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QUADRENNIAL ENERGY REVIEW

PUBLIC MEETING #5:

Electricity Transmission,

Storage and Distribution - West

Friday, July 11, 2014

Portland, Oregon

Lewis & Clark College
0615 SW Palatine Hill Road
Portland, OR 97218

Reported by: Valori Weber,
Capital Reporting Company

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   James Robb, CEO, Western Electric Coordinating
   Council
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   Steve Berberich, CEO, California ISO
   Patrick Reiten, President and CEO, Pacific Power
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   Elliott Mainzer, Administrator & CEO,
   Bonneville Power Administration
   Carl Zichella, Director of Western Renewable
   Transmission, Natural Resources Defense Council
   Joel Bladow, Senior Vice President, Tri-State
10 Generation & Transmission Association
11 John Savage, Commissioner, Oregon PUC and Chair,
   Committee on Regional Electric Power Coordination,
12 Western Interstate Energy Board
13 Jim Piro, President and CEO, Portland General
   Electric
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   Patricia K. Vincent-Collawn, Chairman,
  CEO & President, PNM Resources Inc. and Co-Chair,
   CEO Policy Committee on Energy Delivery,
16 Edison Electric Institute
17 Ronald L. Litzinger, President,
   Southern California Edison
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   Jorge Carrasco, General Manager & CEO,
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 6 Chief Executive Officer,
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   Steve Klein, CEO, Snohomish County (WA)
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1	PROCEEDINGS	
2	MODERATOR KELLEY: We'll go ahead and	
3	get started.	
4	Well, good morning. I would like to	
5	welcome those of you in the room to the	
6	Quadrennial Energy Review public meeting in	
7	Portland, Oregon here at the beautiful campus of	
8	Lewis & Clark College. I'd also like to welcome	
9	those of you who are joining us via live stream on	
10	the web.	
11	My name is Chris Kelley. I'm with	
12	Energetics. We are a support contractor providing	
13	support to the Department of Energy on this QER	
14	effort. I have the distinct honor of being	
15	today's facilitator. We're going to be hearing	
16	from a number of speakers today, three different	
17	panelists, but before we get started, I'd like to	
18	share with you a few housekeeping notes.	
19	The QER Task Force welcomes comments	
20	from the public. If you'd like to make a comment	
21	and have not yet signed up, please do so at the	
22	front desk. And for those of you who are joining	

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1	via live streaming, you can email your comments to	
2	QERcomments@hq.doe.gov.	
3	We have an outstanding set of speakers	
4	today. Their comments and presentations can be	
5	found after today's session at www.energy.gov/qer.	
6	So before we get started, I have to read	
7	a short statement about the purpose of today's	
8	meeting.	
9	Pursuant to the Federal Advisory	
10	Committee Act, the purpose of today's meeting is	
11	to ask for your individual input or your	
12	organization's input regarding electricity	
13	transmission storage and distribution with a	
14	particular focus on the Western United States and	
15	provide a forum to exchange information.	
16	To that end, it would be most helpful to	
17	us for you to provide these recommendations and	
18	information based on your personal experience,	
19	your individual advice, information, or facts	
20	regarding this topic. The object of the session	
21	is not to obtain any group position or consensus;	
22	rather, the U.S. Department of Energy is seeking	

6 as many recommendations as possible from all individuals at this meeting. 3 So with that, allow me to introduce Dr. Karen Wayland, Deputy Director for state, local, and tribal cooperation and for stakeholder 5 engagement at the Office of Energy Policy and 6 Systems Analysis at DOE. Dr. Wayland will 8 introduce our next speaker. 9 DR. WAYLAND: Thank you, Chris, and thank you all for coming. This is a very 10 11 important part of the Quadrennial Energy Review and the fact that Presidential Memorandum spends 12 quite a bit of time directing us to engage in a 13 significant and robust stakeholder engagement, of 15 which this is one of 16 meetings that we're doing around the country, so I appreciate we have a very 17 high level of caliber of speakers and I'm very excited to hear what they have to say. We learn 18 19 something new at every one of these meetings, so 20 it's quite exciting to be here. 21 And it's a privilege for me to introduce 22 Deputy Secretary for Energy, Daniel Poneman, who

7 will be concluding the longest run as Deputy Secretary in the history of DOE, which is a feat that we attribute to his Iron Man training, and he'll be finishing with us in September. 5 He told me not to read a standard bio, so I'm not going to, but I did a little research 6 and I found an article in New York Magazine about one of his four rock and roll bands that's called Coalition of the Willing. And, it described the 10 Deputy Secretary as "having a glittering lightning 11 bolt on his guitar strap and office-neat hair." 12 In fact, in one of his recent meetings 13 at BPA, he ended a jam session, but I don't know if we'll get any of that today. He's also the guy 15 you'd most want to be on your trivia team, having won \$10,000 in Jeopardy in 1990. 17 But in all seriousness, sir, you are going to leave a huge hole at DOE, and your bio is 19 not something's that's boring and should be 20 glossed over. Since you're going back to academic 21 oblivion, I'm going to just give some points about 22 your career.

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1	He'll be leaving us to go to Harvard,	
2	where he got a degree, as well as at Oxford. He's	
3	the author of three books, one of which received a	
4	distinguished writing award. He was Special	
5	Assistant to the President, Senior Director at the	
6	White House National Security Council, chief U.S.	
7	negotiator in talks with France, Russia, and Iran	
8	over Iran's nuclear enrichment program.	
9	DOE is losing a very dedicated public	
10	servant who has a quite accomplished career. He	
11	helps steer the Government response with a steady	
12	hand through the Fukushima disaster in Japan,	
13	Super Storm Sandy here in the United States. He	
14	helped oversee the Department's massive and	
15	historic new investments in the development and	
16	deployment of clean energy technologies, both here	
17	and around the world.	
18	So it's a great pleasure for me to	
19	introduce Deputy Secretary of Energy, Daniel	
20	Poneman.	
21	DEPUTY SECRETARY PONEMAN: Thank you,	
22	Karen. I guess I'd better go out and clean up	

9 Google or something. I didn't know it had all that stuff out there, but I still have that lightning bolt, by the way. And what you didn't hear from Karen is that that jam session included Elliot Mainzer's 5 mean saxophone playing on Junior Walker & the All 6 Stars and other kinds of songs. 8 But, look, first of all, it's great to be back in Portland. It's such a critical part of 10 our energy infrastructure. And I want to put this 11 in a little broader context, and I don't want to 12 talk long because as I always tell my kids, I can't talk and listen at the same time. And as 13 you just heard from Karen, this is really about us 15 hearing from you what the issues are, what your insights are, and how that can inform this QER. 17 But let me just talk a little bit about the QER, 18 its genesis, where it comes from and how this all 19 fits together. 20 It was really just about a year ago 21 today, and a sweltering day, you couldn't have sort of scripted better just when you think about

- 1 the overall dramatic challenges that we face in
- 2 terms of climate change, President Obama went to
- 3 Georgetown University and laid out an ambitious
- 4 Climate Action Plan. It's really a call to
- 5 action. It's facing the reality that we are
- 6 courting disaster potentially if we don't get our
- 7 arms around the critical moral, environmental,
- 8 technical, and political challenge of climate
- 9 change.
- 10 And in presenting this, he presented
- 11 three pillars. The first pillar of it was
- 12 mitigation. It is absolutely essential that we
- 13 continue the strong efforts that we have begun so
- 14 far to bring more renewable and clean sources of
- 15 energy to the floor. The President has challenged
- 16 us to come up with a doubling of wind and solar
- 17 and storage resource and we did so from 2008 to
- 18 2012. In the Climate Action Plan, he called on us
- 19 to double it yet again by 2020. He called upon us
- 20 to double down and improve our energy efficiency
- 21 by 50 percent by 2030.
- 22 And just yesterday, I had the privilege

- 1 to go down and meet with some of your colleagues
- 2 and other people down at Lawrence Berkeley
- 3 National Laboratory where they're opening a first-
- 4 of-a-kind, a one-of-a-kind facility, the FLEXLAB,
- 5 which will now have the opportunity to integrate
- 6 multiple systems, HVAC systems, window systems,
- 7 different plug loads, all very finely censored so
- 8 that people can know as you're building and as
- 9 they're retrofitting buildings what precisely the
- 10 energy efficiency savings are going to be and they
- 11 can plan accordingly.
- 12 The President built into the Climate
- 13 Action Plan a second pillar, an essential pillar
- 14 on adaptation, because as everyone here knows, we
- 15 are already suffering the effects of climate
- 16 change. The drought in California, Governor Brown
- 17 has declared a state of emergency because of the
- 18 threat posed to the systems down there.
- 19 Obviously, we all suffered through and
- 20 watched the response to Hurricane Sandy, over 8
- 21 million customers out of power. And I have to
- 22 note that the West Coast stepped up to the plate

- 1 in a very big way. And I see our friends from
- 2 PG&E are here. We were on the phone with Tony
- 3 earlier. We were on the phone with Ted Craver,
- 4 and we were on the phone with our BPA colleagues
- 5 at the time. And everyone provided bucket trucks;
- 6 they provided linemen; they provided trimmers, and
- 7 it really was an inspiring sight.
- 8 But it shows that you are going to have
- 9 local and dramatic climatic effects, but it's
- 10 going to require a national response because we're
- 11 all in this together, whether it's the drought in
- 12 the Southwest, the storms in the Northeast, and
- 13 every part of the country has been inflicted.
- 14 You know, we had the propane shortages
- 15 in the upper Midwest. And so it's going to be
- 16 critical that we understand how all of these
- 17 systems fit together. And that is really the
- 18 essential reason for this Quadrennial Energy
- 19 Review.
- 20 A few years ago, the President's Council
- 21 on Advisors on Science and Technology, which is
- 22 led by the President's Science Advisor, John

- 1 Holdren, and at that time included a very
- 2 thoughtful energy expert on it, Professor Ernest
- 3 Moniz, came up with a concept that really -- it's
- 4 not a novel concept when you talk about a
- 5 Quadrennial Review.
- 6 The Pentagon has been doing Quadrennial
- 7 Reviews for a number of years, and it's based on a
- 8 very simple premise. When you have a major
- 9 problem with extraordinary complexity that's going
- 10 to require marshalling of resources, it's going to
- 11 require many different stakeholders to understand,
- 12 come up with solutions and execute those over a
- 13 long and sustained period, it will not due to just
- 14 kind of gloss along from year to the other.
- 15 You've got to stop. You've got to take a long
- 16 over-the-horizon look. That's what the
- 17 Quadrennial Energy Review is all about. That's
- 18 what the President's Council on Advisors and
- 19 Science and Technology recommended, and that is
- 20 what President Obama put into the Climate Action
- 21 Plan that he announced in Georgetown last year.
- Now, I want to be clear, this --

- 1 although the Department of Energy, obviously, and
- 2 you know from Karen, that we're doing these 16
- 3 sessions, we are working very hard to support the
- 4 Quadrennial Energy Review. It is not a Department
- 5 of Energy review. It's mandated by the President.
- 6 It is co-chaired by the Domestic Policy Council
- 7 and the Office of Science and Technology policy in
- 8 the White House, Dr. Holdren and Dan Utech right
- 9 now. And we are involving all of the other
- 10 Federal agencies who are involved in energy. And
- 11 we are coming out here, and we're talking to the
- 12 communities, to the stakeholder, to the utilities,
- 13 to the RTO's, the ISO's. I promise never to get
- 14 into the alphabet soup, but you know who you are.
- 15 And it's critically important that we get the
- 16 input that you've got to offer.
- Now, when it comes to energy, the
- 18 question, it is such a leviathan, it is such a
- 19 massive, complex, interactive situation for all
- 20 people. All Americans are affected. Frankly, all
- 21 citizens of the world are affected. Where do you
- 22 begin?

We've got power generation issues.

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- We've got a vast number of new and interesting opportunities and challenges presented by the profound transformation that our energy economy has been experiencing over the last 10, 15 years, 5 where the hydrocarbon production of this country 6 has just actually skyrocketed. We hit 8.4 million barrels of oil production per day in the month of We're now the leading natural gas producers in the world. Our shale gas share of our national 10 economy has increased from 1 percent in 2000 to 11 over 40 percent today out of a 23, 24 trillion 12
- But we're starting with infrastructure.

cubic foot annual gas economy. So it's a profound

16 And the reason why we're starting with

moment of change.

- 17 infrastructure is because that is where all of
- 18 these different systems come together. That is
- 19 where we need to really take a grid that is dated
- 20 in the 20th Century, and mid-20th
- 21 Century at that, and transform it to a
- 22 grid that is suitable to the challenges of the

- 1 21st Century where we're moving from a system of
- 2 one-way transmission of electricity to a system in
- 3 which you have two-way communication flows from
- 4 the consumers back to the grid and from the
- 5 generators into the grid, electric vehicles that
- 6 will be putting charges into the grid and all of
- 7 the balancing challenges as you have:
- 8 increased distribution of distribution
- 9 generation, the new challenges that that presents
- 10 in terms of terra structures. This is an
- 11 incredibly complex and incredibly important and
- 12 incredibly burdensome issue for all of us because
- 13 we're talking about trillions of dollars of
- 14 investment that are going to be required in the
- 15 years to come, and we're talking about the deep
- 16 interstices that exist among energy systems.
- 17 Karen was talking in the introduction
- 18 about Hurricane Sandy. I'll tell you that one of
- 19 the first big insights that we had we was I think
- 20 many of us did not realize how deeply intertwined
- 21 the fuel side and the electric side were with one
- 22 another. In some -- the most production ways like

- 1 getting diesel fuel into the trucks to repair the
- 2 lines and thousands of other connections besides.
- 3 We need to understand how all of these connections
- 4 work, and frankly, we need to understand where
- 5 they don't work.
- 6 And so it made sense that in this first
- 7 instance to take this huge energy challenge, break
- 8 it into constituent parts and start with that,
- 9 which is really essential to all systems: the
- 10 infrastructure, the transmission, the storage, the
- 11 delivery -- on the electric side, on the fuel
- 12 side, gas, and oil and refined products.
- 13 And so that's why we called you all
- 14 together here. We are very, very interested in
- 15 what you've got to say. And as Karen has told me
- 16 and as Melanie Kenderdine, who is spearheading our
- 17 efforts for Secretary Moniz inside the Department
- 18 of Energy tells me, every one of these sessions
- 19 has produced new insights, new understanding. And
- 20 this is the time when we are most plastic in terms
- 21 of taking all this data, shaping the thoughts that
- 22 are going to inform this review, and this review

- 1 we hope will then inform the country because it
- 2 will be a national dialogue that's going to be at
- 3 the federal, state and local level.
- 4 Believe me, we understand that the
- 5 assets that are being talked about here are
- 6 largely in private hands. Two-thirds of the
- 7 assets are in private hands, and we have dealt
- 8 with that in a number of vectors. And we also
- 9 have to understand the interactions, not just
- 10 among the different energy forms, but between
- 11 energy and telecommunications and other systems of
- 12 transportation: trucks, railroads, barges. It's
- 13 an enormously complex system.
- 14 We'll learn a lot from this session here
- 15 today. We'll take it all down. I will bring it
- 16 back to our colleaques in Washington. We will
- 17 come back to you, and I'm going to be true -- I
- 18 hope to my word of not going on too long -- and
- 19 I'm going to stop there.
- 20 But before I sit down and listen and
- 21 take notes, I'd be happy to entertain any
- 22 questions from you. But the main thing I've got

- 1 to say to you here today is we are very, very
- 2 grateful. We are deeply aware of the expertise
- 3 that's represented here in this room. And we want
- 4 to thank you very, very much for taking time out
- 5 of your very busy schedules to share this time
- 6 with us, to share your thoughts with us, and to
- 7 help us put together what we hope will be -- it
- 8 certainly will be a first of a kind, I think,
- 9 comprehensive look at energy that takes an over-
- 10 the- horizon look and one that I think will help
- 11 us create the kind of world that we want to leave
- 12 to our kids with the prosperity and the jobs that
- 13 come with a dynamic energy economy and also to
- 14 work on the future that we're all trying to build
- 15 to save the planet from what could be otherwise a
- 16 catastrophic climate change.
- 17 So thank you very much for being here
- 18 and I look forward to the discussion.
- 19 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.
- 20 Any questions from the audience for
- 21 Deputy Secretary Poneman? If you have a question,
- 22 please stand up. Matt's got a microphone here,

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    and he will bring it to you. Any questions?
    Don't be shy.
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              DEPUTY SECRETARY PONEMAN: Didn't put
    anyone to sleep I hope.
              MODERATOR KELLEY: It's early, yeah.
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              We have a question over here.
              MR. KAMATH: Hi. I'm Haresh Kamath from
   Electric Power Research Institute. And so -- just
    a general question on funding levels for the
    Department of Energy in general for research,
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    especially in some of these same areas.
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              Given the current legislative climate,
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    it looks like there may not be the same level of
    budgets that we had in the last few years,
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    obviously, in the post-recovery -- in the recovery
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   period for the same kind of investments in
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    demonstration projects and the like. How do you
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    see this playing out over the next few years, and
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    do you think that -- that it's likely to hold up
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    through the research that we're going to be doing?
              DEPUTY SECRETARY PONEMAN: It's a great
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    -- it's a great question. I will tell you the
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21 sort of commonplace comment that we hear around government, not just in energy, but among the agencies is: "Flat is the new up." And so in one of our early sessions of the President's Management Council where we're 5 trying to bring in CEO's from private companies and help bring some of those best practices and disciplines to government, the watch word of one of them was to try to do more faster with less. 10 And in some respects, we're trying to do that. 11 But look, actually, within the parameters of that very constraining budget 12 13 environment, Department of Energy has not done badly. We have very substantial resources, and 14 15 we're still the largest funder of the physical sciences in the country on the order of \$5 billion 17 a year. We still have very important investments 18 taking place through our Energy Efficiency and

- 19 Renewable Energy Office. But I would say the
- 20 following.
- We have, in the form of the Recovery
- 22 Act, a one-shot opportunity to take those

- 1 resources, in the case of Department of Energy,
- 2 and there were \$35 billion, and try to do some
- 3 very important work with them. But it was work
- 4 that was consciously -- some of it was consciously
- 5 just to get people to work again. But some of it
- 6 was a down payment on things that we understood
- 7 would have to be taken up by the private sector.
- For example, the Loan Guarantee Program.
- 9 We deployed capital that itself, our loan
- 10 guarantee capital of \$30 billion has leveraged
- 11 another \$50 billion of investment, and we have to
- 12 show for it the first five ever grid scale
- 13 affordable tariff projects in the country. We had
- 14 zero. The private sector then, having seen that
- 15 these are actually financeable deals, they're
- 16 backed up by long-term power purchasing
- 17 agreements, they've come in and financed the next
- 18 ten.
- I have now seen that that model's
- 20 actually beginning to translate overseas. We have
- 21 one of -- right here in the Pacific Northwest and
- 22 I visited Caithness, one of the largest wind farms

- 1 that's been developed with loan guarantee funds.
- We have significant geothermal. We have
- 3 significant biomass refinery, and we have Ivanpah
- 4 and others, very major concentrated solar power,
- 5 concentrated solar thermal as well.
- 6 So one thing that we've done is try to
- 7 take those down payments from the Federal
- 8 Government, and then we're trying now to work with
- 9 companies and say, hey, now that we have developed
- 10 this class of now operating, in this case,
- 11 generating assets, can we somehow scale that kind
- 12 of investment and find ways to, for example,
- 13 standardize power purchasing contracts so that it
- 14 would be easier to secure ties for those loans?
- 15 Why? Because, when it comes to the deployment --
- 16 the increased deployment of renewable energy, it's
- 17 going to be very, very important to lower the cost
- 18 of capital, especially for things like wind and
- 19 solar where the commodity is free, effectively, as
- 20 long as the wind blows and the sun shines.
- 21 So that's the kind of thing we're trying
- 22 to do. And we had \$4.5 billion, of course, we've

- 1 put through the Office of Electricity, bought a
- 2 lot of synchrophasors with that. And that in turn
- 3 has stimulated a lot of activity in the private
- 4 sector in terms of taking the data from that and
- 5 trying to help people improve.
- Just the very modest investment that we
- 7 made yesterday, \$15.8 million in this FLEXLAB down
- 8 at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory is already
- 9 collecting sponsorship. And you may hear from
- 10 Geisha Williams here later today about their work
- 11 down there to find ways to bring cheaper, better
- 12 energy solutions to the PG&E clientele and their
- 13 customer base. And once that's done and
- 14 demonstrated there, it becomes something that can
- 15 be replicated in Omaha, in Detroit, in places
- 16 right across the country.
- 17 So we're trying to be smart about the
- 18 investments that we place. There's still
- 19 significant resources. We are now in the second
- 20 round of Energy Frontier Research Centers. We're
- 21 still seeing, I think, good uptake on the grants
- 22 that have been given to ARPA-E where you're still

- 1 having significant private investment follow for
- 2 every dollar that we've put into ARPA-E that goes
- 3 out. We're finding multiples of that coming back
- 4 in terms of private investment.
- 5 And so we're going to try to make the
- 6 strategic investments in some of the seminal
- 7 technologies, battery storage and so forth, in
- 8 some of the homes, and then try to do this in a
- 9 way that we fill a gap, one of the sort of, you
- 10 know, sort of a valley of death, for something
- 11 where we've got to go from something that is still
- 12 so far away from commercial realization that it's
- 13 not reasonable to expect private investors to take
- 14 that risk and bring them to a level of maturity
- 15 where it's less risky and therefore starts to
- 16 attract more private capital, because at the end
- 17 of the day, our job is not to displace private
- 18 capital but rather to capitalize it and bring much
- 19 more of it into the picture because we're going to
- 20 need vast, vast resources to make that kind of
- 21 investment work.
- 22 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, great

26 question. 2 We have time for one more. Any other questions from the audience? No? All right. Well, thank you, Deputy Secretary 5 Poneman. 6 (Applause.) MODERATOR KELLEY: So at this time, I'd like to ask our first panel to join me up on the 9 stage and we'll be getting some name cards set up. 10 And while we're setting up, I just want to remind everyone, if you do have some comments 11 as Deputy Secretary Poneman mentioned, we're very 12 interested in hearing from the public. So please 13 do note on the sign-in sheet that you would like 15 to provide some commentary. 16 And for those of you who are joining via 17 live streaming, you can email your comments again 18 into QERcomments@hq.doe.gov. 19 (Panel 1 takes the stage.) 20 MODERATOR KELLEY: So while we're 21 getting settled in here, I'll just note that we have a tremendous group of panelists here today. 22

27 We've got CEO's, presidents, directors, administrators from here in the Pacific Northwest and from all over the West. Our first panel has been asked to address: "Transmission - Can We Build and Operate 5 the Appropriate Amount for Future Needs?" We'll hear prepared statements from all of the speakers, but I ask that you please hold your applause until the end. 10 I'd also like to share with you that the views expressed by panelists are their own views 11 and not the views of the U.S. Department of 12 13 Energy. So our first panel includes Jim Robb, 14 15 CEO of the Western Electric Coordinating Council; Steve Berberich, CEO of California ISO; Patrick 17 Reiten, President and CEO of Pacific Power; 18 Elliott Mainzer, Administrator & CEO of the 19 Bonneville Power Administration; Carl Zichella, 20 Director of Western Renewable Transmission, 21 Natural Resources Defense Council; Joel Bladow, Senior Vice President of Tri- State Generation &

- 1 Transmission Association; and John Savage,
- 2 Commissioner, Oregon PUC and Chair, Committee on
- 3 Regional Electric Power Coordination, Western
- 4 Interstate Energy Board.
- 5 And I think I covered everybody.
- 6 So we'll go ahead and get started with
- 7 Jim Robb, if you'd like to start us off with your
- 8 comments.
- 9 MR. ROBB: Sure.
- 10 MODERATOR KELLEY: I need to -- before
- 11 you do, just let me note to all the speakers that
- 12 these microphones are automatic. So, we are
- 13 listening.
- 14 MR. ROBB: Does that mean we don't have
- 15 to be close to them too? Can you hear me okay?
- 16 Okay, fine.
- 17 So, thanks, Chris.
- I thought maybe what I would do since
- 19 I'm the first up would maybe just to -- kind of
- 20 set the table a little bit for the West.
- 21 Let me first explain who the Western
- 22 Electricity Coordinating Council is for those of

- 1 who aren't familiar with us. We're the regional
- 2 entity responsible for compliance, monitoring,
- 3 enforcement of NERC reliability standards in the
- 4 West. We also do a substantial amount of
- 5 reliability assessment and planning activity for
- 6 the Western Interconnection.
- 7 We're unique in the West in that we're
- 8 the only entity that actually looks across the
- 9 entire Western Interconnection. So we have the 14
- 10 western states, BC, Alberta, as well as Baja,
- 11 California. That gives us a relatively unique lens
- 12 into the industry in the West.
- In our planning activity, we execute
- 14 that through a stakeholder committee, which we
- 15 refer to as TEPPC, the Transmission Expansion
- 16 Planning Policy
- 17 Committee. And that group has produced
- 18 over the last three years two long-term
- 19 transmission plans, a ten- year plan, which is a
- 20 deterministic view of the industry that looks at
- 21 committed resources, committed transmission
- 22 projects, and seeks to the answer the question:

- 1 will there be adequate generation and
- 2 deliverability to meet load under reasonable
- 3 scenarios?
- 4 And then we also do a 20-year, which is
- 5 a much more scenario-based view of the
- 6 Interconnection, looking at plausible resource
- 7 mixes and load mixes against a series of
- 8 internally consistent scenarios and seeks to the
- 9 answer the question, you know: can we build a
- 10 system that will remain policy compliant and meet
- 11 the resource needs of the region?
- 12 One thing I would say about WECC is that
- 13 we are an independent organization. We underwent
- 14 a fairly substantial restructuring earlier this
- 15 year.
- We do not own, operate, develop, or
- 17 invest in transmission assets nor generation
- 18 assets. We do not compel anyone to build. We
- 19 look at the industry through the lens of electric
- 20 reliability and really are trying to answer the
- 21 question: will the bulk power system be there when
- 22 the region needs it?

31 There are four, and I think important, 1 considerations as you think about the Western Interconnection that's very different than the East. And I think it's important to lay out for the Department of Energy because from our view, 5 and from my view, a substantial amount of national 6 energy policy is heavily influenced by the structure in the East. So let me just kind of lay out a few things that are important to bear in 10 mind. 11 First of all, the Western Interconnection does not have an organized -- a 12 uniformed organized market across the 13 Interconnection. We do have a well-functioning 14 15 market in California and in Alberta, but beyond that, it's a series of traditional vertically 17 integrated utility markets. 18 There is a very active wholesale trading 19 market in the West and has been for some time. 20 But in general, planning, development, and so 21 forth of transmission and generation assets tends to be done at the utility level, not at a regional

32 level. 1 2 The second point is that the West is extraordinarily diverse. You know, we have a large number of IOU's, a substantial presence of public power, two very large public power 5 marketing agencies, a number of rural co-ops across the region that creates an extraordinary diversity of interests and biases towards what's important as it relates to energy, and I'm sure 10 you'll hear plenty of that from my colleagues on 11 the panel. 12 The West is also extraordinarily 13 politically diverse. I don't need to say anything more than we have, you know, Utah and Arizona 15 sitting next to California, Oregon and Washington. So the political ideologies and how people think about the tradeoffs between economics and 17 18 environment are going to be very, very different 19 as you go across the West. 20 One other point I think it's important 21 to bear in mind about the West is that the Western 22 Region, much more so than the East, has grown up

- 1 around resources. In the West, we generate power
- 2 for the resources and we wheel it to load. It's
- 3 very different than the East where the vast
- 4 majority of electricity comes from fuel, which is
- 5 transmitted to the load pocket and generated
- 6 locally. That gives us a transmission system
- 7 which can be characterized as having very, very
- 8 long lines, bringing resources from the Pacific
- 9 Northwest, from Wyoming-Montana Coal, from
- 10 Southwest Solar to load. So the importance of the
- 11 transmission system here is very, very different
- 12 and the stability of the system because the length
- 13 of the lines is different.
- 14 And the last point I would make before I
- 15 hand this over to Steve is that the fuel mix in
- 16 the West is extraordinarily dependent on weather.
- 17 Twenty- seven percent of the generation mix in the
- 18 West is hydro, wind, or solar. If you throw in
- 19 natural gas as a weather-dependent commodity,
- 20 which you have to in the West as we've had
- 21 interruptions in gas supply to power plants when
- 22 it's been cold, like 65 percent of our fuel is not

- 1 secure in the typical sense of having a uranium
- 2 pile, a coal pile -- or uranium when it's coal
- 3 piled in front of a solid fuel plant.
- With that, I'll pass it over to Steve.
- 5 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thanks, Jim.
- 6 Steve?
- 7 MR. BERBERICH: Thanks, Jim.
- 8 I'm Steve Berberich. I'm the CEO of the
- 9 California Independent System Operator. We're
- 10 responsible for the bulk power system reliability
- 11 as well as operating the markets in California.
- 12 I applaud the Department of Energy for
- 13 taking on this task. I know it's quite a task to
- 14 listen to all these various inputs. But what I'd
- 15 like to do is to kind of take an overall view from
- 16 California, which I think is a microcosm, perhaps,
- 17 of things to come for the rest of the country.
- 18 Certainly transmission spurs more
- 19 emotions than a number of things associated with
- 20 the NIMBY issues, the costs and siting issues, and
- 21 then obviously, we have to apply the reliability
- 22 and economics on them. And it's long been a

- 1 challenging element for development now, but we
- 2 are in a position where we are going to have to
- 3 build new transmission to bring reliable power
- 4 into load centers.
- 5 In California, to set some stage here,
- 6 we spent approximately \$7 billion in the last
- 7 several years on transmission development, but
- 8 much of that has been to bring the renewables to
- 9 market.
- 10 And to give you some flavor of that, on
- 11 our 50,000 megawatt system, solar has grown from
- 12 1,000 megawatts about 18 months ago to about 4,700
- 13 megawatts today that we see on peak. Another
- 14 3,500 megawatts is coming in the next 18 months.
- 15 We now have wind of about 4,500 megawatts. And
- 16 some days we see total renewable energy of about
- 17 10,000 megawatts, almost a third of our system on
- 18 many a days now. So transmission has been
- 19 critical to welcoming those renewables on the
- 20 system.
- 21 In addition to that, San Onofre Nuclear
- 22 Plant in Southern California has really driven

- 1 home the point of the need for speedy and agile
- 2 transmission development, words that aren't often
- 3 associated with transmission development. The
- 4 need to quickly respond and maintain renewable
- 5 power in such massive population centers in
- 6 Southern California was critical and the ability
- 7 to site and upgrade the transmission system in
- 8 short order was necessary to make sure we maintain
- 9 power down there. So speed and resilience is --
- 10 speed and agility is critical.
- 11 You know -- and with the caveat that we
- 12 need to modernize and invest in the system, a
- 13 couple of other thoughts.
- 14 First, the growth in consumer-produced
- 15 energy is clearly going to have be something that
- 16 we take into account. We see a number of
- 17 consumer-owned systems that are partially or fully
- 18 insulated from the grid. Many of them are
- 19 reluctant though to actually cut their power or
- 20 their link to the system.
- 21 But we have a question I think before us
- 22 now, the balance that we're going to have create

- 1 is how can we build -- it's no longer how do we
- 2 build enough transmission, but how do we strike
- 3 the balance between avoiding transmission that
- 4 gets stranded and stranded assets in the face of
- 5 new grid models while we continue to build a grid
- 6 resiliency?
- 7 An example of that is I recently asked
- 8 our transmission planners to look at how the
- 9 system would operate with 20 percent distributed
- 10 generation on the system. That may seem a lot,
- 11 but I can tell you in San Diego, as an example,
- 12 they add 1,000 new rooftops of solar every month.
- 13 It's growing in exponential rate in Southern
- 14 California, obviously because it's very sunny down
- 15 there, and we're going to have to take that into
- 16 consideration in our transmission planning.
- The loads are rising, renewables are
- 18 growing, the system is changing.
- 19 So we need to certainly be dedicated to
- 20 rebuilding our systems, but we also have to be
- 21 careful not to over-build our systems too. We're
- 22 going to have to take these new paradigms into

- 1 account. Regionalism has got to be an important
- 2 factor -- a more important factor on that. We can
- 3 no longer operate 38 balancing authorities in the
- 4 West. It's not efficient. It's not effective.
- 5 It's not reliable. So we're going to have to take
- 6 that on as well. Most importantly, we need to
- 7 remain nimble.
- And with that, I'll turn that over to
- 9 you, Mr. Reiten.
- 10 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Steve.
- 11 Patrick?
- MR. REITEN: Great, thank you.
- 13 Secretary Poneman, really appreciate you
- 14 being here. You've assembled a wonderful group of
- 15 folks. I appreciate being asked to participate
- 16 along with them.
- 17 I'm Pat Reiten. I'm the President and
- 18 CEO of Pacific Power. We are the western
- 19 distribution part of PacifiCorp which serves 1.8
- 20 million customers across six western states.
- I also have responsibility for the
- 22 systems operation and transmission system for

- 1 PacifiCorp as a whole, that comprised of 16,000-
- 2 plus line miles. We're interconnected with 13
- 3 other balancing authorities. We touch some parts
- 4 of 10 western states.
- 5 And we're also an originating partner of
- 6 the recently FERC-approved energy and balance
- 7 market in partnership with the California ISO, and
- 8 so -- nice to have my partner in that, Steve, here
- 9 this morning.
- 10 As an integrated utility, we share a lot
- 11 of the issues you'll hear about from other
- 12 panelists, but obviously want to focus my remarks
- 13 on transmission.
- 14 Certainly, the Nation's bulk electric
- 15 transmission system is subject to changing
- 16 landscape and roles, and so I'd like to start
- 17 there.
- 18 As I mentioned, or as I should mention,
- 19 PacifiCorp is the largest subsidiary of Berkshire
- 20 Hathaway Energy. And we have a sister subsidiary
- 21 called MidAmerican Transmission. They are a
- 22 merchant independent transmission company

40 established in 2011, run by my former transmission VP John Cupparo, and established really as a result of evolving markets and the way transmission in some sectors of some parts of the country is being constructed. 5 6 So speaking on behalf of the holding company, I'd like to make a few points on their 7 behalf. 8 9 Incumbent transmission providers like PacifiCorp will always have a significant role, 10 11 but we do expect independent transmission to have 12 a growing role in future transmission development 13 due to competitive processes that are in part a result of FERC's Order 1000, and as vertically 14 15 integrated utilities seek complementary partners. In a world where we have evolving regulation and 17 competition for scarce capital that may create 18 difficulties for integrated utilities, independent 19 companies do have the ability to provide flexible 20 financing and structure and ownership options, can 21 dedicate capital to longer term transmission 22 development cycles, and I think also can play a

41 constructive role in regional planning processes. 2 It's worth noting that MidAmerican Transmission has been most successful actually in organized markets -- ERCOT, the California ISO, SPP -- that have allowed for partnerships and appropriate cost allocation. 6 7 Turning to transmissions siting and permitting. Simply put, we need federal agencies to truly work together to assure consistent 10 application of permitting requirements. And we 11 have a lot of experience permitting and now 12 building segments of our energy gateway transmission project. We rolled that out in May 13 of '07, 2,000 new line miles, eight key segments. 14 We've actually constructed two of those and are 15 substantially under construction on the third. 16 We're 1.3 billion into a \$6 billion set of 17 projected investments. 19 The obvious lesson so far: federal 20 permitting has proven to be very time intensive. 21 We need clear communication requirements between field and state and D.C. offices prior to the 22

- 1 start of permitting processes.
- 2 Unlike the East, as is obvious, many of
- 3 the states we operate in are more than 50 percent
- 4 owned by the Federal Government. We deal with
- 5 multiple agencies across multiple states. Things
- 6 work best where we have a single agency as a lead
- 7 permitting agency, where we have a single project
- 8 coordinator on the Federal staff side, where we
- 9 have clear guidance from D.C. on the need, and
- 10 where we have strong interagency coordination.
- 11 You know, lack of those factors in some instances
- 12 have cost us years of delay on some of the
- 13 segments we've been involved in and has really
- 14 huge implication in terms of the ability to site
- 15 new renewables, use resource diversity to meet
- 16 load without siting new thermal plants closer to
- 17 load, and sometimes actually on reliability.
- 18 So while we're not looking to cut
- 19 corners, we know that siting has to adapt to
- 20 public need and the prospect for lengthy siting
- 21 delays, coupled with rapidly changing policy
- 22 landscapes, reduces the incentive for companies to

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- commit capital to develop new critical
- infrastructure for fear of stranding cost in the
- middle of the process.
- We have a good example: Hemingway to
- Boardman, which is a project spanning Idaho and 5
- Washington. We're now three years past the 6
- initial draft EIS issuance, which is just the
- first critical step in the NEPA process.
- 9 So the stakes are high. Lack of the
- ability to site that and access the Mid-Columbia 10
- market may require building new thermal plants 11
- 12 closer to load.
- So, you know, just a final set of 13
- thoughts. You know, as we deal with the evolving
- 15 policy landscape, Regional Haze, statement over
- 16 portfolio standards, 111(d), those will drive
- 17 changes in the generation portfolio. And we will
- have to react to those from a transmission
- 19 perspective, both in terms of adding new
- 20 infrastructure investment to maintain grid
- 21 stability as well as new infrastructure in order
- to deal with the intermittency of new renewable

44 And, you know, those -- that policy resources. agenda is changing very, very rapidly and so does not accommodate a 7- to 10-year design, permit and build schedule. So, just in conclusion, you know, the 5 ability to be more nimble, to have clear guidance 6 from the D.C. side all the way down to the field 8 office is imperative if we're going to be able to maintain voltage stability and a bulk electric 10 system that can accommodate the kind of challenges 11 I think you're talking about in this process. 12 So again, appreciate the opportunity to be here and lend our thoughts. 13 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Pat. 14 15 Elliott, your five minutes. 16 MR. MAINZER: Yes. Good morning, 17 everybody. I also really appreciate the 18 opportunity to be here today. 19 Transmission has certainly been an 20 important topic in the Western United States for 21 the past decade. And I think we've made some significant progress on multiple fronts. At BPA, 22

- 1 we operate over 15,000 miles of high voltage
- 2 transmission lines and play an important role in
- 3 maintaining system reliability in the Pacific
- 4 Northwest. In recent years, through our
- 5 experience planning, financing and building
- 6 several new high voltage transmission lines and
- 7 integrating over 4,500 megawatts of wind into our
- 8 grid, I think we've learned a few lessons that I'd
- 9 like to share this morning.
- 10 Certainly, transmission investments are
- 11 very capital intensive, and they must be based on
- 12 a solid business case with clear cost recovery and
- 13 cost allocation mechanisms.
- 14 This means carefully understanding
- 15 current and future demand and identifying
- 16 creditworthy counterparties who can provide the
- 17 necessary financial security to bear the cost of
- 18 construction over the long term. Regulators and
- 19 policymakers who want to see the grid expanded can
- 20 certainly help support the necessary investments
- 21 by providing their utilities with appropriate cost
- 22 recovery assurances and mechanisms.

46 At BPA, we're now in the process of 1 constructing two new 500 kV transmissions lines from the Columbia and Snake Rivers and permitting another in a very densely populated Interstate 5 corridor. The siting and permitting challenges are 5 enormous. I would say it's unequivocally the 6 responsibility of utilities to work closely with affected communities, sovereigns and stakeholders to ensure that new transmission facilities are 10 sited with minimal impact to local resources. But 11 we also need the same type of increased 12 coordination between federal, state and local 13 permitting organizations that Pat talked about in order to build the necessary infrastructure to 14 15 maintain reliability and integrate new resources 16 in a timely and cost-effective fashion. 17 Now, the traditional transmission planning paradigm has focused on building new 19 facilities. I think we've also found that non-20 wires solutions can be equally important in 21 certain circumstances and the use of demand response and distributed generation to manage grid 22

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1	congestion can also help to make best use of	
2	existing transmission resources.	
3	Entities such as NTTG, ColumbiaGrid and	
4	WestConnect provide very valuable coordination	
5	among and between the members to help plan the	
6	grid on a one-utility basis. WECC also provides a	
7	very important overall planning look at needs and	
8	impacts across the entire Interconnection. I	
9	think we definitely need to continue to improve	
10	coordination among utilities, subregional entities	
11	and WECC.	
12	Back in 2002 at BPA, we had 175	
13	megawatts of wind energy connected to our	
14	transmission grid. Today we have 4,500 megawatts	
15	and our partner utilities in other parts of the	
16	West are experiencing similar growth in	
17	renewables, especially solar.	
18	So while providing zero-carbon energy to	
19	the system, wind and other variable energy	
20	resources increase the demand for system	
21	flexibility. And whereas traditional resource	
22	adequacy planning has focused on capacity and	

- 1 energy, that third dimension of flexibility is now
- 2 equally important to overall system reliability.
- 3 Like other parts of the West, utilities in the
- 4 Northwest must now ensure that their new capacity
- 5 resources can also operate flexibly in tandem with
- 6 variable energy resources.
- 7 Operation of coordination among
- 8 utilities is as important today as it has been in
- 9 the past. Coordinated balancing authority
- 10 operations can help spread volatility over a wider
- 11 system footprint, which can help reduce the
- 12 overall demand for system flexibility and make
- 13 best use of existing resources.
- 14 At BPA we've been working with our
- 15 colleagues at PacifiCorp and the California ISO to
- 16 help them implement their new energy imbalance
- 17 market while also ensuring that there are not
- 18 negative operational or economic impacts on
- 19 Northwest customers.
- I think we're learning quite a bit
- 21 through this partnership and hope to apply these
- 22 learnings to our work on market design through the

- 1 Northwest PowerPool. Building on the legacy of
- 2 regional coordination that goes back to the
- 3 1940's, we're developing new reliability tools and
- 4 exploring a potential sub-hourly market within the
- 5 Pacific Northwest that will address longstanding
- 6 concerns about governance and local decision-
- 7 making.
- 8 A couple last points. Real-time
- 9 situational awareness is another critical
- 10 requirement for today's transmission system.
- 11 Working with our colleagues at DOE and other
- 12 partners in the West, BPA has installed the
- 13 largest network of synchrophasors in the country,
- 14 giving us much-enhanced ability to anticipate and
- 15 respond to grid disturbances.
- We're also working closely with the
- 17 West's new Reliability Coordinator to develop new
- 18 tools to forecast and respond to actual flows
- 19 across the Northwest's transmission system.
- I think it's for certain that technology
- 21 innovation will be an important driver as we
- 22 continue to modernize the transmission system.

- 1 BPA is part of the \$178 million DOE-funded Pacific
- 2 Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project.
- 3 Through this collaborative effort, we've been
- 4 testing distributed generation, storage and demand
- 5 response technologies with the potential to
- 6 increase transmission system reliability,
- 7 integrate renewables and lower costs for
- 8 customers. And BPA's own \$17 million a year
- 9 Technology Innovation Program has also discovered
- 10 breakthrough technologies in voltage stability and
- 11 demand response.
- So I think the western United States
- 13 certainly faces significant opportunities and
- 14 challenges in designing the future of its
- 15 transmission system. At BPA, we're certainly
- 16 pleased to be working with our colleagues at both
- 17 the regional and subregional level to further
- 18 enhance the reliability, flexibility and technical
- 19 sophistication of our transmission system.
- Thank you very much. Good to see
- 21 everybody.
- 22 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Elliott.

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1	Next we have Carl.	
2	MR. ZICHELLA: Thank you. Before we	
3	started, we were sort of joking that we could	
4	shuffle each other's presentations around, and	
5	certainly a lot of what I was intending to say has	
6	been said, so I'm trying not to be too repetitive.	
7	In fact, Elliott's presentation, a lot of it, I	
8	can just go, "What he said," because it's right on	
9	the money.	
10	The electrical system is undergoing	
11	historic change. We haven't seen anything like it	
12	in many decades. The changing resource mixes is	
13	occurring very rapidly, a combination of things,	
14	including lowering resource costs for renewables,	
15	and gas I might add, but also this new	
16	characteristics of operating system that has a lot	
17	more variable generation in it.	
18	The very changes that we have to make to	
19	incorporate this clean energy to deal with the	
20	climate change issues that Secretary Poneman so	
21	articulately set forth are the very changes we	
22	need to make the system more reliable. So there's	

- 1 a really -- a good payoff here as we get more
- 2 flexibility in our system, as it can operate more
- 3 quickly, as we can schedule and dispatch power
- 4 much more quickly, as we coordinate and
- 5 consolidate between and among our balancing area
- 6 authorities in the West. That's all good news for
- 7 reliability as well.
- 8 The very situational awareness we need
- 9 to integrate renewable energy resources is the
- 10 same situational awareness we need to help bring
- 11 the system back when there are disruptions and to
- 12 avoid disruptions in the first place.
- 13 Flexibility, resilience, and security
- 14 are the most critical needs for the system going
- 15 forward. More consolidated, better coordinated
- 16 systems, a less vulnerable system. I think we'll
- 17 hear more about that in other workshops. I won't
- 18 go into that too much here. But the whole cyber
- 19 security and physical security questions
- 20 confronting the grid are also important.
- I think the key environmental
- 22 perspective I'd like to bring to this, it does

- 1 echo some of the things we've already heard -- but
- 2 really revolve around efficiently using the system
- 3 we have, building what we need and not building
- 4 what we don't need. Looking at the non-wires
- 5 alternatives that Elliott was just talking about
- 6 is a key component of that.
- 7 But in order to really understand what
- 8 it is that we need and what we don't need, I think
- 9 we have to answer a few simple questions.
- The first is, how do new investments
- 11 reduce greenhouse gas emissions? This is the
- 12 unavailable reality, the inconvenient truth that
- 13 we're all confronted with right now. Future
- 14 generations will continue to endure the
- 15 consequences of the actions we take today. It is
- 16 one of the key drivers. Polling across this
- 17 country have shown people are extremely concerned
- 18 about that.
- 19 And that leads to the second question,
- 20 of what we -- what we build is -- and how we
- 21 modernize the system is: what does the 21st
- 22 Century consumer want? Of course, they want

- 1 reliable service at a reasonable cost, but they
- 2 also want a system that's clean. In the polling
- 3 that we've seen across the country, and actually
- 4 in a poll released yesterday about the Pacific
- 5 Northwest, indicates strong majorities into the
- 6 70th percentile really supporting strong, clean
- 7 action on climate change.
- 8 So I think we're seeing, and people are
- 9 voting with their wallets in large parts of the
- 10 West as they integrate renewable energy onto their
- 11 own homes and businesses in record amounts, as
- 12 Steve Berberich indicated, that that's clearly a
- 13 key preference.
- 14 So there's transactional relationship
- 15 between consumers and the utilities. It's a new
- 16 development. It does influence the grid that we
- 17 have on the distribution grid. And the line
- 18 between the distribution system and the bulk
- 19 electricity system is blurring. How we control
- 20 the distribution grid will influence how we
- 21 operate the bulk electricity grid in the future.
- 22 Some posit that the bulk grid may once -- one time

- 1 become a backup system for the distribution grid.
- 2 I believe that because of the climate challenge,
- 3 we're always going to need a very robust bulk
- 4 electricity system. Our best renewable energy
- 5 resources are not close to communities. We have
- 6 an unparalleled richness of renewable energy
- 7 resources across the West.
- 8 So taking advantage of those will
- 9 require a well-thought through, planned bulk
- 10 electricity system. That means justifying those
- 11 decisions of what to build very clearly and
- 12 relying on and expressing how we've considered
- 13 non-wires alternatives as is required by FERC
- 14 Order 1000, but, as Elliott mentioned, is part of
- 15 the business plan for how you set the case for
- 16 your new transmission.
- I think, clearly, the footprint of new
- 18 resources and minimizing that will help enhance
- 19 the acceptability of it to most consumers and the
- 20 stakeholders who are affected by those resources,
- 21 so it's going to be important to make the case.
- 22 And Bonneville over the years, by paying

- 1 attention to non-wires alternatives, as Elliott
- 2 mentioned, have been able to build transmission in
- 3 some tough places. And I think that's a lesson
- 4 the rest of us can observe about how to make that
- 5 case.
- 6 So build what we need; don't build what
- 7 we don't need. Let's use resource zoning for
- 8 resources to help optimize the locations of
- 9 transmission. That's something we haven't done
- 10 yet. It's a big gap in how we approach the
- 11 overall system.
- 12 Steve Berberich mentioned how balkanized
- 13 the system has become in the West with 38
- 14 balancing area authorities. It makes it difficult
- 15 to look about where you would look at locating
- 16 resources so that wind power in one part of the
- 17 region supports and compliments wind power in
- 18 another, and similarly, you have more geographic
- 19 diversity and less interruptions in solar
- 20 resources when you may have clouds passing over
- 21 part of the system and another part of the system
- 22 is operating even in a surplus capacity.

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So I'll stop there. I think a lot of 1 what I intended to say, my predecessors have already said. The grid's got to be faster. It's got to be more flexible and resilient. It's going to be accommodating a much more diverse fuel generation stack. It's going to be much more 6 renewable. 8 And it's supported by the public. That's the good news. This transition, people want it, and it is actually happening. A lot is 10 11 occurring. A coordination of federal agencies and 12 state agencies, and even local authorities --13 because some of the western states, siting is done by counties, as in Colorado, for example. 15 This level of coordination is something we really have to continue to focus on. We're not 17 standing still on it. The Administration has set 18 up the Rapid Response Team for Transmission to try 19 to focus on ways to facilitate that coordination. 20 Frankly, we have a lot more to do in 21 that space. They are the correct first steps. But I think as other panelists have mentioned, we

- 1 don't get to the finish line on the right
- 2 decisions for what to build and how to modernize
- 3 the system if we don't involve all of these key
- 4 stakeholder groups.
- 5 So I'll stop there.
- 6 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Carl.
- Joel, you're up next.
- 8 MR. BLADOW: All right, thank you.
- 9 Joel Bladow with Tri-State G&T, and
- 10 we're -- you may be wondering what am I doing here
- 11 because I'm not from the West Coast. But as Jim
- 12 mentioned, Colorado is part of the Western
- 13 Interconnect. So what Steve does down there in
- 14 California does impact us in Colorado along the
- 15 eastern side of the Western Interconnect.
- 16 I have to disagree with Carl right off
- 17 the bat when he said there's not many communities
- 18 that have wind or solar next to them. In fact,
- 19 when you look at our territory for Tri-State, we
- 20 cover an area the size of Colorado -- or the size
- 21 of California, but we have 5 percent of the load
- 22 they have in California.

And most of the loads in our areas are

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served, Denver Metro, Albuquerque, they're served by others. When you look at the couple hundred thousand square miles, we have a rich ability to 5 have renewables out there, but there are very small communities. So, Carl, there are 6 communities that are right next to a lot of these wind farms. 9 And that's one of the things that we have a challenge -- I'd want to emphasize a 10 11 little. I don't disagree with what others on the

- 15 Secretary pointed out, when the power goes out in
- 16 our small communities, the schools shut down,
- 17 can't do business, the stores shut down; everybody

panel have said, but when you look at rural and

spread out as we are, cost is a big challenge for

us. How do you deliver reliable power? As Deputy

- 18 is connected nowadays. And that's really an
- 19 important thing.

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- 20 Also, I would caution, I think the grid
- 21 has done an incredible job of adapting over the
- 22 years. And we used to have different generation.

- 1 We moved through nuclear. We moved through other
- 2 types of resources. And although it takes some
- 3 time, given the size of the investments, I do not
- 4 think having a little bit of a lag there is
- 5 necessarily a bad thing. I think it's important to
- 6 move forward but to be somewhat cautious.
- 7 I think Deputy Secretary did a good job
- 8 of pointing out the complexity of this. One of
- 9 the things when I look at how complex this is and,
- 10 you know, what do we -- how do you move forward,
- 11 what I really think about is some key
- 12 fundamentals.
- One I have just mentioned is cost. Not
- 14 every great idea is economical. There's lots of
- 15 great technology that somebody says, "This is
- 16 going to be wonderful." And companies can move
- 17 very quickly, put that in place. But when you're
- 18 looking at a public asset or a public good, which
- 19 we tend to serve when we have the utility or
- 20 responsibility, you have to remember that somebody
- 21 is going to pay for that in their bill. And if
- 22 you miss it by a wide mark, they still have to pay

- 1 for it in their bill.
- 2 And turning over assets every two to
- 3 three to four years like you can do in a private
- 4 company in a high tech, typically isn't what you
- 5 do. We tend to be a little on the conservative
- 6 side and that's because if the lights go out, we
- 7 hear it very loud and clear. If the costs get too
- 8 high, we hear it very loud and clear. If we build
- 9 or try to build stuff over the top of sensitive
- 10 areas, we hear it very loud and usually aren't
- 11 able to do it. So there's a lot of challenges we
- 12 have.
- 13 Another thing I would say is whatever we
- 14 project today, we're going to be for the most part
- 15 wrong. And I think if you look over the horizon,
- 16 I think in my tenure in the industry, you know,
- 17 too cheap to meter was nuclear. We're going to
- 18 run out of natural gas. Yeah, we sure found that
- 19 wasn't the case.
- 20 And I think the more certain we pretend
- 21 we are about what the future is and plow ahead
- 22 without allowing that flexibility, seeing the

- 1 ideas and looking at what are some of the options,
- 2 putting those pieces in place that have multiple
- 3 benefits, I think is a great way to go. But we
- 4 have to be mindful that 10 years from now,
- 5 somebody will probably be sitting around the next
- 6 one of these -- 12 years, I guess it would be --
- 7 quadrennial -- and say, Hey, boy, they sure missed
- 8 the boat 12 years ago. And I think we just have
- 9 to be cautious and incremental.
- 10 Some of the points have been mentioned.
- 11 We're in four states, so we definitely see some of
- 12 the lack of coordination from the various federal
- 13 agencies. As we site and permit in multiple
- 14 states, I think having the Federal Government look
- 15 harder at how do we balance these various things
- 16 and get a little more consistency between the
- 17 agencies is an important thing.
- 18 And finally, I'll just look at some --
- 19 make one more mention. I think it's so important
- 20 really that cost benefit. There's a lot of things
- 21 have been talked about that we need to change,
- 22 should change, will improve stuff, and I think we

- 1 have to be very mindful of the benefits and who
- 2 pays, really that cost allocation piece.
- 3 Give you an example. We're in five
- 4 balancing authorities. We're not one ourselves.
- 5 We're in two interconnects. We're both in the
- 6 East and the West.
- 7 But when you looked in energy imbalance
- 8 market, we said, Hey, that's a good idea. We're
- 9 in five BA's, why don't we change and be more
- 10 streamlined. We've talked to a number of our
- 11 partners that very much advocated, this is
- 12 something that's needed, we'll save billions for
- 13 consumers, and when we talk to them about helping
- 14 to pay our high transmission cost because our
- 15 interstate network very much facilitates that, the
- 16 answer we get from most of them is, Are you
- 17 kidding? We're not going to pay anything for
- 18 that. We'll figure out how to get it for free.
- 19 And I think that's what builds resistance to some
- 20 of these changes is not recognizing the value,
- 21 who's getting it, and how we allocate that
- 22 payment.

64 So with that, I will just end with my 1 caution always is go slow, think about what we're doing. Things don't tend to be as bad as we think or as good as we hoped. And with that caution, I'll stop there. 5 6 MR. SAVAGE: You're a utility guy. MR. BLADOW: Absolutely. 8 MR. SAVAGE: So I chair actually three 9 Western Energy groups made up of state and provincial officials, each focused on different 10 aspects of the Western grid, including grid 11 12 reliability, grid planning, integrating wind and solar into the grid, promoting efficient use of 13 existing lines, and advancing promising 15 technologies and applications. 16 So I'm going to come at this from that 17 broader, western perspective of my groups. And 18 I'm going to make four points about transmission, 19 and I'm going to cheat and talk about the grid as 20 a whole and DOE role. 21 So, first point, I think we will build 22 what transmission -- going to the question that

- 1 was posed for this panel, I think we will build
- 2 what transmission we need in the West. A few
- 3 years ago, the amount of new transmission that was
- 4 being built in the West was greater than all the
- 5 other regions combined.
- 6 On top of that, I think with what new
- 7 transmission that is planned and likely to be
- 8 built, which is called the Common Case Line in Jim
- 9 Robb's interconnection-wide plan, we could be good
- 10 for a decade or more.
- 11 What I don't think -- what we likely
- 12 won't see, at least in the short-term, are what I
- 13 call big, long-distance lines. We polled Western
- 14 utilities and Western utility players a couple of
- 15 years ago and asked them about, you know, sort of,
- 16 their interest in accessing remote, low-cost,
- 17 renewable resources. And at that time, they
- 18 expressed little or no interest. They had ample --
- 19 you know, they had the ability to tap the
- 20 resources they needed to meet their renewable
- 21 mandates.
- Over time, I see two forces at work

- 1 here. I see forces at work for less demand for
- 2 big transmission if load growth flattens, if we
- 3 develop more local and distributive generation and
- 4 we potentially free up existing power line
- 5 capacities through a variety of means, I think the
- 6 countervailing factor that could offset this trend
- 7 would be if utilities need to tap remote renewable
- 8 resources to meet targets.
- 9 Second point, and this is nothing new to
- 10 the people in the industry here, is I think the
- 11 biggest challenge for the grid is adapting to the
- 12 changing mix of power resources. This could be --
- 13 I think this will be a long developing trend, and
- 14 to me, obviously, it will vary from state to
- 15 state. But I think in general, we're going to
- 16 continue to see more variable wind and solar, more
- 17 distributed, more storage, more natural gas, and
- 18 probably less coal.
- I see no letup in policies to encourage
- 20 the development and low -- null and low carbon
- 21 resources, and with the accompanying challenges
- 22 that these resources pose to our power system, the

67 proposed EPA carbon regulations being the most recent example. So, in response, at least three things. I think we need to do. One, I still think there's a lot more we can do to effectively address 5 ramping challenges and to bring down the cost of 6 integrating variable wind and solar into the 7 8 system, from expanding our suite of flexible resources, to shaping policies to create a western 10 marketplace that's bigger, faster, more 11 responsive, and more coordinated. 12 Second, I think we need to continually 13 assess the reliability impacts of the changing resource mix, such as the impacts of implementing 15 the EPA 111(d) regulations. And three, I think recognizing the line 16 17 between distribution and bulk power systems is 18 blurring or will blur over the long haul. I think 19 we need to better operate our visibility control 20 of the distribution system. I think we need 21 seamless, two- way information flows between the 22 system. And this is -- I always get to give one

- 1 provocative, I think we may need to rationalize
- 2 FERC and state regulatory jurisdiction.
- 3 Third observation is that absent
- 4 intervention, coordinated action, or a crisis in
- 5 the rest, I think we'll under-invest in grid
- 6 innovation.
- 7 Last year, we hosted a transmission
- 8 technology forum in the West, and we heard from
- 9 some of the best minds in the business on
- 10 modernizing the grid. And one of the panels
- 11 explored the many uses of synchrophasor data.
- 12 They were excited about the possibility but less
- 13 so that we were going to take full advantage of
- 14 the technology. I don't think that we would have
- 15 made the investments we did as fast as we did
- 16 without the Federal funding. I think there's a
- 17 lot of reasons for that, but one prime reason is I
- 18 think many T&D investments have a quality of a
- 19 public good. Benefits are diffused. It doesn't
- 20 pay utility investment when they can't claim the
- 21 benefits.
- So for these public good investments, we

- 1 either need to take collaborative action or I
- 2 think we need a crisis such as Hurricane Sandy
- 3 which will trigger political action, or we need
- 4 the Government to step in, which leads to my last
- 5 point.
- 6 Federal funding for energy projects in
- 7 this region has made a huge difference and should
- 8 be a guide for future DOE action. With Federal
- 9 funds just recently, we made the major investments
- 10 in synchrophasors, as I mentioned, and we're doing
- 11 phase 2 now at peak reliability.
- 12 We created our first interconnection-
- 13 wide transmission plant. We produced the first
- 14 interconnection-wide assessment of the impacts of
- 15 increased natural gas generation on the West. We
- 16 examined the cost and benefits of a voluntary EIN
- 17 market and the design of such a market, all of
- 18 which led up to the first EIN becoming operational
- 19 in October.
- 20 We conducted the first ever survey and
- 21 evaluation of solar and moon forecasting in the
- 22 West.

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1	We investigated the use of dynamic	
2	scheduling and ways to foster greater use.	
3	We studied the potential for demand	
4	response to provide ancillary services.	
5	My point, and I'm going to write DOE, is	
6	keep doing what you've been doing. Drive	
7	innovation and fill the gaps and necessary	
8	analyses and projects that won't be done without	
9	your intervention.	
10	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, John.	
11	Well, thank you all.	
12	At this point, what we're going to do is	
13	turn to a discussion. So I've got a few questions	
14	here. Some common themes, some divergent opinions	
15	I've heard. So why don't we go ahead and get	
16	started with that.	
17	So one of the divergent opinions I heard	
18	was that when it comes to transmission, we need to	
19	go slow and plan, think. But then I also heard we	
20	need to adapt and be agile enough to bring on	
21	these distributed generation renewables, variable	
22	generation.	

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1	So with the Federal Government here	. –
2	listening, what is your guidance to the Federal	
3	Government in helping you to strike that balance?	
4	And what we'll do is we'll just start at this end	
5	and kind of work our way down.	
6	So, Jim?	
7	MR. ROBB: Well, that's probably a	
8	better question for more the principal investors	
9	here than for me as an observer of the system.	
10	I think the one quandary that you have	
11	in electric, and any kind of energy	
12	infrastructure, is we have a dynamic policy	
13	environment that's changing. I mean, I think	
14	directionally, thematically consistent but the	
15	specifics change fairly regularly. Technology is	
16	advancing relatively quickly, and we're still	
17	stuck in 10-year life cycle project development	
18	loads.	
19	The challenge I think we have, and what	
20	we're certainly trying to do at WECC, is to	
21	develop, kind of, good, consistent, thematic views	
22	of how the future looks or could look so we can	

- 1 start to figure out which set of projects would
- 2 make sense under any scenario so that those can go
- 3 forward.
- 4 Yeah, I think the comment was made on
- 5 the panel though that the risk of building
- 6 transmission that may get stranded in the future
- 7 is exceptionally high, particularly if you don't
- 8 know what the long- term future -- I think even
- 9 with the long-term future of the remote coal
- 10 plants and so forth in the region are, with a
- 11 timeframe for when those plants may eventually
- 12 come out of service has a big implication for
- 13 transmission investment. What they get replaced
- 14 with also will have substantial implications for
- 15 transmission investment.
- One theory of the case is they should be
- 17 replaced with gas plants on the same site that
- 18 would make, you know, full use of the existing
- 19 transmission infrastructure.
- There's also a wonderful opportunity
- 21 here to move some of those resources much closer
- 22 to load, which would create a much more stable and

73 easy to operate system. 2 The interplay between the replacement of those facilities and the expansion of solar and wind resources that are electrically very, very different needs to be understood and needs to be studied. 6 I'd echo the point that John made that the DOE, from our perspective, has been a wonderful partner in helping to fund some of the 10 studies that we've done on these issues, and quite frankly, there's a long list of things that yet 11 need to be studied going forward. So I'd echo the 12 -- kind of the request for, kind of, ongoing 13 support of the analytical agenda because we are at 15 a period of time where the system in the West is going to be fundamentally reconceived over the 17 next 5, 10, 25 years. And we need to be very 18 thoughtful about the decisions that we're making 19 around long-lived infrastructure that's going to 20 be robust under a variety of scenarios. MODERATOR KELLEY: Thanks, Jim. 21 22 Steve, any comments?

74 MR. BERBERICH: Well, I'd say this. 1 think everyone needs to come terms with the fact that the system is changing dramatically very And I think that's what we're going to have 5 be able to adapt to, and we're going to have to do things guicker. And we do 10-year transmission horizons. I don't see that materially changing. These are long-lived projects and big assets on big balance sheets, and we need to do our best not 10 to get them wrong. 11 But as we saw now in this case, we had 12 to be very fast because San Onofre, the nuclear 13 plant in Southern California, retired. - frankly, it's a microcosm, I think, of things 15 that are to come. The system -- I realize California is ground zero for this, but California 17 is 40 some percent of the load of the West. So, so goes California, so goes a lot of the West. 19 And our system is transforming very 20 fast. We're going to have to be nimble about new 21 transmission, to bring renewables to market, and to reinforce a system where we need to reinforce a

- 1 system as these flows change because the system
- 2 flows are going to change and they're going to
- 3 change dramatically as you see distributed
- 4 generation, you see renewables, you see the
- 5 retirement of plants. And I think we're going to
- 6 have to factor all that in.
- 7 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Steve.
- 8 Pat?
- 9 MR. REITEN: Well, the premise was, you
- 10 know, do we need to speed up the permitting of the
- 11 lines once we've identified a need? And do we
- 12 need to be very deliberate and certain about our
- 13 planning? I think the answer is yes. I don't
- 14 think those things are in conflict necessarily.
- We build transmission for many different
- 16 reasons. As an example, you know, I referenced
- 17 the Energy Gateway Transmission Project, the first
- 18 three of those originally planned eight segments
- 19 were essentially reliability projects, meeting our
- 20 reliability requirements and load. The rest of
- 21 them are being permitted with the idea of
- 22 accessing a more diverse set and of lower cost

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- resources for customers over time. But we also
- have the rapidly evolving policy landscape. So we
- are keeping our transmission planning engineers
- extraordinarily busy.
- On our system, we went from owning 34.5 5
- megawatts of wind eight years ago to 1700 both 6
- owned and contracted for. Today, we have 2300
- 8 megawatts on our system. That, even outside the
- big segments, has required fairly substantial
- 10 investment. We have a project in south central
- 11 Wyoming where we're putting in a synchronous
- 12 condenser at the price of about 47 million in
- 13 order to deal with volatility and maintain grid
- stability there as a result of the concentration
- of wind. 15
- 16 On the other hand, we're taking a coal
- 17 plant out in Utah, 147 megawatts of coal
- 18 generation in Carbon County Utah. And we're
- 19 having to invest 46 million there in order to
- 20 maintain grid reliability in the absence of that
- 21 generating resource. So, you know, it works on
- 22 both sides.

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1	As the policy landscape evolves and the	
2	requirements evolve, that will change the	
3	generation mix and we're going to have to stay	
4	nimble, as Steve mentions, in terms of delivering	
5	those transmission solutions. And the longer, you	
6	know, after the need is identified, that you can	
7	actually do something about it, the higher the	
8	risk is in order to commit capital.	
9	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Pat.	
10	Elliott, any comments?	
11	MR. MAINZER: I think just as sort of a	
12	brief exclamation point, I think I agree that	
13	those two thoughts are not are not	
14	diametrically opposed. I think for certain we want	
15	to be planful. We want to be adaptive. We want	
16	to be flexible. We want to be mindful that the	
17	world will change. I think I've lived through	
18	three paradigm shifts in commodity prices in my	
19	career in the energy industry, so things are going	
20	to turn over.	
21	But I absolutely agree that once we've	
22	identified a need for a new transmission line, and	

- 1 we've determined that reliability and resource
- 2 integration is hinging on it, then it really is
- 3 incumbent -- I think, certainly, as I said before,
- 4 the utilities need to be acutely sensitive to the
- 5 local issues, work with communities, sovereigns,
- 6 affected stakeholders, but we really do need that
- 7 coordination on the permitting side because the
- 8 costs -- and literally you start running into
- 9 significant liability risks, so I really agree
- 10 with that.
- 11 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Elliott.
- 12 Carl, any comment?
- 13 MR. ZICHELLA: Yeah. There's an old
- 14 saying, "Sometimes you have to go slow to go
- 15 fast," and I think "look before you leap" also
- 16 winds up in that same category of aphorisms. But
- 17 I don't think we should have the luxury of lag. I
- 18 think, as Steve mentioned, things are happening in
- 19 real time. We don't have the ability to put the
- 20 genie back in the bottle here.
- 21 It seems to me that we could though, and
- 22 are and should be, paying a lot more attention to

- 1 the full range of resources that are contributing
- 2 and meeting our needs. And if we do that, we have
- 3 a better justification for building what we need
- 4 to build. If we can get more out of the existing
- 5 system to meet our needs, that's really a benefit
- 6 for everyone. It costs a lot less money; it's a
- 7 lot faster. If we reconductor some lines or
- 8 increase the voltage rating of a transmission
- 9 asset by upgrading a substation and we can
- 10 interconnect renewable resources as a result of
- 11 that, well, it takes about three years to build a
- 12 renewable energy project, even pretty big ones,
- 13 and about seven to ten years to build a new
- 14 transmission line. That's if you can even find a
- 15 right-of-way.
- 16 As was mentioned earlier by Elliott
- 17 about the difficulties in the I-5 corridor,
- 18 Portland General Electric recently decided to,
- 19 instead of building a line across the Cascades,
- 20 share lines with BPA, upgrade lines together,
- 21 saving their customers hundreds of millions of
- 22 dollars and, in fact, avoiding environmental

- 1 impacts of great consequence. They estimated
- 2 they'd have to spend about \$70 million just on
- 3 environmental mitigation alone. So getting more
- 4 out of the system, sharing resources, even between
- 5 public and investor-owned utilities, we're seeing
- 6 a lot more of that and it's a good thing.
- 7 So I also think, you know, we have to
- 8 look at some of the lessons that we've been
- 9 learning about where to put stuff.
- 10 For example, renewable energy resource
- 11 zoning, the Bureau of Land Management has adopted
- 12 a programmatic solar environmental impact
- 13 statement that builds resource zones in which
- 14 environmental review should be easier. We can
- 15 design transmission to the zones to get the power
- 16 to the load centers more efficiently. We can get
- 17 better utilization of the lines.
- 18 We talked earlier about the coordination
- 19 and balancing area of consolidation that's needed.
- 20 These operational improvements make a big
- 21 difference about how much we need to build. We
- 22 can get a lot more out of the system.

The energy imbalance market that's been 1 mentioned allows us to share reserves in ways that we really couldn't before because in the West almost everything's done on bilateral contracts 5 rather than in markets. It's a very slow way to do this. It's not very nimble. It's not very flexible. 8 I think we have to pay attention, as 9 John Savage pointed out, to fixing that problem -you know, having more of a market approach, and 10 EIN is a great start on proving the concept to 11 people that this can be a beneficial way forward. 12 The Northwest PowerPool's efforts on 13 market coordination that Elliott's helping to 15 lead, extremely important -- getting the 15-minute scheduling, having more automation. And this 17 leads to, I think, one of the last points I wanted 18 to make on this topic about a role for DOE, and 19 that is taking some leadership in the R&D space 20 and helping with the grid control architecture. 21 We can have great information from all these synchrophasors that we have out there. If we're 22

- 1 not able to take advantage of that, to deploy that
- 2 information quickly in a way that responds to
- 3 system disturbances, we're really wasting our
- 4 investment.
- 5 So I think there's more investment. I
- 6 think there's a really distinguished role for the
- 7 ARPA-E project, other R&D programs at DOE, to help
- 8 fill that gap there.
- 9 And looking at where we put stuff to
- 10 avoid environmental conflicts and cultural
- 11 resource conflicts is a big part of this if we
- 12 really want to build these lines. As Joel
- 13 mentioned, you don't get to build them if you just
- 14 go trampling over things that people care about or
- 15 that are important national, natural resources.
- 16 So the zoning operations of the system,
- 17 looking before you leap at energy efficiency and
- 18 demand response -- let's build what we need, not
- 19 what we don't need. The public will be much more
- 20 willing to support that. Nobody likes
- 21 transmission lines, but if people can be convinced
- 22 that they're needed and the benefit towards the

- 1 other things they care about, including climate
- 2 remediation, I think we can build what we need.
- 3 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.
- 4 Joel, care to comment?
- 5 MR. BLADOW: Chris, you must have been
- 6 happy when I said go slow. I really gave you a
- 7 good question.
- 8 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.
- 9 MR. BLADOW: And I think the predecessor
- 10 of folks have really hit it. I think there's some
- 11 technology things that aren't high cost one can
- 12 implement to give you benefits. But as you try to
- 13 plan too broadly, you know, "Here's five lines
- 14 we're going to build that's going to help so many
- 15 things. Let's get going, "you've got to realize,
- 16 it's going to take you probably a decade to build
- 17 them. Getting going on them, that's not the
- 18 problem. You just have to realize you have to be
- 19 willing to change your plans as you go forward.
- 20 Technologies are going to change. You may find
- 21 more benefits and other factors out there which
- 22 will then change your plan.

And sometimes folks get locked in: 1 "Here's what we're going to do. We're going to build all this stuff because we've got the answer." You don't even get close to the finish line, and the answer -- the goal posts have moved 5 quite a bit in that timeframe. 6 So I don't think there is that much of a conflict in terms of -- we just need to be very thoughtful. And I like Carl's analogy, "look 10 before we leap," as we move forward in these 11 technologies because there's a lot of folks out 12 there that have a lot of financial stake in moving 13 quickly for whatever it is they're selling or whatever it is their products are. 15 And I think we kid ourselves to think 16 that everybody stepping in is doing it for the 17 good of the public. There's some real commercial 18 interests that want us to go in a very certain

direction. And it's happened a number of times,

reliability things where smaller problems have

even on the recent FERC regulations on some of the

been elevated into requirements that are somewhat

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- 1 questionable when you really look at some of the
- 2 signs behind them.
- 3 So that's enough from me.
- 4 MODERATOR KELLEY: John, any final
- 5 comments?
- 6 MR. SAVAGE: Yeah, two. One is, in a
- 7 former life, I staffed a siting agency. And I
- 8 like Oregon's approach to siting, which has
- 9 basically said, "We're going to set standards, and
- 10 they're going to be rigorous. But they're going to
- 11 be known the developer. You meet the standards,
- 12 you get the license." To me the problem is
- 13 uncertainty, you know, from many different angles.
- 14 I don't know how I would build a transmission
- 15 line. I don't know if I'd have the patience to
- 16 build a transmission line and go through all of
- 17 this stuff, just because it's -- you don't
- 18 ultimately know what you need to do. So that's
- 19 one.
- Second of all, now I'm going to put on
- 21 my Commissioner hat and I'm going to underscore
- 22 what Jim Robb said, is -- this is the one of the

- 1 things I like about planning is that if you have
- 2 planning that looks at all the possible
- 3 alternatives and shows they've got a line that's
- 4 robust, a Commissioner is going to look favorably
- 5 on that for cost recovery.
- 6 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.
- 7 So I'm going to turn now to technology
- 8 and I'll open this up to whoever would like to
- 9 respond.
- 10 So several of you have commented on
- 11 technologies and how DOE has provided for R&D and
- 12 technology specifically. There's your measurement
- 13 units that have been deployed for real-time
- 14 monitoring of the transmission system. A few
- 15 other technologies were touched on.
- 16 As you look forward, are there
- 17 additional technologies that DOE should be looking
- 18 at? Or is there a role that the Federal
- 19 Government should take going forward in investing
- 20 in R&D technologies? Anyone care to comment?
- 21 Steve?
- 22 MR. BERBERICH: Chris, if I could just

87 make one comment. I think the synchrophasors really drive home this issue. 3 The synchrophasors are fine technologies. Frankly, they're not new technologies for providing better situational 5 awareness on the grid. 6 7 The question though is what do you do with that situational awareness? And I think that's the gap that we need to close first before we go beyond that because is it integrated with 10 energy management systems to be able to move the 11 grid around? I mean, what do you do with it? And 12 I know we have this information on our control 13 room floor, and I go down there and it's pretty 15 cool to see the situational awareness. And I ask our operators, "Well, what do you do?" And from 17 our perspective, I don't really want the operators to do anything. I'd rather technology did it. 19 So what -- that's I think the gap that 20 we need to close is, all right, here's the 21 technology. How does it integrate to better operate the system? And ultimately --22

88 MODERATOR KELLEY: What is DOE's role 1 2 though in this? 3 MR. BERBERICH: Well, I think DOE has an important role. It's, you know, to deploy the technology but also the use of the technology. 5 How -- what's the use case for it? And before we go deploy the technology, I think we need to work out that use case. 9 DOE has had a lot of -- a significant role. I know some of the folks that have looked 10 at, again, how energy management systems work. 11 12 Energy management systems are the bread and butter 13 of dispatching the system. We use telemetry extensively now. It feeds into these systems, 14 15 these systems dispatch every four seconds to 16 balance. 17 The same thing ought to happen with the 18 synchrophasor information. And I think that's --19 if I were looking for some -- it's an issue for 20 all of us though, it's not an issue for the 21 California ISO. It's an issue for everybody. It's an issue for BPA and everybody in the West too.

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1	So I would encourage the closing of that	
2	gap: well, what do you do with the technology?	
3		
4	MODERATOR KELLEY: Great, thank you.	
5	Yeah, Jim?	
6	MR. ROBB: I would have two investment	
7	themes that I don't think we can spend enough	
8	money on as you look into the grid of the future.	
9	And the first, it has to continue to be to advance	
10	storage technology.	
11	In our kind of base case, common case	
12	transmission plan that John referred to, we	
13	replaced 25 gigawatts of conventional generation	
14	with 13 gigawatts of wind and 12 gigawatts of	
15	solar. That's a lot of intermittent resource to	
16	be brought onto the system.	
17	I'm sure you're all familiar with the	
18	duck chart that Steve and his crew have developed	
19	in California that shows the extraordinary burden	
20	that starts to get placed on the balance of the	
21	system with these resources that essentially turn	
22	on and off instantaneously. So the ramp rates and	

- 1 so forth that the remainder of the thermal fleet
- 2 need to be able to meet are extraordinary.
- 3 Storage is one way to soften that cliff and allow
- 4 our resources to perform effectively. So that's
- 5 got to be a very, very important part of it.
- The second piece, and maybe storage
- 7 obviates this, but again, I don't think we can
- 8 spend -- me talking -- I don't think you can spend
- 9 enough money developing safe, reliable, secure
- 10 nuclear technology. You know, particularly in the
- 11 system like the West where if we lose the large
- 12 coal plants which provide the majority of the
- 13 inertia on the system which helps provide
- 14 frequency, stability, and so forth, that needs to
- 15 be replaced with something.
- And from my perspective, as much as I
- 17 love natural gas in so many dimensions, it's not a
- 18 fuel sitting in front of a power plant ready to
- 19 burn. And I sure would like to see us figure out
- 20 a way to make a nuclear solution that's
- 21 politically and publicly acceptable because it
- 22 obviously has extraordinary climate benefits to be

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1	brought to bear.	
2	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thanks, Jim.	
3	So we have time for a couple more brief	
4	comments.	
5	Yes?	
6	MR. REITEN: Yeah, I just Carl made a	
7	very, very important point, which is, you know,	
8	from the perspective of the environment, from the	
9	perspective of our customers, the first priority	
10	is to use what we have most efficiently before we	
11	engage in building a new power plant or building	
12	new transmission lines. But the best ones we deal	
13	with are the lines and the plants we don't build	
14	from those perspectives. We have a real	
15	responsibility to increase the efficient use of	
16	the grid. Certainly, the energy imbalance market	
17	project and the work going on in the Northwest	
18	PowerPool that Elliott is co-chairing, solidly	
19	fit into that direction.	
20	And if you think about the impact DOE	
21	has here in the region, you know, the largest is	
22	clearly through the efforts of the Agency itself,	

- 1 not only as a major transmission owner but a path
- 2 operator in order to facilitate the beneficial use
- 3 of those paths in very efficient ways.
- 4 And so, you know, investments in --
- 5 technology investments, automating remedial action
- 6 schemes, integrating models, not only for more
- 7 efficient use of the past but more situational
- 8 awareness from a reliability perspective -- I know
- 9 those are all on Elliott's radar screen. I just
- 10 speak up, you know, in support of his
- 11 prioritization and efforts there.
- 12 MR. ZICHELLA: May I just offer a
- 13 thought here too about the technology thing. I'm
- 14 not as bullish about nuclear power. I have to be
- 15 honest with you. It takes too long to build them.
- 16 The technology's extraordinarily expensive. And
- 17 we never calculate the back end, the fuel cycle
- 18 costs, when we start talking about it.
- 19 One small nuclear power plant in
- 20 Northern California that was built in the 1960's,
- 21 the Humboldt Bay Plant, will cost over a billion
- 22 dollars to decommission. It was 63 megawatts.

- 1 The idea that small modular reactors would have
- 2 enormous cost savings, I think is a chimera. And
- 3 it would take many, many years to actually
- 4 accomplish because we don't have a supply chain.
- 5 We don't even have a bench of nuclear engineering
- 6 students to rely upon. The idea that we're going
- 7 to have a big play on nuclear, I think, is maybe a
- 8 little bit of a waste of our time.
- 9 I think the other areas we need to focus
- 10 on are looking at some of the simpler things that
- 11 get us a big bang for our buck, the idea of
- 12 optimizing the system by locating your resources
- 13 correctly. That's an innovation there's a gap at.
- 14 We can do better at that. We tend to look at the
- 15 system in small bites rather than in how
- 16 resourcing in Wyoming might assist resources in
- 17 Colorado or California. We have to fix that
- 18 problem.
- 19 We can do some of that with forecasting.
- 20 Like I say, we've come a long way with resource
- 21 forecasting. I stood in the Xcel control room in
- 22 Colorado and watched them turn off a coal plant in

- 1 favor of wind energy based on forecasts. They're
- 2 doing it now. They may be one of the only people
- 3 that are. The fact is I think if they can do
- 4 others can do it too.
- 5 And I think forecasting and the ability
- 6 to use and deploy resources, especially in shorter
- 7 term markets, as was discussed, really gives us a
- 8 real advantage here to take advantage of the
- 9 geographic diversity of the resources and the load
- 10 shapes they have to avoid having to build
- 11 additional, whether it's gas or other types of
- 12 flex resources.
- 13 Again, let's build what we need. If we
- 14 need some gas, let's build it. I like what's
- 15 being done with reciprocating engines that can
- 16 ramp to full power in five minutes. You know,
- 17 there's a really valuable flex tool to help match
- 18 wind in a smaller BA, for example.
- 19 Storage is a great place for DOE to be
- 20 putting its attention to both in the technologies,
- 21 chemistries, helping reduce the costs of
- 22 particular technologies for specific needs. And

- 1 we know that flywheels give us very good, very
- 2 fast response time for regulation. We know we can
- 3 do load following with some of the new battery
- 4 technologies. There's more we can do with pumped
- 5 hydro if we build some transmission. That's one
- 6 of the things where transmission is a part of the
- 7 solution.
- 8 Power electronics, control
- 9 architectures. If we're worried about voltage
- 10 stability in the system, we know that having good
- 11 inverters, advanced inverters, both in the
- 12 distribution system, but also at the bulk
- 13 electricity system for solar installations, helps
- 14 solve some of those problems for us.
- The wind industry has provided new
- 16 technologies and innovation and now provide
- 17 reactive power at wind generators that look a lot
- 18 like natural gas plants. So we're getting much
- 19 better on that and automating the controls. These
- 20 are the technology areas I'd love to see us put
- 21 our limited resources into because the effects and
- 22 the response and the rewards are immediate.

- 1 Continuing to bet on yesterday's technologies,
- 2 Cold War technologies like nuclear -- unless
- 3 there's some sort of major and massive
- 4 breakthrough, I can't see them making a major
- 5 contribution in a decade or more.
- 6 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Carl.
- 7 So at this point, we have enough time
- 8 for just some closing comments from each of you.
- 9 And I want to remind you: we have the QER Task
- 10 Force before you. You've all provided some really
- 11 good insights and input to them. But if you have
- 12 a chance to give one recommendation, think about
- 13 what it would be. And I'd ask that you'd keep
- 14 your comments to one minute just to keep us on
- 15 time here.
- So we'll start all way down at the end
- 17 with John.
- 18 MR. SAVAGE: Well, actually, I like
- 19 Steve's comment on -- and I'll go back to my final
- 20 line -- drive innovation and follow up.
- MR. BLADOW: That was quick --
- 22 MODERATOR KELLEY: All right. Thank

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   you.
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              MR. BLADOW: -- and terse and pithy.
              You know, the one point I would -- and
   it's technology, it's really the siting and
   permitting. To me that's such a core issue. It's
 5
   political and it's local. I think whoever coined
    the phrase "all politics are local" probably just
   got done building a transmission line and
 9
   experienced that firsthand.
10
              So whatever from a Federal Government
    standpoint one can do to get -- kind of harmonize
11
12
    the permitting, and John made a great point,
   having -- knowing the rules, moving in so you can
13
    satisfy them and the goalposts don't continue to
15
   be moved would be very helpful.
16
             MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Joel.
17
             Carl?
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             MR. ZICHELLA: I'm going to echo the
19
   great John Savage and say drive innovation and
20
   follow up. But innovation and technology, policy
21
   regulation, business models, there's a convergence
   of disciplines here that's occurring as part of
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98 this transition. Not all of it's in the DOE bag of tricks, but nevertheless, I think we have to keep the big picture in mind. So drive innovation and follow up. MODERATOR KELLEY: Elliott? 5 6 MR. MAINZER: I guess for me, I'm just personally excited about the level of 7 collaboration that's happening in the West. I think there's a lot of tremendous stuff going on. I think you can see that here in this panel. The 10 Department of Energy has also been a big part of 11 12 that, and I think keeping those relationships 13 happening between the Federal Government and utilities, the other stakeholders, I think will be 15 extraordinarily important as we continue to make 16 progress in the future of the grid. So, good to 17 be here today. Thank you. 18 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Elliott. 19 Pat? 20 MR. REITEN: Well, I think I've kind of made my points already, so I'm not sure I have 21 22 anything else to add other than to say thank you

- 1 for doing this. You know, we appreciate you being
- 2 out here taking into account Western issues,
- 3 which, you know, we're often fond out here of
- 4 saying things are different out here. That may or
- 5 may not be true, but in terms of the sheer
- 6 geographic spaces in the way our markets are
- 7 organized, it really is true. So appreciate you
- 8 as a partner as well as through the two agencies.
- 9 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Pat.
- 10 Steve?
- 11 MR. BERBERICH: I agree with what Pat
- 12 said. I think that having these conversations are
- 13 really important so that we can share issues and
- 14 ideas. And we certainly appreciate your support.
- 15 From a DOE perspective, I guess multiple
- 16 parts. Most of it has come up. As I said, follow
- 17 through on these technology investments.
- 18 Secondly, I'd echo what Jim said.
- 19 Storage is going to have to be part of the
- 20 solution. And we're going to have to find a way
- 21 to find breakthroughs in it. We're going to have
- 22 to find ways to reduce the costs of it to make it

100 truly a viable resource on the grid. And I think the DOE can take a lead in that for sure. So I would also -- I'm going to advocate for your power marketing agencies for a second. They need more flexibility to make the investments 5 that they need, both in their controls' rules -but also in their grids. So a shout out to my partner, Elliott, down there. 9 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Steve. 10 Jim, you want to bring us home? 11 MR. ROBB: I'll try. 12 MODERATOR KELLEY: All right. 13 MR. ROBB: I kicked us off; I'll bring 14 us home. 15 Just a couple things. First, I think 16 the technology agenda we outlined here is very 17 sound, and I actually would push DOE to support 18 that. 19 I would underscore what Pat said, but 20 I'd make it stronger. I've worked in the other 21 two interconnections; the West is different in a lot of different ways. And I think it's important

101 to keep those differences in mind as you think about, kind of, national energy policy. 3 And then the last point is we've enjoyed, at WECC, a very good partnership with DOE with the National Laboratories. There are a lot of frontier technology questions and analytical questions that need to be asked and being able to 7 work those in partnership with DOE is a big advantage to the West. And I hope we can, kind of, 10 continue to do that. 11 MODERATOR KELLEY: Well, thank you, Jim. Well, please, join me in thanking this 12 great panel that we've had. 13 14 (Applause.) MR. McGOVERN: One last thing for 15 members of the media, the Deputy Secretary will be 17 available to take questions from media members 18 downstairs. Just meet back here at the back of 19 the room, and we'll take you down. Thanks. 20 MODERATOR KELLEY: Okay. I'd like to 21 ask the second panel to join me here on the stage. 22 So once again, a reminder for everyone,

102 if you are in the audience and you'd like to ask a question, make a comment at the end of the session here today, please make sure that you note that in the sign-in sheet at the front entrance. 5 again, for those joining via live meeting, send your comments to QERcomments@hq.doe.gov. 6 7 (Panel 2 takes the stage.) MODERATOR KELLEY: I mentioned this to 9 the previous panel, we do have a little Colite system here to indicate when your time is up. And 10 if you hear me start to cough, that's usually a 11 12 sign, so bear that in mind, please. 13 Okay. So we'll go ahead and get started here. Our second panel is on "Distribution - How 15 Do We Cope with New Challenges and Opportunities?" So joining me here on stage we have Jim Piro, 17 President and CEO of Portland General Electric; Pat Vincent- Collawn -- am I saying that right? 19 MS. VINCENT-COLLAWN: Yes, you are. 20 MODERATOR KELLEY: Chairman, CEO and President of PNM Resources, Incorporated, and Co-21 22 Chair, CEO Policy Committee on Energy Delivery,

103 Edison Electric Institute. 2 We also have Ronald Litzinger, President of Southern California Edison; Jorge Carrasco, General Manager & CEO of Seattle City Light; Dave Markham, President and CEO, Central Oregon 5 Electric Cooperative; and again, John Savage, the Commissioner of Oregon PUC and Chair, Committee on Regional Electric Power Coordination, Western Interstate Energy Board. 10 So, once again, I ask that everyone please refrain from applause until the end of the 11 session and as compelling as I'm sure all of 12 comments will be. And I would like to remind 13 everyone that what you will hear from our commenters are their own views and not the views 15 of the U.S. Department of Energy. 17 MODERATOR KELLEY: So, with that, let me turn to Jim. 19 MR. PIRO: Well, good morning, everyone. 20 And I want to thank the DOE for coming 21 to Portland. This is our service territory, and we're really proud to have you here and to discuss

104 these energy issues. It's nice to get all of the energy folks into the room and talk about some of the issues we've got ahead of us. So PGE is celebrating its 125th year 5 anniversary, and we pride ourselves on providing our 830,000 customers safe, reliable, affordable, 6 and sustainable power, something we've done for a 8 long time and something that we take very 9 seriously. And as all utilities, we have that 10 responsibility to provide that high reliability of 11 service to our customers. We have an exceptional 12 set of customers in our service area, companies 13 like Intel, Nike, and a lot of great manufacturing companies who expect reliable, affordable power. When you think about our company, we've 15 16 had a history of innovation. And what I really 17 want to talk about is some of the things we've 18 done to enhance the distribution system and to 19 provide that reliable service.

First of all, in Oregon we use what's

called integrated resource planning. And I would

urge all people to use that type of process

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- 1 because it's that integration of generation,
- 2 transmission, distribution, and customers that
- 3 really provides a reliable supply of power to our
- 4 customers at an affordable price.
- 5 As part of that program, we have been
- 6 very aggressive in delivering energy efficiency to
- 7 our customers. Since 1991, we've -- at current,
- 8 we've actually acquired about 330 average
- 9 megawatts of energy efficiency. We've got another
- 10 350 megawatts that we plan to acquire by 2030.
- 11 These are, you know, lighting, efficiency
- 12 projects, many things you do to improve the use of
- 13 our product.
- Oregon also has Renewable Portfolio
- 15 Standard of 25 percent by 2025. We are now at 15
- 16 percent. We have over 850 megawatts renewable
- 17 power on our system. And, again, the need to
- 18 integrate renewables with our customers is very
- 19 important, especially given the variability of our
- 20 resources.
- 21 We've also voluntarily decided to shut a
- 22 coal plant down and trying to look at how we'd

106 replace that plant both efficiently and effectively. 3 We've also deployed smart meters throughout our service territory. We're now learning how to use those smart meters and the 5 information from that to make better decisions on the distribution system. 8 We have a very successful distributive 9 generation program where we access customers' diesel generators. We have about 100 megawatts of 10 11 that. We use it for reliability and reserves. And it's been a very effective cost program for 12 both our customers and our company in accessing 13 those distributed resources. 15 We have a demand response program that helps curtail peak loads during heavy load hours 17 like we're going to experience over the next week. 18 And we've been very supportive of the electric 19 vehicles. In fact, Portland's been a key launch 20 site for many of the manufacturers that are 21 bringing their vehicles to market. 22 We've got a very innovative project that

107 we're working with from DOE funding that's called the Salem Smart Power Project. It's a five megawatt battery system. So we're really trying to understand how we integrate that into the grid and create a self- healing microgrid. And so 5 we're doing a number of tests on that project as 6 we speak. It's been a very successful project for 7 us, and we're learning a lot about how you integrate batteries into the grid. It's not yet 10 cost-effective, but that's really the purpose of 11 those pilots. And we're also doing some 12 innovative research around biomass and looking at 13 potentially converting Boardman to a biomass facility. 14 15 What I want to talk about now is really 16 the process that we get there and how we get 17 there. Because we're a utility and we have a 18 responsibility to serve our customers, again, both 19 reliably and cost- effective, we have to really 20 think about making sure that these things work. A 21 lot of people have a lot of great ideas, but,

ultimately, we have to implement them in the

108 system. 2 So we start by studying the technology, identifying the cost and benefits. We love running pilots to really prove out the technology, see how it works and how it affects our customers, build a business case -- you heard that this morning. We need to ensure that what we're doing is cost-effective and makes sense for our 9 customers. 10 We then collaborate with our stakeholders, the regulators, our customers, the 11 interested parties to make sure that they're 12 13 supportive. We get agreement on those projects and then we deploy and implement. We find that a 15 very proven way of doing these projects, and there's a number of examples that we've used to do 17 that. 18 In terms of future opportunities where 19 the Department of Energy can be supportive, I 20 would suggest areas of helping us on the smart 21 appliances. We need code changes in that area. Electric water heaters is a great opportunity for

109 us if we can get changes to the codes to have those become smart water heaters so we can access the storage capability. Second-life batteries is another interesting opportunity to support the electric vehicle market. 5 You've heard about storage again this 6 morning, both the vehicles at the grid and at the 7 homes. We need to increase the density, reduce the weight, and lower the cost. 10 And finally, more help on data analytics. As we're getting more and more 11 12 information from our smart meters, taking that data and turning it into useful information to 13 operate the distribution grid more reliably is 15 very key to us as we move going forward. 16 So, again, the idea is really to improve 17 our performance and really work with our customers 18 to make sure we provide them the reliable service 19 they expect from our company. 20 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Jim. 21 Pat? 22 MS. VINCENT-COLLAWN: Thank you. And

- 1 thanks for this opportunity to participate in the
- 2 Quadrennial Energy Review.
- 3 As Chris mentioned, I'm from PNM
- 4 Resources. And we serve about three-quarters of a
- 5 million customers in New Mexico and Texas. And I
- 6 also serve as the Co-Chair for the Edison Electric
- 7 Institute Delivery Policy Committee and, along
- 8 with Jorge, have been on the board of the Electric
- 9 Power Research Institute since 2010.
- 10 And when you look at investor-owned
- 11 utilities today, we're really facilitating that
- 12 transition to a more modern and integrated grid by
- 13 making significant investments in the distribution
- 14 system. Since the beginning of 2000, the industry
- 15 has invested \$275 billion in the distribution
- 16 grid. Last year, we estimated to spend almost \$20
- 17 billion. And by 2017, that's going to grow to \$23
- 18 billion.
- 19 As I mentioned, I'm in New Mexico and
- 20 Texas, and I'm going to talk mostly about New
- 21 Mexico today. We're a vertically integrated
- 22 utility in New Mexico, so we have generation,

- 1 transmission and distribution. And, unfortunately,
- 2 we are one of the poorest states in the nation.
- 3 But yet, we have significant renewable resources.
- 4 I believe NREL ranks the renewable potential in
- 5 New Mexico as number two in the nation.
- 6 So we work very hard to facilitate
- 7 increasing the balance of distributed energy,
- 8 especially solar, in ways that don't impact
- 9 reliability and, very importantly, do not
- 10 overburden our less fortunate customers. In
- 11 particular, we're shutting down about 137
- 12 megawatts of coal. And in response to that and
- 13 growing demand for our customers, we anticipate
- 14 putting a lot more distributed generation on the
- 15 grid.
- 16 You know, our customer expectations and
- 17 all of our public policies are focused on
- 18 reliable, low-cost, and more environmentally-
- 19 sensitive generation. And that accelerates our
- 20 distribution system's transition. We ask a lot of
- 21 our grid and a lot of our customers, right? We
- 22 want swift, sweeping, complicated, and capital-

112 intensive, which can sometimes mean expensive 2 changes. 3 We're investing a lot in distribution system upgrades and enhancements. We're adopting advanced technologies, which I know Ron is going 5 to talk a lot about. And we're improving our 6 operational planning and coordination to better 7 meet the needs of our customers and our society. 9 So I'm going to comment on three specific areas today: the value of the grid, the 10 11 fact that the grid of the future is going to 12 require proper integration and investment, and what the future role of utilities should be. 13 You know, our distribution system is a 14 15 great enabler for emerging distribution level technologies. The system provides linkages to 16 reliably and cost effectively benefit customers. 17 18 Think about variable and dispatchable distributed 19 generation, such as rooftop solar and 20 microturbines, plug-in electric vehicles, distributed energy storage devices and energy 21 22 management systems.

113 And not only does the grid support the 1 value proposition of all these technologies by providing critical support systems, but it's also a system to sell power back to the grid, but it's crucial in providing power quality and reliability 5 at all times. And all of us up here can tell you, 6 7 that's job number one for our customers for us. 8 And at all times, that grid has to be 9 fairly valued and compensated, and everybody that benefits from using the grid should pay for the 10 11 We're concerned as an industry that that's 12 not happening. Many of you know about net metering 13 policies where we pay customers at retail for costs that they -- or for power they sell back to us, and they're still using the grid. They're 15 16 using all those fixed cross of transmission, 17 distribution, and generation. So we've created an 18 unsustainable subsidy that often times falls on 19 the least fortunate. 20 And proper integration to the grid, and 21 not just interconnection, is important, right? Our grid was originally designed to send power 22

- 1 from our power plants to our customers. It wasn't
- 2 designed to accommodate high penetration of
- 3 distributed generation or two-way power flows.
- 4 The Electric Power Research Institute is
- 5 investigating emergency technologies -- excuse me
- 6 -- emerging technologies and their integration in
- 7 an in-depth study. It's entitled "The Integrated
- 8 Grid." And EPRI's approach is not to favor any
- 9 particular technology, power system configuration
- 10 or market structure. They recognize that the best
- 11 solutions vary with local circumstances, goals,
- 12 and interconnections.
- 13 You know, the transition of this system
- 14 is going to drive investment needs. Our industry
- 15 is very willing and able to make the needed
- 16 investments. You hear how much we're spending.
- 17 But those investments need to be well planned and
- 18 the costs must be fairly shared. Our regulators
- 19 can help us by providing regulatory certainty and
- 20 fair and timely recovery.
- 21 As I said, reliability is mission number
- 22 one for our industry. And we must ensure that

115 these transformation efforts don't compromise reliability or the safety of our customers and the grid. Utilities possess unique knowledge and expertise in system operations, configurations, long-term planning, and local and regional 5 characteristics. And we have a proven track record of meeting those responsibilities. Therefore, utilities should continue to plan, build, and operate the distribution system. 10 Utilities are there in the trenches with our customers helping to meet their reliable needs 11 12 for today and in the future, and that's a great 13 place for us, and I think we'll continue to be 14 there. 15 So with that, I'll turn it over to Ron. 16 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thanks Pat. 17 Ron? 18 MR. LITZINGER: Well, thank you also for 19 inviting me to share our views on building the 20 distribution grid of the future. 21 By way of a little background, Southern 22 California Edison is one of the largest electric

116 utilities in the U.S. We serve nearly 14 million people through 5 million accounts and across a 50,000 square mile territory. We also have a proud record and 4 tradition as being an industry leader as 5 innovative technologies take hold, such as demand 6 response, electric transportation, and energy 7 8 efficiency. 9 But as responsible leaders, we have to look forward as well. Strategically over the last 10 several years, we've observed four trends. Demand 11 12 for utility power is flattening. That translates 13 to more self- generation and more energy efficiency. Policymakers are pushing for a 14 15 sustainable energy grid. And I think it's 16 important to reinforce what Carl said earlier, our 17 customers want a sustainable energy grid as well, 18 and it's up to us to figure out how to provide 19 that. Costs for the alternatives, although high, 20 are coming down and trending down. And, fourth, 21 our customers are looking for more choice. 22 Through all of these trends, though, we

117 still see the distribution grid not only as remaining vital, but as Pat said, the facilitator of these new customer trends. Since 2003, we've literally invested billions of dollars per year 5 through infrastructure replacement, upgrading our distribution grid, and adding new transmission 6 lines to access renewable power sources. 8 We will continue this, but as we do so, we must modernize the grid to ensure that it is ready for a distributed energy resource future, 10 11 which we think has a high potential to occur. 12 I'd like to take a step back for a 13 second and look at some California energy policies that promote that sustainable energy system. 14 15 California's climate change legislation and our renewable portfolio standards of 33 percent are 17 well known. But over the last several years, the 18 focus has gone a lot more towards distributed resources and storage and preferred resources such 19 20 as energy efficiency and demand response. 21 Given the challenges for siting and permitting large-scale renewable generation and

118 transmission lines, I personally don't find this that surprising. It's culminated in a requirement for utilities to file what is called a distribution resource plan by 2015. This requirement was included in rate reform 5 6 legislation which passed last year. We're developing that plan right now. We are identifying the policy and technology 9 challenges we see ahead and the incremental 10 investment that we see required to modernize the grid. Our engineers have also been studying this 11 12 for quite some time and determined that our urban 13 circuits are much better suited and positioned to accommodate larger levels of penetration of distributed resources at a lower price than our 15 rural circuits, so our plan will also include 17 optimal locations. 18 As Pat noted, modernizing the grid to

- 19 accommodate distributed energy resources is
- 20 fundamentally changing our radial system designed
- 21 for one-way power flow from central resources to
- 22 the customer to a more flexible system

119 accommodating two- way power flows with intermittent power and load resources. 3 I liken this into converting a system of one-way streets to a system of two-way streets with intersections and what do you'd need for 5 that? You need stoplights, preferably 6 synchronized stoplights to control the traffic flows. And therefore, really, this is all about 9 advanced system controls and situational 10 awareness. 11 The old days of the simple switch capacitor to control voltage that switched twice a 12 13 day, on-peak and off-peak, are over. We're going to need much more dynamic voltage control in 15 storage technology going forward for the system to 16 operate properly. 17 We also need much more advanced protection. It's going to look a lot more like the 19 transmission protection systems with directional 20 and distance relaying to properly isolate faults 21 on the distribution system rather than the simple 22 overcurrent systems we have in place now. Once we

120 get to that advanced control, we'll be able to start looping and networking the distribution system more to make it even more resilient and reliable. I'd like to close with a couple of 5 thoughts on the utility's role going forward. 6 Clearly, we have to plan this transition. We have to do it proactively rather than just merely reacting to increased penetrations. 10 vision is more of a plug-and- play grid. 11 to design the grid where we take on the excess 12 power and supply the backup power that our customers don't have to pay that much attention to 13 14 it. 15 There is a lot of discussions around a 16 transactional grid, a distribution system 17 operator, but some of the inherent scheduling and curtailments as we talk to customers, they're not 18 19 really that excited about that, and they want us 20 to design a grid where they can just plug and 21 play. 22 So with that, I will stop and close it

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1	out until we get into the discussion session.	
2	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Ron.	
3	Jorge?	
4	MR. CARRASCO: Good morning, my name's	
5	Jorge Carrasco, and I'm the General Manager for	
6	Seattle City Light.	
7	I think I'm the only public utility	
8	here, so I'd like to start by first thanking the	
9	Department of Energy for providing the opportunity	
10	to give you this input.	
11	And I'd like to start by telling you a	
12	little bit about our utility. We're a midsize	
13	utility, unlike some of the large brethren to my	
14	left. We have been in business for over 100 years.	
15	We are municipally owned, so our governing body is	
16	the mayor and city council. We serve about	
17	420,000 customers and a population of about	
18	between three-quarters of a million and a million	
19	people.	
20	Seattle, in 2013, was the largest, or	
21	fastest growing city in the country. It's very	
22	urbanized; we're very compact, a very densely	

- 1 populated area. We have a very diverse customer
- 2 base. And we are 90 percent hydro. And at this
- 3 point, I believe we're the only utility in the
- 4 country that is net carbon neutral and have been
- 5 since 2005.
- 6 So there are three main points that I'd
- 7 like to make this morning, and the first has to do
- 8 with climate. And I'd like to take the
- 9 opportunity to commend the President and the
- 10 Administration for using this process to begin to
- 11 advance action on climate.
- 12 Seattle is very involved and very
- 13 committed to dealing with climate. Beyond the
- 14 utility being climate neutral, the city has
- 15 adopted a plan dated back to 2006, updated in
- 16 2013, to achieve net zero greenhouse neutrality
- 17 for the city, not just for the utility, but for
- 18 the city, by 2050 and to begin to prepare the city
- 19 for the likely impacts of climate.
- Now, you might think why are we doing
- 21 this? We don't have coal plants. We don't have --
- 22 we don't even have -- we don't even generate gas,

- 1 so why are we doing this? Well, the reason is
- 2 Seattle is located right next to the Puget Sound.
- 3 We are 90 percent hydro and climate is having an
- 4 impact on our capacity to generate from hydro
- 5 sources. So climate impacts on our watersheds, on
- 6 our hydro facilities, and even on our energy
- 7 delivery infrastructure are things that are of
- 8 concern to us, and for that reason, we're very
- 9 interested in what's done with regard to climate.
- Just to give you an example, in the
- 11 Skagit River Basin alone, where we have several
- 12 hydro facilities located, the glacier area in the
- 13 Skagit has declined by about 19 percent since
- 14 1959. So we're seeing the real impacts of climate
- 15 in a very significant way. And we're also seeing
- 16 temperatures being warmer. We're seeing less snow
- 17 pack. We're seeing lesser flows in the spring and
- 18 the summer. And we're seeing a much greater
- 19 propensity for mudslides to take place. So that
- 20 is an issue that is of concern to us.
- 21 And in response to the question, how can
- 22 the Federal Government help, two suggestions. One

- 1 is, I know that FEMA has recently proposed funding
- 2 for planning and hardening utility infrastructure.
- 3 If there are funds available, I think that would
- 4 be a big help.
- 5 More importantly, I think, and perhaps
- 6 less expensively for the Federal Government, we do
- 7 think that there's an opportunity to share best
- 8 practices among utilities on how to deal with both
- 9 regional and national climate impacts and creating
- 10 a forum to advance this type of conversation would
- 11 be of great value.
- The second thing I'd like to address is
- 13 aging infrastructure. So one of the significant
- 14 issues we face in Seattle is the fact that we have
- 15 old infrastructure that needs to be fixed or
- 16 replaced. Over the next six years, we plan to
- 17 spend close to \$2 billion on infrastructure, and
- 18 two-thirds of that is committed or dedicated to
- 19 distribution-related infrastructure.
- 20 And there's a great opportunity as we
- 21 spend this money to do it right, and that means to
- 22 make sure that where there are opportunities to

- 1 make this infrastructure smarter, that we take
- 2 advantage of that opportunity. And I think,
- 3 therein lays another opportunity for the Federal
- 4 Government to help with basic and applied
- 5 research.
- 6 And then the final item that I'd like to
- 7 cover because I'm running short on time here, is
- 8 the issue of energy independence by our customers
- 9 and greater customer choice. An, I think this is
- 10 a topic that others have alluded to. But the
- 11 reality is, in Seattle, customers want more
- 12 control over their energy use. And, in fact, they
- 13 want more control over who provides them with
- 14 energy.
- Solar, despite the cloudy weather in
- 16 Seattle, is very popular. In fact, the payback in
- 17 Seattle for a typical installation is now 4.9
- 18 years. And that is largely the result of federal
- 19 and state incentives and net metering that are
- 20 making that possible. And I might add that in
- 21 Washington State, 25 percent of all the installed
- 22 solar capacity in the state is in Seattle itself.

126 The second thing I would say is that 1 energy efficiency is very popular in the city, and we have very extensive, aggressive energy efficiency programs. In Seattle, on average, we save about 1.4 percent of our load every year. 5 6 What's happened, however, is that our load is very flat even though we're the -- in 7 8 2013, the fastest, largest city in the country, and like my colleagues, we're faced with problems 10 in terms of revenue recovery because our rates are 11 not designed to recover our fixed costs. So many 12 of the investments that we're making, we're having 13 a difficult time recovering through our rate design structure, and that's one of the 15 significant issues that we face. 16 I'd like to close with one observation, 17 and that is, that if there is an opportunity for 18 the federal government to help, I think that opportunity is the electrification of the 19 20 transportation sector. That is an area that we 21 believe offers an opportunity for more load 22 growth, more revenue to deal with the issues that

127 I alluded to before and an opportunity where I think the Federal Government is well suited to helping us figure out how to develop, finance, and deploy a charging infrastructure to ensure that this electrification of the transportation sector 6 can be successfully accomplished. 7 And with that, I'll stop. 8 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Jorge. 9 Dave? 10 MR. MARKHAM: All right. Well, good morning, everyone. I'm Dave 11 Markham. I'm the President and CEO of Central 12 Electric Cooperative. And we're the distribution 13 utility that delivers electricity to rural 15 consumers, and that's over a 5,300-square-mile service territory in Central Oregon. And if 17 you're not aware, co-ops, we're democratic. We're 18 local controlled organizations, and they're --19 we're owned by our consumers. And they 20 participate in setting policies and making 21 decisions for the co-op. 22 And so today, what I really -- my focus

- 1 is on is that importance of that local decision
- 2 making and the local control. And since you're in
- 3 the West, I'm going to try and talk to you a
- 4 little bit about some of the unique challenges
- 5 that we face here.
- And, first of all, it's not easy to
- 7 delivery electricity to rural America. And the
- 8 density issues that we face, they're pretty
- 9 significant. Investor-owned utilities, they
- 10 serve an average of 34 consumers per mile of
- 11 distribution line, where electric co-ops, we serve
- 12 an average of 7.4 consumers per mile of
- 13 distribution line.
- 14 And give you a little bit of a flavor
- 15 for that, the vastness of our service territory, a
- 16 neighboring co-op to mine, they serve 3,900
- 17 consumers, and that's over a 20,000 square mile
- 18 service territory. Now, that's a service
- 19 territory that's roughly the size of the State of
- 20 West Virginia. And so you can see the challenges
- 21 there.
- 22 And another significant challenge that

- 1 we face in the West, and I believe is this a
- 2 challenge this is also encountered by the IOU's,
- 3 it's maintaining our electric infrastructure on
- 4 federally managed lands. And for CEC, 56 percent
- 5 of our service territory falls on BLM and Forest
- 6 Service lands.
- 7 And just a couple months ago in May, I
- 8 testified at a hearing at the House Committee on
- 9 Natural Resources in Washington D.C. And I
- 10 reported on the unacceptable periods of time that
- 11 it takes to receive approval from our federal land
- 12 agencies to perform just routine maintenance and
- 13 then other things like upgrading our system or
- 14 replacing our power poles and lines.
- And so we are also dealing with some
- 16 issues that are related to the Endangered Species
- 17 Act. In Oregon, the BLM, they're considering a
- 18 proposal for protecting the sage grass. And that
- 19 proposal calls for burying all the overhead power
- 20 lines that are in sage grass habitat. And these
- 21 are overhead power lines that have existed for 60
- 22 or more years. And for one co-operative, to bury

130 all of their power lines, it would end up resulting in \$400,000 per consumer cost. So we need to ensure that we have common sense when we look at implementing our federal policies. 5 6 And at CEC, our consumers, they've told us that they want additional options for 7 purchasing renewable energy. And my co-op, we're in the design phase of a community solar project, 10 and this is going to allow our consumers that maybe couldn't participate in a traditional method 11 12 of solar that they can easily be involved in this. 13 And we really want to continue to grow the industry in Oregon. But unfortunately, the cost 15 of developing renewable energy, it's much higher than other forms of traditional, conventional 17 generation. 18 And so I really urge the Administration and the Department of Energy to continue to seek 19 20 out incentives that support Electric Co-op in our 21 efforts to deploy renewable energy. 22 But in the Pacific Northwest, our main

- 1 energy supplier, I think you all know, is the
- 2 Bonneville Power Administration. And their power
- 3 supply resources are 95 percent carbon emission-
- 4 free. And I cannot overstate the importance of the
- 5 role that the Bonneville Power Administration
- 6 plays in the economic vitality of the Pacific
- 7 Northwest.
- 8 And we know that there was some recent
- 9 hiring problems at BPA that led to some -- DOE to
- 10 suspend some delegated authorities and implement
- 11 some -- several top-down directives, but -- and
- 12 this created a lot of concern that the
- 13 independence of BPA was going to erode and that
- 14 the regional decision making process was going to
- 15 suffer. But we're very encouraged by -- due to
- 16 the fact our Northwest delegation and our regional
- 17 stakeholders, after communication, that the DOE
- 18 has assured us that BPA's independence would be
- 19 respected.
- Now, co-ops, we have a long history of
- 21 promoting energy efficiency and conservation. And
- 22 we've been doing this for years and long before it

- 1 became mainstream. You know, our consumers have
- 2 told us that they want energy efficiency. And
- 3 they also want more knowledge so that they can
- 4 better control and manage their energy use and
- 5 costs at home.
- In co-ops, we've delivered on that
- 7 request. Co-ops, we have the largest penetration
- 8 of advanced metering infrastructure with 31
- 9 percent. That's compared to 23 percent through
- 10 the country as a whole.
- 11 My co-op, in conjunction with AMI, we
- 12 offer a prepaid electric service, and it allows
- 13 our consumers to pay in advance for their
- 14 electricity. And then they can use it on their own
- 15 schedule and on their own budget.
- 16 And I also -- I don't want to neglect
- 17 thanking the Department of Energy for their role
- 18 in my utility's deployment of AMI through the
- 19 Smart Grid Investment Grant Award, and that was
- 20 made available through the American Reinvestment
- 21 Recovery Act. And so, you know, these
- 22 partnerships, they're what are really important

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1	for success for all of us.	
2	And so just in conclusion, electric	
3	cooperatives, we're going to continue to be	
4	leaders and innovators as long as we're not	
5	burdened by regulations. Now, last year,	
6	government regulations, they impacted my utility	
7	in the amount of \$20 million. And these costs,	
8	they're ultimately they're passed on and paid	
9	for by our consumers through higher electric	
10	rates. And that \$20 million, that's equivalent to	
11	\$632 per meter that we serve.	
12	So my main message today is that I urge	
13	the DOE to work closely with the American	
14	cooperatives so that you can gain a better	
15	understanding of how your policies, no matter how	
16	well intentioned, they can come back and have an	
17	impact on the electric rates to our consumers.	
18	And so thank you for the opportunity to	
19	participate on this panel. I look forward to	
20	answering any questions.	
21	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Dave.	
22	MR. SAVAGE: Okay. So when I started	

- 1 out as a commissioner in 2003, we did not focus a
- 2 lot of regulatory attention on the distribution
- 3 system. We did our job. We wanted to make sure
- 4 there was high quality service, but I can't say
- 5 that we had docket after docket dealing with the
- 6 distribution system.
- 7 That's been changing. Just some
- 8 examples. We now require our utilities to submit
- 9 their modernization plans for distribution system
- 10 and hold regular briefings with them on their
- 11 investments. We conducted investigation and
- 12 adopted policies related to smart grid and
- 13 electric vehicles. We just completed an
- 14 assessment of the impacts of Oregon Solar PV
- 15 programs on customers and on the system. And
- 16 we're about to open a rulemaking into the use of
- 17 smart invertors, which was actually something that
- 18 came out of a Western Energy Industry Leader
- 19 group.
- 20 What's triggered the two, I think, the
- 21 change, is two things. One, we're beginning to
- 22 see in Oregon the same policy cost and technology-

135 driven shifts that are occurring in California, although on a much, much smaller scale in a much smaller timeframe. For example, the amount of home rooftop solar in Oregon has increased eightfold over the last few years. 5 6 Our big box and high tech companies --Walmart, Staples, Facebook, Apple, Intels -- all 7 8 want to go renewable either on site or by -- from nearby plants. Two, we also saw the possibilities 10 from the new distribution automation technologies and enhanced demand response to lower cost to 11 customers and improve system operation. 12 Now, I can't say -- we have --13 California's leading the way. It's the microcosm 15 of everything in this. I can't say how far and fast we'll move towards a more decentralized, more 17 digital, or more customer- oriented system in 18 Oregon and elsewhere in the West, but it's 19 occurring and we should plan for it. 20 So, I'm going to quote from a 2012 DOE 21 publication called "Addressing the Electric 22 Distribution System":

136 "Integration of rooftop PV, electric 1 2 vehicles, microgrids, transactive building loads, and other technologies in large amounts will fundamentally change how the distribution system must be planned and operated. Increased 5 variability from PV generation, the movement and 6 charging of electric vehicles and the rise of 7 prosumers, producers, and consumers of electricity will require increased system flexibility and 10 control of building. There are also opportunities 11 for these technologies and assets to provide 12 system flexibility to the bulk transmission 13 system, concurrently it is vital with the right sensor software and communication technologies are 14 15 available and in place." 16 This is a draft plan, so I just want to 17 be very specific -- this was a draft plan I quoted 18 from. I think it did a good and wonky job of 19 summarizing the challenges and opportunities that 20 are facing the distribution system over the next 21 couple of decades. 22 I think these include: accommodating

- 1 potentially large amounts of distributed
- 2 generation in many areas; making the best use of
- 3 technology, such as advanced meters to increase
- 4 the quality, reliability, and efficiency of
- 5 service; expanding the cost-effective
- 6 opportunities for consumers to reduce peak store
- 7 or store energy and provide good services;
- 8 handling the charging of electric vehicles in a
- 9 way that benefits vehicle owners and the power
- 10 system; increasing operator visibility and control
- 11 over the distribution system; and seeking
- 12 technological breakthroughs in distributed gen,
- 13 electric end-use and storage.
- So I'm going to end with one suggestion
- 15 for DOE action. DOE should take the long view, as
- 16 you're doing, and should help guide the evolution
- 17 of the grid. I think one of our needs is a
- 18 roadmap for modernizing the distribution system
- 19 over the long run.
- 20 And you have appeared to have a good
- 21 start on one in the draft distribution system plan
- 22 I quoted from, so my suggestion is: finish it.

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1	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
2	Okay. So now we are going to turn to	
3	our discussion. We'll start off with, again, a	
4	common theme that I heard and probably	
5	encapsulated in Jorge's comments best was is	
6	that the customers want a sustainable grid, a	
7	reliable grid. But we're you're also faced	
8	with increased renewables and the economic and the	
9	operational impact associated with that. So what	
10	is the role of DOE here in helping you to address	
11	that issue in particular?	
12	And I'll start with you, Jim.	
13	MR. PIRO: Good question.	
14	Well, you know, this whole idea of	
15	integration of renewables is becoming a real issue	
16	for the utility industry, whether it's solar,	
17	whether it's wind resources. We've got a lot of	
18	variability on the system. And so, more as we	
19	talked about earlier, the need for storage is	
20	really critical. But really, what we need is to	
21	have more demonstration projects where we see	
22	where there might be optimum technologies that can	

139 help and enhance the operation of the system and have them work on those demonstration projects. I mentioned water heater load control. The electric utility industry has a tremendous amount of load in the water heater space that 5 could be used for thermal storage, but we're going to have to convert that technology and get it so that it's connectable to the grid and get the manufacturers to put the smart chips in those, or at least the smart socket in those water heaters, 10 as part of the standards so we can convert that 11 12 fleet. 13 But my sense is that there are a number of tools and capabilities out there to address 15 this. I think it's a matter of putting those together and then demonstrating them. Our Smart 17 Power Project is another example of that where 18 we've got DOE funding. We're learning how storage 19 But ultimately, we're going to have to 20 drive the cost down to make those cost-effective. 21 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 22 Pat?

140 MS. VINCENT-COLLAWN: And, I want to 1 echo what Jim said and then add another thing. You know, storage is the holy grail to all of us. We were fortunate at PNM to have a demonstration project with DOE where we had 5 battery storage directly integrated with the 6 utility scale solar to help reduce the variability of that, and that has been a very groundbreaking 9 project. 10 But the other thing I would say is, you know, recognizing the role that utilities play in 11 distribution system operations, you know, we have 12 13 that obligation. We know how to do it. We're already working on a lot of technologies, 14 15 invertors, things like that, that are commercially 16 available. The storage one is not yet 17 commercially available and cost-effective, but --18 so it's helping on storage, where it just -- it 19 doesn't probably make sense for private enterprise 20 to put that money in and then recognizing the 21 utility's role and expertise in managing that 22 distribution system.

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1	MODERATOR KELLEY: Ron?	± 1 ±
2	MR. LITZINGER: I would agree that	
3	storage is a key thing, but I'm going to digress	
4	and pick up on a point that Jorge made on	
5	electrification of transportation in two reasons.	
6	One is around, it provides you a lot	
7	more flexibility around managing load on the grid.	
8	As we evolve towards a smart grid, which I think	
9	will be cheaper in the long run than storage, not	
10	only do we need a smarter grid, but	
11	electrification of transportation not only	
12	provides you a storage resource but another way to	
13	manage load going forward.	
14	And then, the second benefit of on	
15	electrification of transportation, having been	
16	around the industry for 30 years, if you had asked	
17	me 10 years ago whether I thought battery	
18	technology was going to play a significant role, I	
19	was in sort of a cost-prohibitive category. But I	
20	think with electrification of transportation, that	
21	just in and of itself, has advanced this strong,	
22	declining price trend that we see in storage	

142 technology, s, we have to stay continued focus on that as well. 3 MODERATOR KELLEY: Jorge? MR. CARRASCO: So, I mentioned earlier the notion that electrification of transportation sector has multiple benefits, not only for 6 utilities, but for our customers. And I think that that is a big opportunity that the Federal Government is well suited to engage in and help us 10 with how best to accomplish that. 11 There's a lot of infrastructure 12 investments that utilities don't commonly make. And I'm not talking about charging stations in a 13 customer's home. I'm talking about charging 15 stations that are going to be needed in locations where normally utilities wouldn't be placing 17 charging stations for customers. So I would say that is one area. 19 And the other area that I would call 20 attention to is the EPRI study that Pat made 21 reference to. This whole idea of an integrated grid is really a concept that I think could have

143 very positive impacts, again, for utilities and customers. 3 There's been a tension, at least recently, between utilities, certainly in our 5 area, and customers over the issue of them wanting more independence and us feeling like they're not 6 paying all the cost of serving them, and there's a tension there that we keep running into. But if you stand back, those two things: the issues that the utility has to undertake in 10 terms of reliability, investments and 11 12 distribution, et cetera, and the things that the customer is doing to exert more independence and 13 to, kind of, use energy in the way they want to, I think there is a tie between the two that could 15 actually result in a win-win if the technologies 17 can be developed and figured out. 18 And I think EPRI has done a great job of 19 essentially identifying the opportunity and 20 inviting a conversation about how best to have 21 these technologies interact so that it's a win-win for both the utilities and the customers, and

144 they're paying their fair share of the cost as 2 well. 3 So I would say those two things would be important ways in which the Federal Government can make a big difference. 5 6 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Jorge. Dave? MR. MARKHAM: Yeah, my answer is along -- same along the lines, but from a co-op perspective of, you know, I believe the DOE should 10 be involved in and investing in cutting-edge 11 12 technology, but it's a lot more difficult to 13 implement locally without assistance. And so, I mentioned during my opening 14 15 remarks, that the DOE has partnered with co-ops on 16 smart grid. Mine was one of them and also cyber 17 security. We wouldn't have been able to push down 18 the road to where we are without DOE's assistance. 19 And what it's done with our system as far as 20 reliability, improvements, and giving our members 21 more control, more knowledge, which is exactly what they want, has been very important. 22

145 Everybody's talked about storage 1 technology. I believe that it has to be a high priority. And until we get there, we can't take renewables and these other issues to the next 5 level. 6 MODERATOR KELLEY: John? MR. SAVAGE: Yeah, the -- actually, I like a phrase that Jim Piro said to me before this panel started about utilities, he wanted to be a 10 "fast follower," which I think is a great phrase for utility. That's exactly where utility should 11 12 I mean -- so, the question is who's going to 13 -- so, who's going to lead them? And I think that this -- you know, listening to this panel, there's 14 some great ideas, is that DOE should work together 15 16 with the industry and create a shared agenda on 17 demonstrations and investments, you know, new technologies that should be -- applications that 18 19 should be worked on. I mean, I like -- smart 20 appliances, that has got a lot of potential. 21 data analytics, the EV's, the storage, this is all 22 good stuff, but I think it'd be sitting down with

146 the industry and creating that shared agenda, to me would be really important. 3 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. So with that, let me turn to another 5 topic and that of security. So, probably, you've all touched on this a bit in terms of reliability, 7 tangentially maybe. 8 But specifically, Dave, you mentioned 9 cyber security. And I'm curious to know your thoughts on the Federal Government's role in terms 10 of cyber security. Is it -- you know, is it a 11 12 funding role? Is it an education role? Communications role? All of the above? 13 So, anyone. I'll open this up to 14 15 whoever would like to comment first. 16 MR. LITZINGER: I'll go ahead and lead 17 off on that. 18 There's been a lot of discussions over 19 the last several years. Cyber security is a 20 significant issue. And probably the biggest thing 21 that we keep coming back to as the industry is the Federal Government has the expertise and the

147 resources for intelligence. And we've got to come up with ways of sharing information. I think progress is being made on sharing information back and forth around threats, but that's probably the larger role. 5 6 When it comes to resilience of the grid, I believe the industry, you know, has a long, you 7 8 know, for us 128-year, track record of that. can always get better and improve. But I think information sharing is the key on cyber security. 10 11 And I think all of these are solvable. We have 12 certainly spent a lot of resources and time and 13 effort on shoring up cyber security on our system. But as we go to a more distributed and a 14 15 more smarter grid, we can't lose sight of the fact 16 that we are exponentially increasing the number of 17 portals into the system for cyber issues. And I'm 18 not saying that is a reason not to go there. 19 We're fully prepared to go there. We just have to 20 recognize it and deal with it along the way. 21 MODERATOR KELLEY: Yeah, Pat? 22 MS. VINCENT-COLLAWN: I'll echo a little

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- 1 bit of what Ron said. I'd like to remind people
- 2 that we are the only industry that is under
- 3 mandatory, enforceable, with very significant
- 4 penalty, standards around cyber security. And so
- 5 I always tell my commissioners they can rest
- 6 assured because when it comes out of the
- 7 pocketbook and it doesn't -- fines do not come out
- 8 of rate payer's pocketbooks, they come out of
- 9 shareholder pocketbooks that we work very hard on
- 10 this.
- 11 Part of it -- a lot of it is that
- 12 information sharing and not just the Government's
- 13 ability to share information with us, but the
- 14 Government sharing information within its many
- 15 agencies. We have a lot of, kind of, cyber folks
- 16 out there in the Government. And if they can
- 17 share with each other and then share with us, that
- 18 is very helpful.
- 19 I also think helping to set standards
- 20 for all of these folks that are interconnected
- 21 with us, because, you're right, the number of
- 22 points for cyber threat is just going up

149 exponentially when they connect on the grid. think -- and I think helping put that discipline and possibly standards for those industries that are making and connecting with us would be very helpful. 5 6 MODERATOR KELLEY: Dave? MR. MARKHAM: Yeah, for me, I believe guidance and information is a top priority for DOE. And internally, it's one of our higher priorities at my co-op. Everybody has said it 10 here, but the ability to be in a position to share 11 12 information, BPA has been extremely helpful for 13 the co-ops. We have work groups, user groups, whether it be in the state or nationally. But the 14 15 more information we can share the better, that we can help somebody else so they can help us. 17 really with cyber security, things are moving so 18 fast that you better have those work groups set up 19 and new information all the time. 20 MODERATOR KELLEY: Jim? 21 MR. PIRO: There's been a lot in the press around physical security of the grid. And,

150 you know, the industry has gotten very close in working together on spare transformers, which is the big issue. What would be helpful from the Department of Energy as well as their other 5 agencies is, what is the credible threat that we need to defend against? Because, you hear so much about, you know, what are we going to defend 7 8 against? 9 NERC and FERC have started that proceeding. I think we're starting to work through 10 11 that, but better clarity on what it is we need to 12 defend against. I think we need, as the utility 13 industry, continue need to work on resilience and using our spare transformer program is a good way to address that. And I think that's moving in 15 16 good step. I think we're adding more spares to 17 the system as we, kind of, see what the credible 18 risks are that we're trying to defend against. 19 MODERATOR KELLEY: Any other comments? 20 Jorge? MR. CARRASCO: So I would agree that 21 22 information sharing is key and the more of that,

151 the better. 2 The only other thing I would add is that there's been an extensive amount of work done by NERC and FERC putting in place protocols relating to cyber security and physical security for that 5 matter. And I would urge DOE and the Federal Government to build on that and not to start anew additional requirements that are going to, I think, ultimately stand in the way of progress. And I think NERC, by and large, has done a pretty 10 extensive job that we should build on rather than 11 12 begin anew. 13 MODERATOR KELLEY: Anyone else want to comment? 14 15 John, did we hear from you? 16 MR. SAVAGE: Right now, in terms of us, it's whatever our utilities need and want because 18 I look to our utilities to make sure that we're 19 resilient. So that's pretty much all I would say. 20 MODERATOR KELLEY: So let's turn to a 21 regulatory perspective here. So we did hear a bit about the challenges associated with the impact of 22

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- 1 regulation. But, maybe if we can look from a
- 2 different lens, do you see challenges associated
- 3 with any conflicts between federal, state, or
- 4 local regulation? And is there an impact there to
- 5 you? And if so, again, what is -- what should the
- 6 Federal Government be doing here? What is this
- 7 QER task force listening. So what should they be
- 8 doing differently, maybe, that they aren't doing
- 9 already?
- 10 Anyone care to take that one?
- 11 MR. SAVAGE: I could see -- I guess I'd
- 12 use the phrase that I was -- in the previous
- 13 panel, I was talking about the blurring of
- 14 transmission and distribution, which is going to
- 15 me, end up with some conflicts, and I think we're
- 16 already beginning to see the conflicts between
- 17 FERC and the state regulatory agencies. I don't
- 18 know if that leads to joint board -- more joint
- 19 boards out there to deal with some of these
- 20 issues. I think the immediate one of demand
- 21 response in the East in the markets and what that
- 22 pace meant.

153 We don't -- you know, we only -- we have 1 regulated markets in California. So -- but I can see more and more that if there's quite a bit of generation that's at the distribution level, that all of sudden you're going to get into some 5 stickier issues down the road. 7 MR. LITZINGER: One thing I'd add is --I mean, largely, you know, this panel's focused on distribution, and that's largely fallen to the 10 state regulation and transmission to federal regulation, the previous panel. But I agree with 11 12 Commissioner Savage that that line is going to be 13 blurred. 14 You do have to get to fairly high 15 levels, at least based on our studies, where 16 distributed resource penetration on the 17 distribution grid starts to be sufficient enough to impact flows on the bulk power system. I'm not 18 19 -- I point that out only to say that I think we 20 have time to work out that cooperation between the 21 federal and state agencies because it likely will 22 happen, but we do have some time. And I would

154 encourage all regulators to anticipate it rather than react at the time when it occurs. 3 MODERATOR KELLEY: Yes, Pat? MS. VINCENT-COLLAWN: Yeah, I would 5 encourage the Federal Government as they go forward to respect local circumstances and local 6 regulators. You know, different states have different renewable potential, even different kinds of renewables. 10 For example, we're in Texas where 11 there's a great wind potential. New Mexico, there's solar potential. There's different income 12 levels of our customers. There's different needs. 13 There's rural locations. There's urban locations. 15 So I think it's understanding that naturally we want to get somewhere, but the local -- the states 17 and the local municipalities are going to get 18 there very, very differently, so make sure there's 19 that kind of flexibility. 20 MODERATOR KELLEY: Jim? 21 MR. PIRO: Prices are set at the local 22 level, at the state level. So I still continue to

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- 1 urge the, kind of, collaborative approach at the
- 2 state level, working closely with your regulators.
- 3 Federal Government can set some policy and ideas,
- 4 but I think as Pat mentioned, every jurisdiction
- 5 is different in how it's going to work.
- 6 And I really think it's the best way to
- 7 get these things implemented is to bring people to
- 8 the table and have that collaborative discussion.
- 9 Think about both costs and benefits because there
- 10 are those two sides of it and really make sure
- 11 that we balance that as we set our customers'
- 12 prices and make decisions on technologies that are
- 13 sometimes 10- or 20- year kinds of investments.
- 14 MODERATOR KELLEY: Dave?
- MR. MARKHAM: I'm going to back first on
- 16 the local control and local decision making for
- 17 cooperatives, and that's what's helped us operate
- 18 so efficiently for over 75 years. I'm going to
- 19 jump back in real briefly on something during my
- 20 presentation, what I testified at in Washington
- 21 D.C. John understands that we have requirements
- 22 for maintenance of our facilities. That may be

156 replacement of poles, upgrades, that sort of thing, inspection. 3 When we have to wait for years to get approval for permits from our federal land agencies for us to be able to do maintenance on 5 our systems, that creates some real issues for us, 6 and we've got to get by that, and we've got to be able to get some streamline measures in place so that we can meet not only the best business practices that we have, the mandates by our state 10 11 and not be held up by our federal land agencies. 12 MODERATOR KELLEY: Any other comments? 13 Okay. So in the last panel we talked a bit about technology and, in the case of 15 transmission, the deployment of PMU's on the 16 system, perhaps the analog here in the 17 distribution world is advanced metering infrastructure or distribution automation. So I'd 18 19 like to talk a little bit about just the 20 technology you see in the future and, again, back 21 to that federal role in helping in terms of investment, education. 22

157 We heard, I think from Dave, about your 1 smart grid project that was funded through federal dollars. Is there -- are there other technologies that should be explored? And just to -- before I wrap up my question here just -- the initial 5 comment I heard on the PMU's was that it wasn't 6 necessarily a response to the technology, or not 7 8 necessarily an investment in technology, but it's, how do you take the technology to the next level? 10 So I just ask, is that where you see the next 11 steps? 12 So who would like to take that? 13 MR. MARKHAM: I'll jump in because, you know, I'll take off here from where I left off. 15 We had a partnership with DOE on smart grid, very 16 successful, very good. As I mentioned, we're 17 rolling out our community solar program. I would 18 really like to be able to implement storage 19 technology in with that at some point because we 20 want -- I want to be able to pilot load shifting, 21 see the benefits of that and that's a role that I 22 think the DOE can really help with co-ops like

158 mine is in storage. I'm going to go back to that and implementing these renewable energy projects. 3 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thanks. Jorge? MR. CARRASCO: So I alluded earlier to 5 the fact that we are spending a great deal of 6 money trying to address aging issues, 7 infrastructure issues in the distribution system. And as we're doing that, it's a great opportunity 10 to make sure that we take advantage of any new 11 technologies that make the grid smarter. And while 12 there's been a lot of talk and fluff about smart 13 grid, I'm not sure anyone has actually operationalized that in any comprehensive way. And I think this is an area where the 15 16 Government, through perhaps investments and basic 17 and applied research, demonstration projects 18 perhaps, could help utilities take full advantage 19 of whatever opportunities exist as they're 20 updating or addressing the aging issue with new 21 technologies that can be made a part of that 22 investment.

159 I think we're all going to be better off 1 long-term if that happens, and I think that would be an appropriate role for the Federal Government to play. MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 5 6 MR. LITZINGER: Yes. As we are preparing our distribution resource plan that I 7 alluded to in my formal remarks, we are focused on a lot of policy issues, but we are focused on 10 technology issues. And it's really a repeat, a 11 lot of the technology issues that we've looked at 12 since smart meter installations began and the 13 focus on a smart grid began to take off. It really comes down to inner 14 operability standards for sensors and devices. 15 And the key for that is that we can communicate 17 with the customers' devices and that the 18 communications technology is fast enough to move 19 large amounts of information. I think the 20 computing technology is there to deal with the 21 large amounts of information. 22 We have to move it quickly, use it, and

160 communicate it back to end-use devices very quickly and that's going to continue to require advancement. So the communications technology itself. We're fortunate to have a lot of fiber on 5 our system. But the inner operability and communication protocols with the devices of 6 customers will also be critical for this to succeed in the end. 9 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thanks, Ron. 10 Pat? 11 MS. VINCENT-COLLAWN: I'm probably one of the few investor-owned utilities that don't 12 have smart meters. And in our New Mexico 13 territory, our average -- customers' average monthly bill is \$75. I can't make a business case 15 for smart meters. When I go over to Texas, the 17 average customer bill is about twice that. 18 can make a business case for them and the 19 regulators encouraged it. So those technologies 20 are there and they'll get deployed when you can 21 make a business case for it. 22 As I mentioned earlier, for example, New

161 Mexico is unfortunately a very poor state, so having the latest and greatest technology is not necessarily a great thing. We actually say in our strategic guidance that we're a "technology follower" because of that. But I think it's those places where the DOE can help doing demonstration projects so that things can ultimately make -become commercially available. And then individual utilities can make business cases for them because customers want stuff, but we have to 10 be careful about how much they're willing to pay. 11 12 Thanks. 13 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. MR. PIRO: Yeah, just a comment about 14 15 electric vehicles and electrification of the 16 transportation system. That second-life use of 17 batteries is really critical for the auto makers 18 because they need to find a secondary use to drive 19 down the cost of batteries, so that research is 20 pretty important. 21 And then, vehicle to grid, even though 22 it sounds really great, I will tell you in talking

162 with the vehicle manufacturers, they haven't done the work on that. And if that's going to make sense, there's going to have to be some significant R&D dollars. And that's based -- it has a whole lot of implications to their 5 operations in terms of the car, in terms of how 6 much can you cycle that battery? So battery cycling is a big deal, and some research in that area would be helpful. And I think the auto 10 manufacturers would welcome that because they just 11 don't have all the resources to throw at that 12 technology. 13 MODERATOR KELLEY: Any other comments? Okay. So with the time that we have 14 15 left, again, I will ask you to think about your one comment or one suggestion that you have here. And I know we've heard a lot of your comments 18 already to the DOE for the role of this QER task 19 force and the role of the Federal Government here. 20 So I will go ahead and start at this end 21 here with Jim. MR. PIRO: Well, I sure like John's 22

163 before me because my -- he's our regulator, but --I would add to what John said in terms of driving innovation. Really need to focus on economic value and market transformation. I think we can't lose sight that these things have to be economic for our consumers can really drive market transformation through codes and standards where it makes sense rather than trying to do it one size, you know, individually. Let's do it broadly 10 across the industry. 11 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 12 Pat? MS. VINCENT-COLLAWN: I would think that 13 I would say is whether, you know, we're an 15 investor- owned utility, whether we're a municipality, a cooperative, or a power market 17 agency, you know, we're all in the business of 18 delivering a public good and that safe, reliable,

affordable, environmentally sensitive power. And

we have to deliver it to everybody, not just the

a unique obligation and role that we've all

affluent, not just the urban. And that's, I think,

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164 happily taken on. And as, I think as we go through this process of looking at our electric grid, we need to keep that obligation in the forefront of our minds. MODERATOR KELLEY: Ron? 5 6 MR. LITZINGER: As we look at a distribution grid of the future, we're really focused on two things: A) you know, the distribution grid remains vital. And it is going 10 to take technology development going forward. 11 And, secondly, rate design is critical. But since 12 this is focused at the federal level, I would 13 emphasize the technology aspect because the rate design issues to ensure that the costs are 14 15 allocated fairly across all customers is more of a local issue. 17 MODERATOR KELLEY: Jorge? 18 MR. CARRASCO: So I quess I'd come back 19 to this notion of the integrated grid and -- which 20 I think encompasses all the technologies that 21 we're all trying to contend with. And I think there is a great opportunity to work in tandem, 22

165 perhaps with EPRI and other organizations that are trying to figure out the answers to how you can get utilities and customers to work side-by-side on solutions to this new energy future that we're all faced with. 5 6 So that would be the one thing I would say. And, of course, I mentioned earlier the 7 electrification of the transportation sector I think is an area that -- it's kind of subset of 10 this integrated grid concept, but a critical one 11 for both environmental reasons and energy reasons 12 as well. 13 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Jorge. Dave? 14 15 MR. MARKHAM: Yeah, go back to our 16 communication co-ops. We have a very unique 17 relationship with our consumer owners. We're 18 constantly finding out what they want and the 19 local co-ops, we're responsive. We set policies 20 responsive to their needs. We're walking the walk 21 as far as renewable energy. 22 And, as you know, in the Northwest, just

166 about all the new resources coming on are noncarbon emitting. And so, again, I believe the DOE can help us streamline regulations as we try and push forward with implementing technology and giving our consumers what they really want. 5 MODERATOR KELLEY: John? 6 MR. SAVAGE: Finish your grid tech team plan that I mentioned before. Second of all, work with the industry to create a shared technology, RD&D&D agenda that would be aiming, you know, that 10 you'd be really zeroing in on stuff for the 11 12 utilities. I think it would make a lot of sense. It would drive down costs, make it operational, 13 and also bring comfort for the use of the 15 technology. 16 MODERATOR KELLEY: Great, thank you. 17 MR. CARRASCO: Just had a thought that I've been contending with of late back home, but 19 our industry is one of the least understood and 20 underappreciated industries in my opinion. 21 There's a lot that goes in to keeping the lights 22 on that many of our customers don't understand

167 and, in some cases, don't care so long as the lights are on. And creative, different, innovative ways of educating people on what's behind keeping the lights on oftentimes become controversial and misunderstood. 5 And I think to the extent the Federal 6 Government has opportunities to broadly educate 8 the public on the vitality of the electric service they get and the critical nature of it and the 10 challenges that our industry faces, I think it 11 would be money and time well spent. 12 MODERATOR KELLEY: Great closing 13 comment. So, once again, thank you to this panel 14 15 for joining us here today. I learned a lot. 16 Thank you. 17 (Applause.) 18 MODERATOR KELLEY: Okay. So, at this 19 point, we're actually going to be taking a lunch 20 break. And before you head out the door and leave 21 for good, I just want to encourage you to return 22 because as you heard from our panelists here, a

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168
    lot of interest in energy storage on their part,
    and that's exactly what our next panel is all
 3
    about.
              So, we will be taking a break until 1:00
         The lunch location, there is a cafeteria
 5
   down the hall, but I'm told that that -- you may
   have better options if you go down the stairs.
   And there's some students to guide you to get to
    the downstairs option, which is supposed to be
10
   better.
11
              So we are going to start sharply at
    1:00. For those of you who are joining us via the
12
13
    live stream, please bear with us for the next hour
    and a bit. We'll get started at 1:00. So thanks,
14
15
    everybody.
16
                    (Whereupon, the lunch break was
17
                    taken at 11:53 a.m.)
18
                    (Meeting resumes at 1:04 p.m.)
19
              MODERATOR KELLEY: Okay. Well welcome
20
   back, everybody. I hope everyone enjoyed their
21
           It seems like we lost a few, but not too
22
   many folks.
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169 So we are going to get into our third 1 panel here in a moment. Third panel is focused on storage. They're finally coming. I'm joined up here again by a distinguished set of folks who will be providing 5 us with their comments. Of course, we have Haresh 6 Kamath, Program Manager, Energy Storage, Electric 7 Power Research Institute; Carla Peterman, Commissioner, from the California Public Utility 10 Commission; Geisha Williams, Executive Vice President for Electric Operations, Pacific Gas & 11 12 Electric; Arlen Orchard, the General Manager and CEO, and Chief Executive Officer of Sacramento 13 Municipal Utility District; and Steve Klein, CEO 15 of Snohomish County Public Utility District. 16 So, again, we'll follow a similar format 17 where we're going to hear some comments from these 18 -- these distinguished folks. And, again, I 19 remind everyone that if you haven't yet signed up 20 to provide comments at the end, I encourage you to 21 do so. You can still do that at the front table. 22 Immediately following this session, we

170 will be turning to the public comments. And then, again, for those who are joining us via live meeting, please submit your comments via email. And, once again, I remind you that the panelists' views are their own and not the views of the U.S. 6 Department of Energy. So, with that, let's turn to Haresh. MR. KAMATH: Thanks very much, Chris. I'm Haresh Kamath with the Electric Power Research Institute. We are studying many of 10 these issues and storage is a program that I work 11 12 in. 13 In -- to preface a lot of the remarks today, I want to remind everyone that when you 15 look at the grid as it operates today, it was really designed to operate without a significant 17 amount of storage. And it does, and it has 18 operated for over 100 years without a great deal 19 of storage on it. 20 There are a few storage plants out 21 there, about 2.5 percent of the grid in the U.S. And it's comprised entirely, almost entirely, of 22

171 pumped hydro units at the transmission level. So, the question is legitimate, do we really need storage on the grid? What we do know is -- I talked to the 5 system operators, that the amount of storage -the storage that is out there is extremely 6 valuable. And when you talk to them about its value in the regulated grid, they will tell you that it is very handy to have, and they would not 10 give it up for the world. 11 Furthermore, we think that the need for 12 our energy storage is going to increase as we see the challenges and the opportunities of increased 13 penetration of variable generation as well as 15 distributed energy resources on the grid. So the real challenge is if we can make better, or if we 17 can make good use of the energy storage that's out 18 there, how can it be deployed? And where are we 19 going to get it from? 20 So there are a couple of things that we 21 have to think about for the technology. And the first thing is that energy storage continues to be 22

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- 1 an extremely expensive technology and relatively
- 2 difficult to implement. There are new
- 3 technologies that are being developed right now.
- 4 There's a great deal of research that's being
- 5 done, not only that's funded by agencies like the
- 6 Department of Energy, but also by the private
- 7 sector.
- 8 The private sector has really taken up
- 9 this challenge, not just because of the grid need
- 10 for energy storage but also because energy storage
- 11 is starting to become a very important technology
- 12 for everything else. For example, the cell phones
- 13 that you carry, the laptops that you use, all have
- 14 batteries in them, and that would not be possible
- 15 without a lot of the research that's happened in
- 16 the last 30 years.
- 17 That research is going to ripple across
- 18 into all the other industries out there. You've
- 19 already started to see it make inroads into, for
- 20 example, transportation, electric transportation.
- 21 And now, you're going to see it really enter the
- 22 grid.

173 That said, even for those technologies 1 that exist today, we don't have on the grid side any really established products or product solutions from vendors that have been in operation 5 for many, many years. 6 There are a few vendors out there who've developed and delivered good products. And we've 7 seen a few in the last few years, people really making a go at it. But we still don't have an established industry. And one of the challenges 10 over the next few years is going to be, really, to 11 12 bring all the players together to make sure that industry can deliver safe, reliable, affordable 13 energy storage products that the utility can 15 really use. 16 One of the things that we've been 17 working on at the Electric Power Research 18 Institute in collaboration with our member 19 utilities, as well as the Department of Energy and 20 other stakeholders out there, is to create an 21 Energy Storage Integration Council, which is an activity by which people can come together as a 22

174 forum and discuss some of the basic technical issues in actually integrating energy storage to the grid, both from the standpoint of making very effective product solutions and from the standpoint of the utility side, knowing what to 5 6 expect in terms of permitting, siting, the issues that are related to storing any products on the 8 grid. We just have not done that for energy 9 storage to the degree that we've done it, for 10 11 example, for transformers or for transmission and distribution. 12 Finally, as with any other distributive 13 energy resource, we do believe that installation

- 15 of energy storage needs to be done according to
- 16 the planning and operation schedules that we've
- 17 already established for the electric power
- 18 industry.
- 19 So, one of the parts that you've heard,
- 20 or one of the research areas that we've heard
- 21 about this morning was the integrated grid. This
- 22 is our concept of EPRI, of bringing together

175 distributive energy resources into the planning and scheduling processes for conventional resources on the grid to make sure that you get the maximum value out of those distributive energy resources. 6 We feel that this is a really critical area for future research. And we're really looking forward to working with utilities and other stakeholders to make this possible over the 10 next few years. 11 Thanks very much. 12 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Haresh. 13 Carla? MS. PETERMAN: Yes, hi. Good afternoon, 14 15 everyone. Nice to see you, and thank you for staying for our panel. You've heard a lot about storage already today, and so it's good to do a 18 deeper dive. 19 I'm with the California Public Utilities 20 Commission. And last fall, we adopted targets for 21 energy storage for our investor-owned utilities. So we set a target of 1.325 gigawatts of energy

176 storage for our IOU's to be procured in solicitations through 2020. 3 And my first takeaway I'm going to leave you with is that energy storage is just one of the 5 tools that California is pursuing for energy management. In terms of what we want to get from 7 energy storage, some of those benefits, we will also get some of those benefits from demand 10 response, from better forecasting of renewables, 11 from faster ramping natural gas plans. 12 But energy storage is a class of assets 13 that we haven't invested in as much as a state, and that's why we're having this focus. But it is 15 important to have it as one of your tools and not 16 your only tools. 17 And so we decided to set targets, we were rejected by legislation in 2010, AB-2514. 19 And that legislation asked the Public Utilities 20 Commission, and then our publically-owned 21 utilities, to consider setting targets for viable and cost-effective storage. 22

177 We had to determine whether we were 1 setting targets by last year, and our publicallyowned utilities had to decide this year. Our investor-owned utilities represent over 70 percent of the state load. And so, indeed -- and a really 5 diverse geographical base. And so we wanted to be 6 mindful of the differences in our utilities and in resources as we move forward. 9 So just a little bit about our targets. 1.325 gigawatts, which are spread across the three 10 11 investor-owned utilities, and it's also spread 12 around three different interconnection points, so 13 customer side-storage, distribution storage, and transmission storage -- connective storage. 15 The legislation said that this storage needed to do one of three things: it had to help 17 with greater reliability, had to help with 18 integrating renewables, or reducing greenhouse 19 gases. And also, as I noted, it had to be viable 20 and cost-effective. So we spent the first two 21 years after the legislation was passed trying to 22 figure out what does cost- effectiveness mean?

178 What is energy storage? 2 So we contracted with EPRI and KEMA DNV to do analysis about different use cases for storage. And one of the takeaways is, there are 5 many different types of use cases for storage and different technologies that can meet that. And these different assets have a different level of cost-effectiveness. And so it's important as you're looking at what you're trying to do in the 10 state or nationally to really focus on what's the problem you're trying to address because a 11 12 different storage technology may be able to do 13 that. And it was important for us to leave as 14 15 much flexibility as possible with directing these 16 targets. And so, for example, we allowed there'd 17 be movement of target between transmission and 18 distribution categories. We allow for multiple 19 business models. 20 So the utilities are allowed to own 21 storage at each of those interconnection levels: transmission, distribution, and customer side. 22

179 We also want to encourage competition, 1 And so, we capped the overall amount of utility ownership at 50 percent. The utilities are allowed to defer up to 80 percent of the target in a given period to the next solicitation 5 if viable projects don't emerge. 6 7 And there's also plenty for us to learn, so after three years, we're going to do a 9 comprehensive review of the program and see what 10 needs to be adjusted. You know, we've heard a lot 11 of discussion today around pilots. And to put it 12 in perspective, we just didn't start thinking 13 about energy storage in 2010. California has been investing in pilots and R&D for energy storage for 15 a number of years. 16 But you get to the point where there's 17 only so much you're going to learn from pilots. 18 You really have to start integrating these 19 technologies into the system and seeing how they 20 perform in the real world. And even with our cost-21 effectiveness analysis, we could have spent years doing it because, ultimately, it's really hard to 22

180 pinpoint is that cost- effectiveness when you don't have operational experience. So California is at the point where we have our demonstration projects, but we really need to get more operational data. It's 5 important, though, to connect those pilot projects 6 to your future targets. So we do allow the 8 utilities to grandfather in some of the 9 demonstration projects that will continue to 10 operate. 11 The other takeaway I want to leave you with is that how effective your storage will be 12 13 depends on what your rate structure is and what you're doing in other technology fields. And so 15 electrification of transportation has come up a few times today, and we're doing a lot of the work 17 on transportation and electrification. 18 We have a proceeding where we're looking 19 at vehicle integration activities with a focus on 20 first blg, things like controlled charging. You 21 know, that might be considered a demand response 22 resource. And then eventually looking at b2g,

181 where you're having bi-directional power flow, which could potentially be a storage asset. There's some real questions around that about what is the asset? How do you aggregate it? 5 And so it's important to be working on all of these things in parallel, but be having 6 conversations across these different proceedings and among these different groups. So I want to wrap up with about where 9 are we now? What's been the reaction, right? We 10 put out these targets, and we said, Okay, 11 12 industry, here's your chance to show us that you 13 actually may have something to bring. And they're coming. 14 15 So before we even set our targets, 16 Southern California Edison was required to do a 17 solicitation for energy storage, 50 megawatts. 18 And they had over 500 bids with energy storage. 19 Now, all these bids are not going to be viable. 20 But in terms of, you know, who's interested, there 21 was a real response. 22 The California ISO, which keeps the

- 1 queue for transmission projects, transmission and
- 2 connected projects, has seen over 2,300 megawatts
- 3 of energy storage projects come forward to get
- 4 into the queue. Now, again, all of those projects
- 5 won't be viable.
- 6 But there was enough projects out there
- 7 that are positioning themselves to compete in our
- 8 targets. Thirteen hundred of those, approximately,
- 9 are stand- alone storage, and the rest are hybrid
- 10 projects. And so, there's been a tremendous
- 11 amount of interest.
- So we're looking forward to seeing what
- 13 this bid into utility solicitations. We have
- 14 their applications before us. It's a very
- 15 interactive group of stakeholders, a lot of new
- 16 stakeholders. So if you're thinking about setting
- 17 targets, you have to be mindful of, you're going
- 18 to have developers who have never participated in
- 19 the utility procurement process. And so it
- 20 requires an extensive amount of handholding
- 21 between a utility and these new providers.
- 22 And then, finally, a lot of questions

183 are coming up. We already want to figure everything out up front. And so we're working together as agencies to address some of these questions. One of the initiatives that's just 5 started is the development of energy storage road map, which we're doing in conjunction with the 6 California ISO as the lead. And they're working with our Public Utilities Commission and the CEC because there is some real questions about the 10 interaction between the distribution system and the transmission system. 11 12 So there are storage projects who want to be able to bid into the wholesale market at 13 some times and also serve as a distribution asset. 15 How do you manage that? What's the right retail -- what's the right rate charge? Is it a wholesale 17 rate? Is it a retail rate? So I think we all need to look at our own processes to be able to 19 facilitate these resources to be more flexible, 20 but our system isn't currently designed for that. 21 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Carla. 22 Geisha?

184 MS. WILLIAMS: Good afternoon, everyone. 1 I'm Geisha Williams, and I'm Executive Vice President of Electric Operations of Pacific Gas and Electric Company. We're proud at PG&E in 5 providing service to our customers that's safe, reliable, and affordable. We provide service to nearly 16 million people in the State of California across Northern and Central California. Over the next three years, we'll be making about an \$8 billion investment to modernize 10 11 our electric infrastructure to really enable our communities in the State of California achieve as 12 a vision of being able to provide low-carbon and 13 have a clean energy future. Eight billion dollars 15 is a lot of money, but not when you compare it to what the rest of the industry is doing over a 17 decade, and that number is \$1 trillion. 18 And I think we all are in it at the same 19 time trying to figure out what we need to do to 20 modernize our infrastructure to enable us to operate it in a way that we never have before. 21 22 This work is truly essential. We don't often talk

185 about how times have changed, but, you know, so must the grid change. 3 When it was originally designed and thought through in terms of what the grid would 5 do, it was very much viewed, and you've heard several times today, as a one-way power flow from 6 7 central power plants, leading to delivering electricity to the end- use customers at the end 9 of power lines. But, today that's no longer the 10 case. 11 And it's imperative, I think, for all of us to put together grids that are flexible so that 12 it can accommodate intermittent renewable 13 resources such as wind and solar while at the same 14 15 time allow for two- way power flows as we see more 16 and more solar roof topping that is coming online. 17 PG&E has a 120,000 solar rooftops, and we're 18 adding about 3,000 every single month. It's here; 19 it's happening, and so we've got to accommodate. 20 We've got to figure out how to make the grid work for all of us. 21 22 So, as a result, today, our grid

- 1 operators must rapidly increase or decrease the
- 2 amount of energy that's actually on the system,
- 3 depending on the demand and the supply. You know,
- 4 it has to happen on a real- time basis. This is
- 5 the stuff of science fiction, right, a few years
- 6 ago or a hundred years ago, and yet, it's exactly
- 7 what our operators are having to deal with today.
- And so, although the way that we operate
- 9 our grid has changed and will need to continue to
- 10 evolve, the grid still has to work in real-time.
- 11 As you all know, the total demand and the
- 12 consumption has -- the consumption and supply has
- 13 to equal -- be exactly the same, simultaneously at
- 14 any point in time. Makes it a little bit of a
- 15 challenge as we have more and more intermittent
- 16 renewable generation entering the grid.
- 17 Storage technology, we believe, holds
- 18 great promise in helping provide that flexibility,
- 19 helping to provide that balance of both supply and
- 20 demand. We also believe that the utility industry
- 21 will play a really important role in storage.
- 22 PG&E and California, specifically, are at the

- 1 forefront through a combination of using tested
- 2 technologies that we have in place today like pump
- 3 storage and, at the same time, exploring new
- 4 technologies like compressed air, batteries, and
- 5 even mobile storage, the vehicles.
- There are, as Commissioner Peterman
- 7 said, a wide variety of storage technologies and
- 8 options that are available. And I think that
- 9 there are different solutions for different issues
- 10 and for different needs. And I think we need to,
- 11 kind of, not think of storage as a "one size fits
- 12 all" option, but something that needs to be
- 13 tailored to the specific needs and the specific
- 14 issues that you're trying to address.
- In some cases, we're looking for high
- 16 energy, long durations provided by technologies
- 17 such as pumped hydro, pumped storage systems. In
- 18 fact, today, we have about 22,000 megawatts of
- 19 pumped hydro, pumped storage, throughout the
- 20 United States. Within PG&E, we've got the Helms
- 21 storage. Helms is a power plant which is a pumped
- 22 storage facility that allows us to have 1,200

188 megawatts available in storage. It's fantastic. 2 It can go from nothing, sitting still, you know, absolutely not generating at all to full-blown 1,200 megawatts being online in about eight minutes. That's fantastic, and it provides 5 6 us a great resource to be able to deal with all 7 the intermittency that we're seeing in our system. 8 Another promising, high-energy, long-9 disc charge technology is compressed air energy 10 storage. And this -- we're currently conducting a 11 feasibility study for a 300-megawatt facility. 12 We're working with -- had great support from the 13 Department of Energy. It's located near Lodi, California. And we're, right now, looking at 14 15 permitting and what it will take to actually 16 inject air into these -- actually, it's a former 17 natural gas storage facility. 18 In some cases, however, as I said, 19 you're not looking for long duration, high power. 20 You're looking for, maybe, a short discharge 21 duration, high-powered, short discharge. And it's in this category that we believe that 22

189 batteries hold a great deal of promise. 2 Today, we're testing two such projects. We have a four-megawatt battery project near an office complex in Silicon Valley. And we have a two-megawatt battery facility near an electric 5 substation that is right next door to a solar 6 7 facility. 8 We're also working with VIA Motors to 9 develop and deploy mobile storage solutions on 10 electric pickup trucks. 11 So you got to look at this from lots of different perspectives and look at a lot of 12 different options and not make a bet, but look at 13 -- just making lots of -- taking lots of different bets and seeing what will evolve and what will 15 work for your customers. 17 So, while all these technologies are 18 exciting, and they hold promise, and we are 19 extremely supportive of them in their development, 20 you know, they are in their nascent stage. And I 21 also think that there's some significant challenges to truly making them commercially 22

190 viable. So I'd like to spend just a couple of moments on some of what those challenges are. 3 First and foremost, the biggest challenge I think to storage is economics. We 5 have an obligation, all of us in the utility 6 industry, to do everything we can to keep our rates and the service that we provide to be as affordable as possible. So we've got an obligation to really look at economics and make 10 choices based on the alternatives that are out 11 there. 12 The second thing that I think is a -and I think an area in this would be the great 13 work that I think the State of California is 15 I think Government in general can play a 16 pretty significant role in trying to make it more 17 affordable. So you heard from Commissioner 18 Peterman about the mandates that we have in 19 California. 20 We think this is going to cause a lot of 21 investment, a lot of research, and a lot of 22 activity in the State of California, and we're

191 hopeful that with that activity will come a reduction in prices over time, not unlike what we saw with photovoltaics. That's the hope. we're very -- obviously, very much hoping that that, in fact, will occur. 5 6 Another challenge that we have to deal with, though, is permitting. It takes a really 7 8 long time to site or permit anything in the State of California and, I'm sure, in the rest of the country as well. I think the Government can help 10 11 in several ways in this regard by including 12 everything from aligning agency requirements and schedules to also allowing permitting activities 13 to occur on a simultaneous basis instead of 15 sequential. 16 We really do have to deal with a -- we 17 heard about siting issues and permitting issues on 18 the transmission line side, but I think we could 19 also have some significant issues on the storage, 20 and we've got to anticipate that and deal with it 21 upfront. 22 I think another challenge that we've got

- 1 to recognize, particularly for batteries, is the
- 2 environmental challenges as we start thinking
- 3 about long-term, the disposal and the management
- 4 of potentially hazardous materials that are in the
- 5 chemistry of these batteries. And I think knowing
- 6 upfront what the rules are will help all of us
- 7 make informed decisions to help us inform both our
- 8 risks and our costs.
- 9 And, finally, I think we also need
- 10 increased funding for research and understanding
- 11 in terms of how to better integrate all of these
- 12 different resources that we can operate them on a
- 13 real-time, day-in, day- out basis. And a lot more
- 14 work needs to be done, and we heard a little bit
- 15 about them in previous panels that we heard this
- 16 morning.
- 17 So, in short, or I guess in conclusion,
- 18 I would say there are challenges ahead, no
- 19 question, in terms of making energy storage
- 20 viable. However, we believe that the potential
- 21 benefits for our customers are tremendous. And
- 22 this is an area really worth spending time and

193 effort and money in exploring. I think that if we work together, Government and industry, to encourage both the growth and the integration of storage technologies into our integrated portfolio 5 products that we provide to our customers, it could only be good. And we're very strong advocates of this. 8 So, I would just close by saying thank 9 you for the opportunity to giving us, PG&E in particular, an opportunity to tell our story, and 10 11 I look forward to your questions. MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Geisha. 12 13 Arlen? 14 MR. ORCHARD: Great, thank you. 15 Good afternoon, everyone. I want to thank the Department of Energy for the invitation 16 17 to speak on this panel today. 18 SMUD is a recognized leader in energy 19 innovation, and we're actively exploring 20 technologies to make wide-scale storage a reality 21 for the transmission and distribution grid. also appreciate the Department of Energy including

194 the perspectives of community-owned utilities like SMUD and Snohomish and our place to contribute to the development of the Administration's energy policy. I also want to personally thank the DOE 5 for helping fund our energy storage initiatives, 6 including a -- no, I'm not going to use that; it's 7 8 too long, okay, couldn't get through it in five minutes -- for helping us fund our energy storage 10 initiatives, including \$5 million for preliminary 11 studies for a composed 400-megawatt pump storage 12 project and nearly \$5 million for our residential 13 distributed storage projects. SMUD has developed an integrated 14 15 generation portfolio that includes renewable 16 energy resources such as hydro, photovoltaic and 17 wind, which meets about 50 percent of our power 18 demand with carbon- neutral resources at this 19 point. The remaining demand is met with utility-20 owned natural gas-fired generation and power 21 contracts. 22 As we look to the future and the

195 additional de-carbonization of our supply, advances in energy storage will play an increasingly important role in reliably serving our customers. Central to our integrated resource plan is our 688 megawatt Upper American River Hydro 6 Project, which plays in integral role in providing 7 some of the operational flexibility, including the integration renewables; overall system reliability; meeting emissions reduction goals set 10 11 by our board and the State of California; and 12 providing value to our consumers and our community. 13 In California, the majority of our 14 15 future renewing energy resources will be solar and wind, which are both, as you know, intermittent 17 and not dispatchable. As more intermittent 18 resources are added to the grid, additional 19 flexible generation will be needed to smoothly 20 integrate these resources. Currently, the majority 21 of that integration is done with gas-powered 22 generation.

196 Again, in the trajectory to reduce 1 greenhouse gas emissions, other strategies clearly must evolve. Pumped hydro generation, as you heard, is a proven storage technology that can help bridge this divide. As part of the expansion 5 of our hydro system, we've proposed to construct a 400-megawatt pumped storage project. The Iowa Hill Project will involve the construction of a new, 6,400 acre-foot reservoir and will include 10 three variable-speed turbines. 11 Value-stream modeling, funded by DOE, other proposed project, has demonstrated that it 12 will provide significant value in terms of 13 ancillary services, resource adequacy, and 14 15 efficiently regulating and dispatching intermittent resources such as solar and wind. 17 With the continued expansion of wind and solar resources, we believe that hydro pumped 19 storage can and should play an important role in 20 bridging the gap from intermittent, renewable 21 energy to truly dispatchable energy capacity. I would encourage the DOE to continue to look for

197 opportunities to support the expansion of this valuable storage technology in the future. 3 To put into context the important role storage may play in the future, California has 5 adopted a 33 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2020 and has targeted an 80 percent carbon reduction below 1990 levels in 2050. Under any conceivable scenario, these goals will require significant expansion of a renewable generation, 10 the bulk of which, as I noted earlier, is expected 11 to be wind and solar. 12 To better understand the impacts of the 13 expansion of the five largest community-owned and investor of utilities -- PG&E joined us in that --14 15 in California, commissioned to study by E3. The 16 report focused on scenarios with significant 17 increases in solar generation. And it also 18 examined both the 33 percent RPS and impacts of 50 19 percent RPS. Under the 33 percent RPS, over-20 generation is increasingly likely. And at 50 21 percent RPS, over-generation may occur in as many as 23 hours of the -- 23 percent of the hours in

198 the year. 2 The report found that energy storage, flexible generation, and a locally-controlled demand response are key to mitigating the impacts of over- generation. Smart invertors to curtail 5 and manage over-generation of localized impacts 6 will also be an important tool. And so you're going to hear some common themes about one size doesn't fit all, and there has to be multiple 10 strategies when you're dealing with the 11 intermittency of renewables. 12 SMUD has also engaged in distributed 13 storage projects to support the expansion of distributed generation, expected increase 14 15 distributed system loading from EV charging. 16 These projects have demonstrated that there 17 continues to be challenges with the tested 18 technologies in terms of communication and control 19 of the storage systems and higher than expected 20 O&M costs. 21 From a cost-competitive standpoint, 22 again another common theme, our preliminary

199 analysis of the distributed storage application indicates that installed costs for distributed storage generally need to drop below \$400 per kWh before they'll be cost- effective. Commercially available systems are higher than that today. But 5 there are independent forecasts that suggest these 6 storage technologies will reach this threshold within the next five years. 9 We think that DOE supported distributed storage projects will play an important role in 10 proving the reliability and cost-effectiveness of 11 12 these emerging technologies. I want to encourage them to continue to support these efforts 13 financially. 14 15 Again, I appreciate the opportunity to 16 be on the panel today and look forward to any 17 questions the folks may have. 18 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 19 Steve? 20 MR. KLEIN: I suspect I'm the last 21 speaker of this long day because it's known that 22 Snohomish PUD is a revolutionary utility, and this

200 way I shock the least amount of people and about -- (laughter) -- about now, your lunch is starting to settle in, but I'm still going to try to keep you on your toes. Snohomish PUD, the land of the Boeing 5 Company, the largest contiguous building in the 6 world, very thriving manufacturing and technology 7 8 community. We're in the neighborhood of the 10th to 12th largest consumer-owned utility in the 10 country, a beautiful service territory, north of 11 Seattle towards the Canadian border, Salish Sea to 12 the Cascade Mountain Range. 13 And, I have a local commission that said, in the value of the typical Northwestern 15 citizen, "We want you to go forward and fill that 16 deficit that we have as a growing utility with 17 conservation and renewables." We have no fossil fuel in our portfolio, and that includes no 18 19 natural gas. They said, "Go forth and develop 20 renewables, but do not, whatsoever, add any fossil 21 fuel." 22 So, with that, in less than two years,

- 1 we went from zero wind in our portfolio to eight
- 2 percent of our portfolio is wind. And, at certain
- 3 times of the year and the day and the month, it
- 4 can actually be almost up to one-third of our
- 5 operating resources at that particular time.
- 6 But, we're also having -- I say this at
- 7 ACORE conferences, and so far, nobody has been
- 8 able to challenge me on this -- we have the most
- 9 aggressive, local-distributed solar program in the
- 10 country. So, you start putting all of these
- 11 things together with programs looking at
- 12 geothermal, tidal, low-impact hydro, biogas and
- 13 biomass, we start putting this all together, and
- 14 of course, with the variability of the resources
- 15 that we've added, we immediately have an impact.
- 16 Other utilities talk about it. Other
- 17 utilities say it's the holy grail; it's coming; we
- 18 need it. We're the living use-case today. You
- 19 sit in our control room and you watch what happens
- 20 when that wind comes on and within the hour that
- 21 wind goes away.
- So, again, without the ability, as with

- 1 most utilities today, they talk about storage, but
- 2 they go out and add gas peakers in the interim.
- 3 We didn't have that option. My commission did not
- 4 give me that option. So going out there, we went
- 5 to every utility in the country that had any
- 6 experience with it. We went to all of the
- 7 National Labs. We went to all of the
- 8 organizations. We came to the conclusion that we
- 9 -- as Commissioner Peterman -- we don't need any
- 10 more pilots.
- 11 And the other thing is, is it's clearly
- 12 expensive, and there are operational problems
- 13 associated with it that we felt weren't being
- 14 addressed. You need to drive down the cost, and
- 15 you need to make them more operable. And how do
- 16 you do that?
- 17 Look at any other type of industry, and
- 18 I use the personal computer industry. If there
- 19 was not a non-proprietary operating system, when
- 20 you went to buy a home budget piece of software,
- 21 you'd be buying the computer and the printer all
- 22 based on that person that put that package

203 together. 2 That's the battery of the storage industry today. They're empties that go buy the batteries, put them in black boxes, put a minimal amount of control logic with them. They don't 5 talk to your Alstom energy management system or 6 your Brown Vary (ph) or whoever else you have that's flying the electric plane, either at the distribution, transmission or structured grid 9 10 level. 11 And so that's what we saw. So as we went around in this, people would nod the head and 12 13 say, "This make a lot of sense. But we're not in the same shoes that you are. We're not burning 15 down yet." So, so far, what we've been trying to 16 pull together is an effort that's called MESA, and 17 you can find it. It has a website, the MESA 18 Alliance. 19 And what we're trying to do is pull 20 together major players in the industry. We have a 21 number of major battery manufacturers, both U.S. 22 and offshore. We have entities like Parker

- 1 Hannifin and major equipment suppliers in the
- 2 United States. And what we're seeking to do is
- 3 establish standards around energy storage because
- 4 if you look at any other product out there today,
- 5 if it's not gone through the step of
- 6 standardization and commoditization, the price
- 7 does not come down.
- 8 As long as you're having people throwing
- 9 batteries each time, a one-off black box, minimal
- 10 control logic, doesn't talk to anything, how can
- 11 the utility industry start to purchase these
- 12 things in mass amounts when from one minute to the
- 13 next, the next time you need to add some
- 14 additional to your system, it doesn't mesh with
- 15 what you've already bought or you have to go
- 16 through difficulties trying to integrate all this?
- There needs to be a non-proprietary,
- 18 kind of, software operating system that links all
- 19 of this. There needs to be standards that pull all
- 20 of this together.
- To give you just a few examples because
- 22 I'm still on the yellow light, today you can go

205 out and buy a community storage box that a wellknown industry supplier will do, and you pay \$100,000 for it. It's a 25 kilowatt-hour battery, 100-plus thousand dollars. You can buy a Nissan LEAF for 30-some thousand, and you get the car 6 with it. 7 (Laughter.) MR. KLEIN: And so, just in closing, 9 again, there's lots we can do in investment and 10 improving the battery chemistries. There's a lot more we can learn in terms of optimizing the 11 12 placement, the algorithms and all these things 13 associated with getting greater efficiencies and values out of energy storage. But all of these 15 efforts, at all levels that we're talking about here, we need to as an industry and as a nation, 17 drive towards that standardization so it can bring 18 about the commoditization and ultimately lowering the cost of energy storage. 19 20 And thank you for the opportunity. 21 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Steve. 22 So, now let's turn to our discussion.

206 First question to the panel is related to -- is feeding off of some of the comments that I heard about the benefits of storage relative to reliability. I think the first few speakers spoke 5 on that. But, as Arlen and Steve mentioned, there's also a low-carbon impact here. So, in a low-carbon economy, what do you see as the unique role of storage? 9 And I wonder if we could start here with you, Haresh, specifically. 10 MR. KAMATH: Right. So this is a really 11 good question. 12 13 So I have to remind people, I guess, a lot of times that storage itself is not a low-15 carbon -- necessarily a low-carbon technology. It does not -- I mean, it's neutral, right? You can 17 use storage, and it can be cycling fossil generation too. So, it's not inherently a 18 19 renewable technology. 20 However, it can be used to integrate 21 renewable technologies, and that's in fact one of the reasons why it's come to prominence these

- 1 days. Historically, if you take a look at the
- 2 storage systems that have been built, they have
- 3 been very successful at turning base load power
- 4 plants into more operative power plants.
- 5 For example, as Geisha had mentioned
- 6 earlier, hydroelectric, a pumped hydro system, can
- 7 respond very quickly, much more quickly than a
- 8 conventional power plant. And so it can provide
- 9 operating benefits to the grid that the
- 10 conventional power plant can't do.
- 11 This is even more the case with
- 12 renewable systems, of course, because renewable
- 13 systems are not typically dispatchable. And so
- 14 you can't really get more energy out of a wind
- 15 turbine if the wind is not blowing harder. You
- 16 can't get more solar energy out of the solar
- 17 panels, if the sun's not shining more, have
- 18 issues.
- 19 So storage is there to smooth that, to
- 20 firm that energy, firm renewables. And in doing
- 21 so, it really enhances the reliability and the
- 22 flexibility of the grid.

208 So storage is an opportunity. 1 tool by which we can achieve more renewable penetration. It's not renewable in and of itself. But, we, I think we have to consider it as part of the whole package just as we do other assets, as 5 Carla mentioned earlier, things like demand response, things like forecasting and other tools 7 that can help increase the penetration of renewable energy. 9 10 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 11 Carla, any comments? 12 MS. PETERMAN: Yes. 13 And so, in addition to the firming potential of energy storage with renewables, it 15 also helps you not waste renewables. California is in a position and other states are 17 even further ahead in this, such as Hawaii. We 18 are seeing excess generation, you know, more re-19 over-generation on the system than we actually 20 need. 21 And so if we're trying to reach higher 22 levels of renewables, again, where are you going

- 1 to store that excess energy. And so, the
- 2 potential to use energy storage to store solar PV
- 3 power during the day and wind energy at night.
- 4 And then, in terms again towards the
- 5 greenhouse gases, in terms of firming renewables,
- 6 historically we use natural gas. Well, we're not
- 7 going to be able to use as much natural gas going
- 8 forward. So, again, if you can use low-carbon
- 9 energy as that alternative, there is some benefit.
- 10 And I'll just make one additional
- 11 comment on customer-side storage because there was
- 12 some comments about that. We've seen a tremendous
- 13 amount of interest in customer-side storage,
- 14 particularly paired to solar PV. So within our
- 15 state, SolarCity and Tesla in particular have
- 16 partnered up to start selling systems to
- 17 customers.
- 18 And we have a program of self-generation
- 19 incentive program that provides incentives for
- 20 customer-side technologies that reduce greenhouse
- 21 gases. And, over half the projects are either
- 22 stand- alone storage or storage paired with PV.

		210
1	So I think we're going to see a lot more	
2	adoption of customer-side storage than we might	
3	have anticipated when we set our targets.	
4	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
5	Geisha?	
6	MS. WILLIAMS: So I would just say,	
7	without storage, having to integrate all the	
8	renewable resources that we're having to do is	
9	going to require increased levels of flexible,	
10	ramping type of fossil generation, probably	
11	natural gas. And where storage can come in is it	
12	could displace some of that, some of it, maybe all	
13	of it. But in the short term, we think that	
14	there's a possibility for it to displace, at a	
15	minimum, some of it. And, of course, that goes to	
16	the issue of you're dealing then with less	
17	greenhouse gas emitting generation, which is a	
18	good thing.	
19	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
20	Arlen?	
21	MR. ORCHARD: So, just briefly, I would	
22	echo the comments of my colleagues up here.	

211 But, you know, if you think about 1 storage, it's really -- is about shifting the timing of the delivery of energy. And if you look at the over- generation that California is going to be facing, it doesn't necessarily coincide with 6 our peak. So it allows us to shift that generation which is the renewable clean generation, which is generated off-peak to reduce our on-peak which 10 should assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions 11 since that tends to be the units that are on the 12 margin and are the dirtiest of the units that 13 we'll use to meet that peak. So I think from that point, joining 14 15 those two and time shifting of it will be where we see a big benefit. 17 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 18 Steve? 19 MR. KLEIN: I think Commissioner 20 Peterman would fit in well in Snohomish County. 21 I'd agreed with everything she said. 22 MS. PETERMAN: I'll come up.

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1	(Laughter.)	
2	MR. KLEIN: What I was going to say, and	
3	I think we are the walking, talking case of	
4	avoiding and trying to avoid adding any carbon	
5	with storage.	
6	But one other aspect it doesn't	
7	necessarily speak directly to the low-carbon	
8	aspect that other folks have but there's also	
9	the opportunity when you have particular areas of	
10	the distribution or transmission system where you	
11	have transmission capacity, very limited period of	
12	times is not sufficient.	
13	In order to avoid those additional	
14	environmental impacts and all of the costs	
15	associated with that storage could also fill that	
16	niche too in terms of avoiding adding additional	
17	transmission that cause some impacts to the	
18	environment, so it has that additional benefit.	
19	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
20	So my next question then is back to you,	
21	Steve. You mentioned the need for standards	
22	around energy storage and your MESA effort. I'm	

- 1 curious, it strikes me as something that possibly
- 2 the Federal Government could provide some guidance
- 3 for or at least be involved in some way.
- 4 And so my question really broadly for
- 5 the rest of the group is, are there other aspects
- 6 like that that might be a good role for the
- 7 Federal Government relative to energy storage?
- 8 And I guess, Steve, I'll turn to you
- 9 just -- you gave a good example there, but I'll
- 10 give you a chance to expand on that if you feel
- 11 the need.
- 12 MR. KLEIN: Well, as I said earlier, the
- 13 MESA Alliance will not be successful if it's just
- 14 Snohomish and two or three other people. We
- 15 welcome everybody. We're not even asking for
- 16 money. We're just asking for people to bring
- 17 their thoughts and ideas in terms of how we
- 18 develop this so that ultimately as an industry we
- 19 can move in a direction so that the utilities can
- 20 have the confidence that what they're buying is as
- 21 comforting as when we go to a catalog and we order
- 22 a transformer or any other part of the system and

214 knowing that it's going to meet the requirements that we need. The general part of your question is also, what can the Government do? I think the kind of thins they're doing with ARPA-E and the 5 sort of things that ARPA-E is doing with -- it's not just use cases, it's actually looking at more because, you know, use cases, does it work well to integrate resources? Does it work well to deal 10 with oversupply? 11 But what I like that ARPA-E is doing, it's actually looking in to the optimization of 12 13 energy storage, so it's eking out the most efficient use of it, not just the use -- the broad 15 issue of use cases, but actually the optimization of -- placement of energy storage. 17 I also think, as in any of these 18 industries whether it's photovoltaic or not, 19 continue to support the enhancement, improvement 20 of the battery chemistry is definitely an area 21 that needs continued support. 22 So, in summary, please join us in

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1	support of the MESA, and we're open to as many	
2	folks as are interested.	
3	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
4	Arlen, did you have	
5	MR. ORCHARD: Sure. I would just say	
6	that DOE has a powerful role as a convener, and	
7	they've demonstrated success in any number of	
8	areas serving as a convener. Along those	
9	standards, I think could play an important role in	
10	developing that.	
11	I also have to say that DOE funding of	
12	projects is very important from my standpoint. We	
13	have planned and have committed to do storage	
14	projects, but the benefit of the DOE's funding is	
15	it allowed us to shorten that timeframe and do	
16	more than we anticipated. So I think DOE funding	
17	plays an important role in really kickstarting the	
18	development of different storage strategies.	
19	And then the other thing I would say is	
20	I would encourage DOE to continue to support, in	
21	any number of ways, storage along the entire the	
22	value chain from utility scale generation all the	

216 way through the end-user technologies because I think, as we've discussed, there's not a one size fits all. It's going to take everything in the value chain to make storage successful and be able to maximize the integration of the intermittent 6 resources. MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. Geisha, did you have any additional --9 MS. WILLIAMS: Well, I would just say storage is -- I think standards is a good idea, 10 obviously. But I think storage is just one 11 12 component of an integrated, sort of, solutions 13 that are going to be necessary, including smart grid standards as well. 15 So I think that the issue of standards, not just on storage, but from other parts of the 17 smart grid are -- it's the right thing to do and 18 we've got to figure out, and I think the DOE have an important role in convening. But at the end of 19 20 the day, I think industry does have to own the 21 standards themselves. So I think that convening by DOE but ownership by the industries are. 22

217 MS. PETERMAN: So, I also strongly 1 support standardization work that can be done. And, you know, if we look at the supply chain of energy storage, we see a lot of developers, but 5 there's very few integrators. And so if you're really thinking about also to what extent is the 6 private sector doing at this point, it's not as much as you would expect. Also, specifically, I want to call out 9 standards around safety because I think this is an 10 area that DOE is already working in, and we 11 12 continue to benefit from that federal leadership. 13 This is the technology we're trying to deploy in 14 different parts of the system. And if there are 15 safety concerns, that can set back this industry,

- 17 And then the third one I would suggest
- 18 is particularly focused on pumped hydro storage.
- 19 And I call that out because our target, for

and so I would make a call for that.

- 20 example, does not allow pumped hydro above 50
- 21 megawatts. And it's not because we don't see the
- 22 tremendous value in pumped hydro, it was just that

- 1 when looking at all these other technologies for
- 2 storage, we thought that they needed a different
- 3 type of market transformation, where these other
- 4 technologies such as batteries and compressed air
- 5 storage don't have the same level of
- 6 commercialization.
- 7 And when we looked at what are the
- 8 barriers to pumped hydro storage, they were a
- 9 little different. You know, cost barrier in the
- 10 sense that these are big cost projects. There are
- 11 also projects that may make sense to serve
- 12 multiple utilities. These were also projects that
- 13 can face serious siting challenges. And so we
- 14 thought that our program in itself wasn't going to
- 15 tackle all those issues.
- 16 But there have been some real
- 17 developments in the technologies with pumped hydro
- 18 storage. And so that has been an area where DOE
- 19 has provided funding before. And you may want to
- 20 look at, where do we need pumped hydro projects in
- 21 this nation, and then what type of support can you
- 22 give then into some bigger project buildup?

	2	19
1	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Carla.	
2	MR. KAMATH: Great, thanks.	
3	This is a really important area as far	
4	as this. And DOE has actually taken a great	
5	leading role in terms of standardization of energy	
6	storage.	
7	There's several different areas where	
8	we've worked together with DOE. As I mentioned	
9	earlier, our Energy Storage Integration Council is	
10	something that's gotten a lot of brought a lot	
11	of stakeholders together, including many of the	
12	folks involved in the MESA Alliance.	
13	And one of the things that we've done is	
14	worked in several of DOE's National Labs to	
15	actually pull together folks from those National	
16	Labs and bring their efforts into that	
17	organization.	
18	So one of things we wanted to do was	
19	things that arise as a part of the Council, any	
20	decisions that are made, any products that have	
21	come out, we want them actually to be published by	
22	DOE. And so we're going to try to incorporate	

- 1 them into the DOE EPRI "Energy Storage Handbook,"
- 2 which is one of the publications that we've worked
- 3 with DOE on very successfully.
- 4 Another area, as Carla mentioned, is the
- 5 safety aspect. DOE has really stepped up in the
- 6 last few months and said, We really feel that
- 7 safety is a very important issue here. And Sandia
- 8 National Labs, PNNL, several of the other National
- 9 Labs, have started major efforts in really
- 10 addressing the safety issue with not just energy
- 11 storage technologies, but actual energy storage
- 12 products, which is a big, big step forward.
- We've been working very closely with
- 14 several different agencies, including the Office
- 15 of Electricity, the energy storage program there,
- 16 led by Dr. Imre Gyuk has really done some
- 17 fantastic work in deployment of energy storage
- 18 under the Recovery Act.
- 19 And a lot of the data and information
- 20 that coming back from those projects is directly
- 21 feeding the efforts that we're doing to create
- 22 standardized approaches; I won't say standardized

221 products. We're just trying to define the approaches to specification and to test plans and to functional requirements definition and so on that can be used across the industry. So without that foundational work that 5 the DOE is performing, all of these aspects of 6 building the industry would be much, much more 8 difficult. So there's no question that DOE is already playing a role in that and, quite frankly, 10 an underappreciated role in the energy storage 11 industry that's developing, and we hope that 12 that's going to continue in the future. 13 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. So, once again, we'll wrap it up with 14 15 just a -- a lot of good suggestions from you all for the role of the Federal Government relative to 17 storage. I'd like you to hone that down to maybe 18 your one topic, one point that you'd like to leave 19 this QER Task Force with. 20 So, again, we'll start all the way down 21 at the end with Steve. 22 MR. KLEIN: I guess trying to

222 incorporate all the good thoughts of others on top of my own. Continue to be what you've been in the past and that's been attentive and interested in 5 pushing us and challenging us, but also providing 6 the support. That probably sounds overly general, but I also like the earlier comment that -- from the 9 representative from Pacific Gas, Geisha -- that 10 you need to really involve the utilities because 11 oftentimes what happens is mandates come out. And 12 while certainly utility industry is very talented and we can try to find a way to make whatever 13 we're told to do work, it sure works a lot better 15 if you engage the utility industry in that, in the development of the solutions and the things that really work. 17 18 Like I said earlier, oftentimes in our 19 scope of trying to actually move energy storage 20 forward, we ran into problems where a lot of 21 dollars and effort are purely around just pumping out pilot projects and use cases when you have 22

223 utilities out there that are actually willing to begin to implement it operationally. To me, that's where the microscope and the attention should go. You know, while pilots and use cases can be valuable, to just keep doing the same thing 5 over and over again and producing the same result 7 doesn't help. 8 You actually have utilities out there 9 that are willing to take that step and actually 10 fully engage in it, integrate it completely into their energy management system and into their 11 12 transmission distribution system. DOE really 13 needs to take advantage of that opportunity and support it. 14 15 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 16 Arlen?

- MR. ORCHARD: So I guess my suggestion
- 18 may go a little more tactical. I think it is
- 19 around the role of DOE as a convener. And I think
- 20 I can't emphasize the importance of standards.
- 21 It's not only standards around control
- 22 technologies and performance standards, but the

224 utility industry is facing a big challenge because of the numerous new technologies we're introducing into our system, whether it's smart technologies or storage. And part of the challenge is we 5 ultimately remain responsible for the reliability 6 of the grid. And so one of the areas that I think hasn't been mentioned that bears mentioning is the issue of cyber security. There are no standards associated with many of these plug-and-play 10 11 technologies. And those present specific 12 challenges for utilities as we attempt to make the 13 grid not only robust but also secure. So I think that's another area where 14 15 DOE, along with standards, looking at performance 16 and control technologies, should also be thinking 17 strongly about the issue of cyber standards that apply to these plug-and-play technologies. 19 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you, Arlen. 20 Geisha? 21 MS. WILLIAMS: It's three words: 22 convene, engage, and invest. The first two, you

225 know what I mean by that. The third, I think we can't overemphasize the incredible role that the Government can play in the research and development, particularly on chemistry and 5 integration. And so that's what I would say are 6 the key things. MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 8 Carla? MS. PETERMAN: I think all of those are the key takeaways. And so I will just add, spend 10 some time out West. Continue to do that. I 11 12 remember when we put out our targets, I got a call 13 from DOE, someone in the DOE, saying, We want to talk about these targets. And we were like, What? 15 They're watching us in Washington D.C.? You know, 16 you feel like, especially when you're in 17 California, that you're really far away. 18 is sometimes hard for us to engage as much as we 19 want, especially as regulators in the national 20 conversation, including limits on travel, right? 21 So the fact that you had this meeting 22 out West meant that I could participate. When you

- 1 hold these in D.C., it's very hard for me to get
- 2 authorization and funding and time to go do that.
- 3 So please continue to engage with us.
- And then also, there's that convening
- 5 function internationality. So I've spent some
- 6 time in Germany and Spain this year because those
- 7 are countries that are facing some of the
- 8 challenges of renewables integration.
- 9 And they're all looking at energy
- 10 storage in various different ways. I mean, a lot
- 11 going on with powered gas and hydrogen, for
- 12 example, in Germany. And so these conversations
- 13 are starting to happen in other countries. So the
- 14 extent that DOE can use its existing relationships
- 15 to get best practices from elsewhere and not only
- 16 think about standardization nationally but
- 17 internationally, I think it would yield benefits.
- 18 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.
- 19 Haresh, other comments?
- 20 MR. KAMATH: So, this morning, John
- 21 Savage had summarized his statement in three
- 22 words, which was innovate and follow through. And

227 I think that's really important. 2 But just to build on that, the follow through part is something that people don't talk about enough. Innovate, everybody has heard innovate 5 over and over again, and we build our society on 6 that word. But really, everything about that is in the follow through. There's so many activities out there, including storage, that we get about 10 halfway and then somewhere along the way, the 11 funding stops or the effort stops or gets diluted 12 down into something else, and then we don't know 13 really where to go and just for lack of somebody pulling all this stuff together, it doesn't go any 15 further. 16 We really need somebody out there to be 17 able to pull together everybody on these things, 18 really create something that can bring together a 19 large number of entities, utilities, vendors, as 20 well as other entities like universities and national labs and other folks in the research 21 22 community to really try to address these problems.

228 Without that, it's very hard to see how 1 we can succeed with the significant challenges that we have. At the same time, there are huge opportunities in this. And if we can succeed with it, those opportunities can really lead to some 5 6 amazing things in the future. MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. So with that, once again a fabulous panel. Thank you so much for your time and your 10 comments. 11 (Applause.) 12 MODERATOR KELLEY: Okay. At this point, 13 we're going to turn to the public comments, so we're going to take a moment here to get set up. 15 (Pause in proceedings.) 16 MODERATOR KELLEY: So now is your last1 17 chance. If you haven't signed up to provide 18 comments, please do so. I do have the list of 19 everyone who has signed up so far and I'll be 20 calling you up. We have a microphone here set up on the side. You'll be called in the order in 21 which you signed up for comments.

229 And again, for those of you who are 1 joining us via live meeting, the streaming, you can provide your comments at qercomments@hq.doe.gov. So when I do you call you to join us and 5 provide your comments, you have five minutes. have this colored light. So you get the benefit 8 of our speakers here as well where you get to see these colorful, flashing lights that tell you when your five minutes is up. 10 11 (Pause in proceedings.) 12 MODERATOR KELLEY: Okay. So before we get started, I'd like to welcome additional guests 13 here to the stage. So this is our DOE QER 15 contingent here today, who is very interested in hearing what you have to say. Really, this is 17 quite possibly the most interesting part of the day because we get to hear from all the public. 19 So today joining me are Levi Tillemann; 20 we have Matt McGovern; Karen Wayland, who you met 21 before; Sallie Gilbert and Blair Nitsway (ph). 22 So our first public commenter -- and

230 some of you, I wasn't able to make out whether you were going to comment or not, so if you don't want to comment, just let me know. Kevin P. Owens? Kevin Owens? You have five minutes. 6 MR. OWENS: Thank you. I'd like to thank the Department of Energy and the QER Task Force for the opportunity to address you folks this afternoon. 9 10 My name is Kevin Owens. I am the 11 General Manager of Columbia River PUD. We're a distribution utility and a full requirements 12 customer of BPA, serving about 19,000 customers, 13 about 30 miles downriver from Portland here today. 15 I'm speaking on behalf of the Northwest Public Power Association. Let me provide a little 17 context of who we are. We are a not-for-profit 18 trade association with nearly 150-member people's 19 utility districts, public utility districts, 20 electric cooperatives, municipals and crown 21 corporations in the seven Western United States and Canada. Nearly 50 percent of our member 22

231 utilities serve less than 10,000 customers. serve 5.5 million retail customers with 22,000 3 employees. The broad regional membership of NWPPA reflects the reality of a single western 5 electricity market that promotes collaborative 6 solutions. Public power is an integral part of the history, culture and economy of the Pacific Northwest. Columbia River PUD and its fellow 10 members at NWPPA believe and live the public power mission to deliver safe, reliable energy at the 11 12 lowest possible cost to consumers through local 13 control. I am here today to discuss some of the 14 15 challenges facing NWPPA member utilities with regard to distribution and transmission. I'd like 17 to suggest areas that the Federal Government can help our members meet those challenges. 19 As DOE is aware, distribution utilities 20 are currently being challenged with the 21 integration of variable energy resources at the distribution level. Figuratively, the torch has 22

- 1 certainly been passed from the wind industry to
- 2 the solar industry. That's been manifested in the
- 3 form of distributed generation.
- 4 An example is the recent proliferation
- 5 of community solar projects and individual rooftop
- 6 solar installations in our service territories.
- 7 Today, many of these projects are not paying their
- 8 fair share of the costs of integration. They're
- 9 using our electric systems as large firming
- 10 batteries when they are not producing energy.
- 11 Those costs are being shifted to
- 12 customers who are not able, or do not choose, to
- 13 deploy the rooftop or community solar projects.
- 14 Firming capacity for a variable resource at the
- 15 distribution level is a real cost to our
- 16 distribution utilities and our member utilities at
- 17 NWPPA. We're concerned about cross- subsidization
- 18 between different classes of customers.
- 19 We also see that we need to be proactive
- 20 in developing new cost of service and cost
- 21 recovery models that actually facilitate the
- 22 interconnection of these variable resources while

- 1 still recovering the actual costs of that firming
- 2 capacity. We observed the debate over stranded
- 3 investment among the IOU's during the move to
- 4 deregulation during the '90s. We're not interested
- 5 in going there.
- 6 DOE is in a key position to provide
- 7 better information regarding best practices,
- 8 guidelines, and lessons learned on a timely basis.
- 9 It's a new cost shift -- cost of service paradigm
- 10 shift. We need the Administration to recognize
- 11 the integration of renewables has costs associated
- 12 with our T&D systems. It's unfair to expect all of
- 13 our customers to bear the costs of these -- to
- 14 bear the burden of these costs.
- NWPPA utilities -- member utilities need
- 16 a seat at the table. We need a represented voice
- 17 in the agenda, research, and publications of the
- 18 Administration and DOE's important work in this
- 19 area.
- 20 Distribution issues generally fall under
- 21 the province of state regulators, in the case of
- 22 IOU's and local regulators, board of directors, in

234 the case of public power systems. NWPPA believes the Administration and 2 DOE should include within the QER help for these public power distribution utilities to meet the challenges that the QER envisions, specifically: 5 Publish research, white papers and 6 "lessons learned" on a more timelier basis related to these variable energy resource integration 9 issues. 10 Coordinate with other federal agencies regarding tax incentives to ensure that 11 12 incentives do no harm and actually incent the behavior intended, specifically production tax 13 credits versus investment tax credits. 15 Streamline the grant processes and 16 partnerships with National Labs. Continue to hold competitions, 17 such as the recently announced Microgrid 19 Competition, and make those best practices known 20 and publish the self-guides for distribution utilities. 21 o Continue research on, and provide 22

235 grants for smart grid demonstration projects, many of which include those emerging technologies. Ensure that we got regional public 3 power representation in those DOE discussions. Let me close and just say thank you for 5 the opportunity to address you folks today and 6 provide comment. NWPPA member utilities look forward to working with you on these important issues in the future. 10 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you very much. 11 MR. OWENS: Thank you. MS. WAYLAND: If you -- if people who 12 13 are giving statements have written statements, you can give those to the Court Reporter. And it 15 would make it easier to make sure that your statements actually reflect what you wanted to say 17 in the transcript. And she is right over there at 18 the table here. 19 MODERATOR KELLEY: So, next up we have 20 Cameron Yourkowski -- if I'm saying that right? 21 MR. YOURKOWSKI: Yeah. 22 MODERATOR KELLEY: Cameron? Welcome.

236 MR. YOURKOWSKI: Thank you, good 1 afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to 3 comment. My name's Cameron Yourkowski. I work for Renewable Northwest, formerly Renewable 5 Northwest Project. We're a non-profit advocacy 6 group focused on the Northwest region renewable 8 energy development in the Northwest. 9 Appreciate you all coming to Portland today to focus in on these issues. I'll be brief. 10 11 I just wanted to highlight some of the things from my perspective that you've already heard about 12 13 today, particularly, in thinking about in the Northwest region, again, focusing on climate 15 resiliency, making the grid more prepared for the impacts of climate change, allowing more renewable 17 energy to integrate to that grid. 18 For the Northwest, specifically, which 19 is not in the same place as California or other 20 parts of the country, the first step from our 21 perspective is really focusing on the grid operational reforms, a 15- minute scheduling

237 energy imbalance, market discussions going on in the region. That's really the low-hanging fruit for improving transmission resiliency to climate change in this region. So I think you've heard quite a bit 5 about the IM efforts in the Northwest, just wanted 6 to highlight that as the low-hanging fruit for 7 8 getting prepared for climate change, facilitating 9 renewable energy development in the region. 10 Where that stands currently, as you're aware, PacifiCorp and the (inaudible) are moving 11 forward with their effort, and then also the 12 Northwest PowerPool effort, more focused on the 13 Northwest alone, a great coalition of public 15 power, private entities working with BPA to 16 facilitate a discussion around Northwest CIM. 17 just want to highlight in your notes that that effort deserves your full support and attention. 19 Thank you for the opportunity to 20 comment. 21 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 22 Next, we have Gerald Deaver.

238 Mr. Deaver? 1 2 MR. DEAVER: Thank you. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Xcel Energy. Xcel Energy has transmission assets through its three operating companies in both the 5 Western and Eastern Interconnection. We are, of 6 course, a member of WECC. We're also a member of the Southwest Power Pool and the Midcontinent ISO. I believe we're the number one investorowned utility, if not all utilities, in terms of 10 adding wind capacity. And we're one of the 11 12 leading solar utilities in the country. We've reduced our carbon emissions by about 14 percent 13 since 2005. I think we're on track for our target 15 of 30 percent reduction by 2020. 16 So transmission, of course, as 17 everyone's discussed today, is a very important 18 issue to all of us. And I just want to touch on a 19 couple of technical issues that the DOE could, we 20 believe, continue to help us on and also a couple 21 planning topics. 22 The DOE has been very generous and very

- 1 helpful in the Western Interconnection in terms of
- 2 funding and R&D support for tools that will help
- 3 us improve grid reliability and efficiency. A
- 4 couple of those that are particularly timely we
- 5 think.
- 6 Peak Reliability and its members, which
- 7 include us and other stakeholders, are currently
- 8 trying to develop a situational awareness tool
- 9 that is referred to as the Enhanced Curtailment
- 10 Calculator or ECC. The current tool, in line with
- 11 our industry's fondness for painful acronyms, is
- 12 called the WebSAS, Web-S-A-S. The current tool is
- 13 really kind of an antique.
- The objective here for the ECC is to try
- 15 to evaluate how individual contributing flows on
- 16 any elements of the grid may, in turn, start to
- 17 contribute to congestion or overload problems.
- 18 The current tool has many limitations to it. It
- 19 cannot recognize curtailment priorities. It only
- 20 changes its database twice annually to reflect the
- 21 addition or retirement of new or old transmission
- 22 lines, and it cannot in any way reflect real-time

240 conditions on the grid. 2 The ECC, as we hope it will achieve, is intended to provide a much more expanded grid topology in real-time. We hope that it will model individual contributions to flow over any grid element that either peak reliability or a transmission owner asks for within about 20 minutes. 9 We hope that the ECC will be able to calculate flows and possible curtailment needs 10 11 over -- in between any point of receipt of energy 12 and any point of delivery within the grid. 13 current tool now can only model over very large 14 zones. 15 The ECC, finally, in addition to 16 improving situational awareness, we hope will be 17 an important tool as you've heard today, markets -18 - trading markets and wholesale markets to expand 19 in the West. We hope that the QER, if it 20 identifies or recommends any future funding 21 opportunities, could consider the ECC as a point that it could pay attention to. 22

241 A second tool is called now a State 1 Estimating Tool. This tool, as opposed to the ECC, looks at the entire flow, not just contributing parts, and how that impacts various 5 parts of the grid. As the name implies, it's an estimating tool. And we're hoping that in the future, a more actual, real-time tool could be developed that would take advantage of the explosive growth of data that we're all going to have available to us as synchrophasors continue to 10 be installed in the West, again, thanks in large 11 part to the DOE's funding in the past. 12 13 Synchrophasor information will expand greatly, the real-time information that'll be 15 available on the condition and topology of every 16 point in the grid. And we think the development 17 of an actual State Estimator Tool would be a way 18 to take advantage of this increased information, 19 which is then an idea that was mentioned in two of 20 the panels this morning. 21 Finally, on transmission planning, the 22 DOE has been very helpful to the West in the past

242 in providing funds to WECC to enhance its ability to do a large interregional planning throughout the West. It's enabled WECC to develop 10- and 20year plans with improved environmental assessment databases. And we think some additional planning tools that could be useful in the future would be tools that would allow planners to better tie the results of reliability planning with economic planning, again, as markets -- wholesale markets 10 continue to expand in the West. 11 Transmission, as we all say from time to time, accounts for about 10 percent of the 12 13 customer bill, but allows transmission owners and utilities to take better advantage of things like 15 renewables and other generation. We'd ask the DOE to continue to consider that in the future as the 17 QER is developed. 18 Thank you. 19 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 20 Next up we have Fred Heutte. I don't 21 know if I'm saying that right. 22 MR. HEUTTE: Thanks. I'm Fred Heutte

243 from Portland, Oregon. I'm with the Northwest Energy Coalition, a Senior Policy Analyst and device to work here. We were founded in 1981, and we're an alliance of more than 120 organizations around the region of the four Northwest states and British 6 7 Columbia, includes: environmental, civic, human service organizations, progressive utilities and others, and businesses. 10 And our focus is promoting development of renewable energy and energy efficiency, 11 consumer protection, low-income energy and 12 systems, and fish and wildlife restoration on the 13 Columbia and Snake Rivers. In my role, I focus a lot on 15 transmission and renewable energy and integrated 17 resource planning at the regional level, at the 18 state level with the utility IRP's and so forth, 19 including both Northwest Power and Conservation 20 Council with WECC in the transitional planning 21 process. 22 I was at one of our meetings this

- 1 morning. And we thank the DOE for supporting that
- 2 process as was previously mentioned. And Larry's
- 3 involvement directly in that has been very
- 4 helpful.
- 5 And also, I'm involved with regional
- 6 transmission planning under Order 1000 or soon to
- 7 be, in terms of Columbia grid, which hasn't yet
- 8 got an Order 1000 approval, but will be.
- 9 And also, I'm a member of WECC's new
- 10 Member Advisory Committee for Class 4, which is
- 11 end-users, industrial customers, and groups that
- 12 represent environmental and other consumer
- 13 interests in the region. So I have a lot of, you
- 14 know, involvement in all the topics that are being
- 15 discussed today.
- 16 I thought I'd take a very quick look at
- 17 some of the bigger picture questions that I think
- 18 we see. One is that there are really two big
- 19 drivers happening right now that have been there,
- 20 but they're really rising in importance. One is
- 21 on the environmental and policy or, kind of,
- 22 climate-driven policy as we're seeing with 111(d)

- 1 and many other things. And the other is
- 2 technology innovation, especially in the area of
- 3 clean energy, covers across all the different
- 4 technology areas discussed today.
- 5 So to us what the QER is really about is
- 6 about providing some policy coherence in that
- 7 context and to provide -- to combine response to
- 8 those drivers, not treat them as separate, but
- 9 figure out the best way forward in the context of
- 10 climate, especially with environmental policy and
- 11 technology innovation. And to capture and enhance
- 12 the value of that we see, it's very important to
- 13 have DOE play a convening and accelerating role in
- 14 that regard and to provide for a fair distribution
- 15 of methods and costs.
- 16 If you break things down a bit and look
- 17 at it in detail, traditionally, we've had silos
- 18 that worked pretty well for policy purposes,
- 19 transmission, distribution, load-side stuff, but
- 20 those silos need to come down. And also, now we
- 21 have storage emerging as a factor across all of
- 22 those sectors, as we've already heard today.

246 So on a planning basis, we also need to 1 break down the silos between power and transmission planning. We're seeing some progress in that in this region. The Northwest Power Council and the ColumbiaGrid NTTG and the other playing bodies, are really starting to cooperate a lot more. 8 This is very, very important because in order to get the new resources we need, we need to have the transmission in the right place and vice 10 versa. And it's very large investments that are 11 involved, and it's difficult but not impossible to 12 13 get the right answers. But we're, you know, kind of evolving that. So those traditional silos 15 between power and transmission planning, which are very deep, need to bridged. We also need to look at -- as we 17 discussed a little bit -- the traditional silo 19 between transportation and stationary use of 20 energy so the vehicle electrification being the 21 primary example of that. 22 And I think what we're really trying to

247 talk about is co-optimizing the grid, not for a single objective function like minimizing cost or whatever, but rather looking at environmental, social, and operational aspects. So a reliable grid, clean energy, and affordable. All those 5 things have to be in our view going forward and, of course, including things like cyber security as 8 well. 9 In the Northwest, you know, our focus has always been on renewable energy and energy 10 efficiency considered together, as a combination 11 approach to dealing with our energy needs. 12 13 think we're all beginning to learn we've got to start paying attention to other aspects, the 14 15 reliability aspects of the grid in particular, and some of the new technology aspects, the smart 17 grid, you know, the grid-edge kind of concept. 18 Where the action is moving is not where we've been 19 traditionally. And I think we are also 20 reevaluating our view of those things and hope to 21 think about how --22 MODERATOR KELLEY: Three minutes, sir.

248 MR. HEUTTE: Yes -- and hope to think 1 about how our traditional focus can be even further extended in the future. So I think that's probably a good place to wrap up. Thank you. 5 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 6 The next speaker has a question mark next to her name, so I'll just announce a name: Ann Fisher. 9 Did you want to make a comment? Ann 10 Fisher? 11 MS. FISHER: Well, as I said to one of the folks standing in line when we were eating 12 13 lunch, you always get people who want to make a comment because they've heard everyone else. And 15 I really don't have a comment to make except, of course, to thank DOE for coming out because this 17 is important. 18 But it occurs to me that what 19 Commissioner Peterman said about coming out here 20 and engaging us with -- in the Northwest or in the 21 West Coast, is truly important. We have a lot of enthusiastic and really heartwarming stories about

249 supporting renewables and what we can do with storage and all these things that can happen. But it's still kind of a blossoming idea There are people who are afraid of it, people who think it's unknown. And honest to God, 5 I don't care who tells you otherwise, we do things 7 differently out here. 8 Don't take a FERC term and think that's how we use it here. We're our own vernacular. And so if you were to come out more often and 10 engage more often, I think you would have greater 11 12 support, a better understanding of where we need 13 help in the West Coast and a much more successful endeavor. That's all. 14 15 MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you. 16 Next is Kelly Tilford. 17 MR. TILFORD: Good afternoon. My name 18 is Kelly Tilford. I'm actually the Vice Chair for 19 the National Hydropower Association's Pumped 20 Storage Development Council. I've heard of 21 nirvana in Portland, but this is my first experience. After seeing the storage panel and 22

250 some of the issues that were brought to light and some of the solutions and challenges, I all of a sudden felt like I fit right in. I want to thank the Department of Energy for a number of initiatives, including the Hydro 5 Vision Initiative that is currently being implemented as well as the Hydrovision and Pumped 7 8 Storage Development Task Force, the Modular Pumped Storage Task Force. I'm actually thinking of 10 volunteering on both of those. I really enjoy the 11 data and analysis that comes out of the National 12 Labs supported by DOE. 13 The challenges to pumped storage development and grid-scale storage since pumped 15 storage is really the only grid-scale proven 16 storage technology, the DOE studies provide a lot 17 of credibility to our industry. And the issues for our industry are, the credibility is the first 18 19 thing, then the regulatory side, the support 20 legislation that values the resource that pumped 21 storage can bring to the grid. And then that

leads right into the financial side.

251 And so everybody who is either an 1 investor- owned utility, a muni, or an IPP, Independent Power Producer, understands that cycle. So the DOE's efforts to better analyze and present unbiased data on the benefits and 5 drawbacks of pumped storage are much appreciated. 6 I didn't plan to give a talk. I was just going to listen, but I got so excited, I had to come up to the microphone. 10 AB 2514, the storage -- CPC's implementation of AB 2514 is a good start. 11 we talk about storage, we're really talking about 12 13 two different types of storage, and I think some of the speakers mentioned the differences. One is 15 short-term, instantaneous response type storage. And then, the other one is long-duration, high 17 megawatt-hour type storage. 18 And so there's almost two different 19 conversations here. There are megawatts of 20 storage, and then there are megawatt hours of 21 storage. And I just wanted to make that 22 distinction.

		252
1	You know, I don't want to beat the	
2	issues to death because the speaker panels did a	
3	great job of identifying what the real challenges	
4	and the values to pumped storage. I guess I want	
5	to encourage DOE to continue to fund research in	
6	grid-scale energy storage. I'd like to see	
7	Argonne's modeling evaluation of the pumped	
8	storage to the grid. I'd like to see that	
9	continued, taken to the next step.	
10	I like the idea of grid-scale models	
11	that are available to vendors and to utilities to	
12	use to do some simulation on their own. And I	
13	guess I'll just wrap up with thank you very much.	
14	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
15	Next, we have Roger Wood (sic).	
16	MR. WEED: Weed.	
17	MODERATOR KELLEY: I'm sorry?	
18	MR. WEED: Thank you very much. My name	
19	is Rogers Weed, W-e-e-d, and I'm with a company	
20	called 1Energy Systems. We are a Seattle-based	
21	startup that provides utilities with software that	
22	helps them control and optimize energy storage	

253 assets. 2 So the main thing I wanted to do is kind of reinforce Steve Klein's comments about the importance of standardization to reducing costs, increasing choices for utilities as they wade into 5 this area and simplifying the inner-operability of 7 energy storage with other grid assets and systems. 8 A number of us at 1Energy are veterans 9 of the PC industry. And I think we got that right 10 away when we talked to Steve because we saw how USB, Bluetooth, WiFi, web standards, all allowed 11 12 this kind of maturity and scaling of new 13 technologies and allowed the industry to move forward. So I think we see very much how this is 14 15 so important for energy storage. 16 MESA, again, is the name of the sort of 17 effort that we have going on now to define 18 standards for information models and communication 19 protocols that can allow energy storage assets to 20 talk to other parts of the grid. And you can find 21 out more information about that at MESA, M-E-S-A, standards.org. So that's the website where you 22

254 can go to get more information. 2 And I do think there is role for DOE and other government entities in both encouraging, but I'll counter Steve a little and say and financially supporting, you know, in a seed sort 5 of fashion these standardization efforts because there's often a "chicken and the egg" thing where, you know, the -- especially the larger companies don't really want to engage right away because 10 they're happy to sell their proprietary things 11 until they are more or less forced by customers to 12 adopt standards. 13 And so, you know, we've seen this in California with something called OpenADR, which 15 was standards for demand response. And the early 16 support from the Government in California really 17 allowed that standards and effort to gain traction 18 and become very important to how demand response 19 is evolving. 20 So we're talking in California now about whether the EPIC Program could also identify 21 22 storage standards as an important thing to

		255
1	support. And I think that makes a lot of sense	
2	for all Government entities to think about.	
3	So I guess I would encourage DOE and	
4	other Government entities, as well as utilities,	
5	by the way, to get involved and encourage the	
6	efforts on behalf of the industry.	
7	I think the industry has to drive the	
8	standardization efforts. It's their products and	
9	services that are going to need to comply with	
10	these standards, but encouragement and strategic	
11	financial support from the Government can really	
12	make a difference.	
13	So I just want to make that point.	
14	Thanks.	
15	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
16	So did we get any additional?	
17	Did anyone else have any comments that	
18	didn't get on the list? No?	
19	Okay. This concludes the public	
20	commentary portion of our meeting today. So with	
21	that, I'll turn to Karen.	
22	MS. WAYLAND: Thank you.	

256 And thank you to everybody for your 1 comments and your participation. I want to let you know that the -- all of these stakeholder meetings that we're holding around the country will be documented and become part of the public 5 record. Every meeting that that we've had so far, 6 you can find a transcript, a briefing memo that asks key questions, video if we were able to arrange for the video, meeting summaries, as well 10 as all of the statements and presentations given 11 by the panelists. 12 And your statements, if you were part of 13 the public comment, the open mic period, will become part of the transcript that will also be 15 posted on the web for all of these meetings. 16 These meetings and the input that we're getting 17 will be essential to our analyses and 18 recommendations. 19 We expect that the first installment of 20 the QER dealing with transmission, storage, and 21 distribution will be finalized by the end of 22 January 2015, and we will begin at some point

257 around there working on the second installment which will focus on generation, end-use, and production. And the third installment, which will be around 2016, will look at probably supply chain 5 issues. And we'll likely do an integrative report at the end of that sort of three-and-a-half to 8 four years. I want to thank very much Lewis & Clark 9 for this wonderful facility and for the sun that 10 we got today, which I know isn't normal. So I'm 11 12 going to take it as a sign that the sun is shining on us. 13 I want to thank the DOE staff, in 14 15 particular Larry Mansueti, as many of you know, is a force of nature in the electricity world; and 17 the rising stars around me, Levi Tillemann, Matt 18 McGovern, and Sallie Gilbert; as well as our home 19 staff back in Washington D.C.; and the Energetics 20 Team, who's been fabulous. Thank you very much for 21 Chris and the team. 22 And with that, I'd like to again thank

		258
1	you very much. I know that many of you traveled	
2	long distances. And we, by federal law, are not	
3	allowed to provide coffee and tea, unfortunately.	
4	I know the Deputy Secretary was asking me for	
5	coffee. But we want to thank you because we know	
6	that this that you took a lot of time to share	
7	your views and input, and we appreciate it. Thank	
8	you very much.	
9	MODERATOR KELLEY: Thank you.	
10	The meeting is adjourned.	
11	(Whereupon, the meeting was	
12	concluded at 2:33 p.m.)	
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		259
1	CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTION	
2		
3		
4	I, VALORI WEBER, hereby certify that I am the	
5	Court Reporter who reported the following	
6	proceeding and that I have typed the transcript of	
7	this proceeding using the Court Reporter's notes	
8	and recordings. The foregoing/attached transcript	
9	is a true, correct, and complete transcription of	
10	said proceeding.	
11		
12		
13		
14		
15	July 28, 2014 VALORI WEBER	
16	Transcriptionist	
17		
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