



Western States Roundtable:
Policy and Regulatory Issues for Utility Investments in Grid Modernization

March 29, 2021
11:30-1:00 Pacific

The Western Interstate Energy Board, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, National Association of State Energy Officials, Berkeley Lab, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory are hosting a virtual training on integrated distribution system planning for public utility commissions and state energy offices in the West. Following the training the organizations will also host a Western States roundtable to support peer-sharing among commissioners, energy office directors, and staff on state policy and regulatory issues related to utility investments in grid modernization. The roundtable includes three panels, described below. Following brief introductory remarks, moderators will facilitate discussion among panelists, including questions from the audience.

Register for the Roundtable here:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEIcpepqz0pG9LJ3TiaF5OIoSutzbwlgzTT>

- **11:30 PT - *Electrification of transportation and buildings*** (for background, see Berkeley Lab reports [here](#) and [here](#))

Moderator:

- Juliet Homer, Lead of the Energy Policy Analytics Team within the Energy Policy and Economics Group, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Panelists:

- David Danner, Chair, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Andrew McAllister, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
- Cynthia Hall, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

* If you've signed up for the [Western States Training on Integrated Distribution System Planning](#), you're automatically signed up to receive a calendar invitation for the March 29th Western States Roundtable.

- **12:00 PT - *Investment economics: Approaches for cost-benefit analysis of utility investments in grid modernization*** (for background, see this recently released [report](#) by Berkeley Lab)

Moderator:

- Maury Galbraith, Executive Director, Western Interstate Energy Board

Panelists:

- David Morton, Chair and CEO, British Columbia Utilities Commission
- Jay Balasbas, Commissioner, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Chris Parker, Director, Utah Division of Public Utilities

- **12:30 PT - *Regulatory approaches and utility business models*** (for background, see [Berkeley Lab reports](#) on this topic)

Moderator:

- Lisa Schwartz, Deputy Leader of the Electricity Markets and Policy Department, Berkeley Lab

Panelists:

- Eric Blank, Chair, Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Jennifer Potter, Commissioner, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission
- Bryce Freeman, Administrator, Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate

The U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Modernization Laboratory Consortium supports participation by Berkeley Lab and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.