliability, risk, affordability, safety, customer satisfaction. Among these objectives, how do regulators ensure carbon emission reductions are also accounted for?

- What are areas of beneficial electrification from a grid management perspective your Commission is exploring? What are areas or processes do you see your Commission engaging in the short-term or long-term related to expanding electrification? What do you see as the largest issues yet to be tackled by your Commission related to electric load growth in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
- What are the appropriate metrics by which regulators require and oversee emission reductions? Energy savings? Carbon intensity of supply? “Emiciency”? CO₂/GDP? What metrics best serve policy goals?
- How do regulators determine whether the costs of emission reduction measures are appropriately born by utility ratepayers relative to other potential funding sources?

2 | INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANS

An examination of Integrated Resource Planning

OVERARCHING THEMES | what challenges do states have in common and how can they coordinate?; exploration of sub-hourly modeling, distributed energy resource modeling, resource adequacy,

and flexibility analysis.

OPENING QUESTION | How can regulators effectively balance the need for IRPs to be comprehensive, but practical to implement while providing overall guidance?

- What are the primary policy drivers staff are optimizing around? Where are the issues staff are addressing aligned and where are there gaps? Take a near (five year) and long-term perspective.
- What resources are available to educate regulators on the state of the art in system modeling? How can their evidentiary records properly reflect the capabilities and limitations of modeling exercises?
- How have different jurisdictions approached inclusion of distributed energy resources in integrated resource planning? How are DERs currently represented in IRP modeling? What are best practices used to improve their representation?
- How can the integration of distribution system planning with IRP be improved? Best practices to maintain consistency in major underlying assumptions and scenarios across planning platforms?

3 | ENERGY EFFICIENCY

An examination of integrating energy efficiency as a resource

OVERARCHING THEMES | examining energy efficiency as a capacity resource, exploring areas for further collaboration for market transformation, models for implementation, and state approaches to EMV

OPENING QUESTION | How are the contributions of energy efficiency to customers, the system, and environmental goals changing in your state and in the region?

- Is the value of energy efficiency the same in an environment with high renewable penetration, a “duck curve,”

and promotion of electrification? Should EE be integrated into system planning and operations, as is the goal for other DER?

- What are your state's best practices related to performance based energy efficiency? What are the tradeoffs in adopting this method vs traditional energy efficiency savings methods?
- At the center of energy efficiency is the counterfactual, uncertainty about what would have happened otherwise, as measured and verified through regulatory oversight: how is M&V evolving? How are the risk tolerances of customers and regulators reflected in different approach to M&V?
- What is the need/opportunity for a nationwide or regional standard energy efficiency reporting platform (e.g. National Energy Efficiency Registry) for tracking energy efficiency accomplishments, impacts on greenhouse goals, and EM&V differences across regions?
- What are some of the uses of energy efficiency in non-wires alternatives – best practices, successful pilots, how to speed up a targeted launch of EE to accomplish non-wires alternative?
- How can private capital be brought to bear in promoting energy efficiency? Should expectations for public funding be the same for energy efficiency as other resources?