



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

### Update on DOE Transmission Issues Workshop

DOE will host a workshop on electric transmission issues on November 15, 2018 at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Conference Center, 4301 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203. Please see a near-final agenda below.

In response to requests, the workshop will be available via webcast. Those joining the webcast will see the presentation slides and will hear speakers' remarks and the Q & A that follows each panel; however, remote participants will not be able to contribute in real time to the Q & A sessions. The meeting will be recorded to support preparation of a detailed meeting summary. Limited space remains in the conference center, so those interested in attending in person should register promptly if they have not already done so. Please register for onsite participation at <https://doe-nov15.eventbrite.com>, or for the webcast at <https://doe.webex.com/doe/j.php?RGID=rbf384c7e1bd59485bd263043963e74a6>.

#### Near-Final Agenda

- 8:30**            **Registration opens**
- 9:00**            **Welcome.** David Meyer (DOE) will provide welcoming remarks and explain the purposes and mechanics of the workshop.
- 9:10 – 9:30**    **Trends from TDRs.** DOE has published an *Annual Transmission Data Review* (TDR) since 2015. Katie Jereza, Deputy Assistant Secretary at DOE's Office of Electricity, will draw upon this data and discuss major transmission trends and issues.
- 9:30 – 11:00** **Panel I. Are there unmet needs for additional long-distance, high voltage transmission lines?**
- Are recent or current system-level trends (e.g., rising incidence of extreme weather, concerns about physical and cyber security, increasing reliance on distributed energy resources (DERs)) increasing or reducing the need for transmission capacity?
  - Are we underbuilding (or overbuilding) long-distance, high-voltage transmission facilities, either regionally or inter-regionally?
  - If so, what are the indicators? Please cite specific measures and explain how they support your assessment. If appropriate, clarify regions or projects to which your assessments apply.
  - What additional information is needed to provide further support for your assessments? Is this information publicly available?
- Moderator:** David Meyer, Senior Advisor, Office of Electricity, DOE
- Panelists:**
- Steve Naumann, Vice President, Transmission and NERC Policy, Exelon Corporation
  - Ed Tatum, VP for Transmission, American Municipal Power

- Kenneth Seiler, Executive Director, System Planning, PJM
- Alan Myers, Director, Regional Planning, ITC Holdings

**11:00 – 11:15 Break**

**11:15 – 12:45 Panel II. Challenges to building transmission facilities where and when needed: Permitting/siting issues**

- Have recent worthwhile major transmission projects been thwarted by “pass-through” states?
- Or by anticompetitive owners of existing generation or transmission assets?
- Or by controversy over the proposed distribution of the likely costs or benefits of the transmission project?
- Other obstacles?

**Moderator:** Julie Smith, Office of Electricity, DOE

**Panelists:**

- Rich Sedano, President, Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)
- Dan Belin, Director, Electric Transmission, Ecology & Environment, Inc.
- Georgeann Smale, Senior Realty Specialist, Washington Office, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior
- Bess Gorman, Assistant General Counsel, National Grid

**12:45 – 2:00 Lunch on your own** (please be seated and ready to resume by 2:00)

**2:00 – 3:30 Panel III. Are existing remedies adequate?**

- Are regional transmission planning processes under FERC Orders No. 890 and 1000 sufficiently effective to address unmet needs?
- For merchant transmission lines being developed outside or in parallel with these processes, are the needs of pass-through states being balanced fairly and efficiently with respect to regional and inter-regional needs?
- Are there other considerations that impede addressing unmet needs for additional long-distance transmission lines in a timely manner?
- Is Federal action required to address any of the issues identified above? If so, what form of action is required?

**Moderator:** Joe Eto, Staff Scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

**Panelists:**

- Rob Gramlich, President, Grid Strategies LLC
- Traci Bone, Attorney, California Public Utilities Commission
- Sharon Segner, Vice President, LS Power Development
- Omar Martino, Director, Transmission Strategy, EDF Renewables

**3:30 – 4:00 Final remarks, major takeaways (including questions), and next steps.**

**Note:** DOE invites all who are interested in the topics discussed at this workshop (i.e., those who attended in person, those who listened to the webcast, and those who were unable to do either) to submit written responses to the questions listed above by November 21, 2018. All written submissions will be posted on the Office of Electricity website, and will be taken into account in the preparation of a written summary of the workshop. Send such submissions to [congestion.study2018@hq.doe.gov](mailto:congestion.study2018@hq.doe.gov), and please indicate the workshop-related transmission issues or questions you wish to address.