

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Resource Adequacy Developments in the Western
Interconnection

Docket No. AD21-14-000

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

(April 23, 2021)

As announced in the Notice of Technical Conference issued in the above-referenced proceeding on March 16, 2021, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) will convene a Commissioner-led technical conference on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 and Thursday, June 24, 2021, from approximately 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) each day. The conference will be held remotely over WebEx and broadcast on the Commission's website.

The purpose of this conference is to discuss resource adequacy developments in the Western Interconnection. The Commission seeks to engage varied regional perspectives to discuss challenges, trends, possible ways to continue to ensure resource adequacy, and address broader regional coordination in the Western Interconnection.

A preliminary agenda for this conference is attached. The Commission will issue a further supplemental notice with a full agenda that includes questions for each panel and the list of panelists. The conference will be open for the public to attend remotely, and there is no fee for attendance. Information on this conference, including a link to the webcast, will be posted prior to the event on this conference's event page on the Commission's website, <https://www.ferc.gov/news-events/events/technical-conference-discuss-resource-adequacy-developments-western>. The conference will be transcribed. Transcripts will be available for a fee from Ace Reporting, (202) 347-3700.

Commission conferences are accessible under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For accessibility accommodations, please send an email to accessibility@ferc.gov, call toll-free (866) 208-3372 (voice) or (202) 208-8659 (TTY), or send a fax to (202) 208-2106 with the required accommodations.

Individuals interested in participating as panelists should self-nominate through the WebEx registration form by 10:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on Friday, April 30, 2021 at: <https://ferc.webex.com/ferc/onstage/g.php?MTID=e226ddd21d97a9c9d3cef18d64f6e021d>

For more information about this technical conference, please contact Navin Shekar at navin.shekar@ferc.gov or (202) 502-6297. For information related to logistics, please contact Colin Beckman at colin.beckman@ferc.gov or (202) 502-8049, and Sarah McKinley at sarah.mckinley@ferc.gov or (202) 502-8368.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

**Technical Conference on Resource Adequacy Developments
in the Western Interconnection**

**Docket No. AD21-14-000
June 23 and June 24, 2021**

Agenda

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

12:30 pm – 12:45 pm: Welcome and Opening Remarks from the Chairman and Commissioners

12:45 pm – 2:15 pm: Panel 1: Resource Adequacy Frameworks

Panelists will provide an overview of resource adequacy paradigms in the Western Interconnection to help establish a common understanding and context for the subsequent panels. The panel will highlight similarities and differences in resource adequacy frameworks across the western regions, including the different types of utility integrated resource planning, as well as coordinated or regional resource adequacy frameworks such as those established by the California Public Utilities Commission or under development by the Northwest Power Pool. The panel will also discuss the role of state utility commissions in resource adequacy in the West. Panelists will discuss: (1) their respective resource adequacy responsibilities and regulatory frameworks; (2) planning models and standards used to evaluate their resource needs; (3) mechanisms used to procure adequate resources; and (4) the coordination and cooperation required to successfully meet their goals, including interactions with state commissions and/or other existing resource adequacy frameworks.

Panelists: To be announced

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm: Break

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm: Panel 2: Trends and Regional Challenges in Resource Adequacy

Panelists will provide perspectives on evolving trends in the supply of—and demand for—electricity in the Western Interconnection, and anticipated challenges in meeting resource adequacy needs in light of these changes. The objective of this panel is to gain insight into resource adequacy needs and challenges from both: (1) a regional perspective, covering the

Northwest, Desert Southwest, Rocky Mountain, and California regions; and (2) a participant perspective, from the different types of relevant resource adequacy planning entities (e.g., investor-owned utilities, public power utilities/districts, regional planning organizations, and state commissions). Panelists will discuss the physical (e.g., generation mix changes and the impact of energy storage resources, fuel supply security, climate change, and extreme weather events on the grid), technical (e.g., resource adequacy methodologies and standards), and regulatory aspects of those trends and challenges.

Panelists: To be announced

Thursday, June 24, 2021

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm: **Panel 3: Solutions and Pathways to Addressing Shared Resource Adequacy Needs**

Panelists will explore how existing, planned, and potential new approaches can be used to satisfy evolving and shared resource adequacy needs. Panelists will present views on how resource adequacy planning entities and each Western region plan to address resource adequacy challenges, such as those arising from transmission constraints, weather/heat events, and generation retirements. This panel will also discuss how existing resource adequacy processes could evolve to ensure continued resource adequacy, including potential changes to procurement, coordination, and the methods used to assess resource adequacy (such as improved or standardized metrics, targets, and capacity valuations). Additionally, panelists will highlight regional initiatives that are being used to plan for and ensure adequate supply, including during transition periods to and from high net demand. Stakeholder perspectives on opportunities to further harmonize resource adequacy approaches, including discussing how potential approaches might interact with existing state and utility planning processes and policies, will be explored.

Panelists: To be announced

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm: **Break**

2:45 pm – 4:45 pm: **Panel 4: Closing Roundtable Discussion: Regional Coordination Within the Western Interconnection**

The conference will conclude with a roundtable discussion highlighting the mutual interdependence in the Western Interconnection on electricity issues and discussing potential paths to improved regional coordination among entities to address Western needs. Building on the earlier panel discussions, panelists will describe how Western electricity issues could be addressed through transmission planning, resource sharing, and/or exports

and imports of energy from a diverse set of regions. This discussion will seek stakeholder perspectives on the potential benefits of increased coordination on these matters through participation in regionally coordinated energy markets, exploring not only existing structures (such as the Western Energy Imbalance Market administered by the California Independent System Operator Corporation, or the Western Energy Imbalance Service market administered by Southwest Power Pool, Inc.), but also potential RTO/ISO frameworks, or other novel approaches that might capture systemic or regional benefits. During this discussion, panelists will consider the opportunities and challenges related to greater coordination in the Western Interconnection, such as market opportunities, economic efficiencies of electricity generation and delivery, operational/reliability improvements, and implications on governance and administration.

Panelists: To be announced

4:45 pm – 5:00 pm: Closing Remarks