

# Biography

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION



## **MICHAEL D. PETERSON**

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Western Area Power Administration

Michael D. Peterson is Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Western Area Power Administration, one of four power marketing administrations under the Department of Energy. WAPA markets and delivers clean, renewable and low-cost electricity from 57 hydroelectric plants and 17,231 circuit-miles of transmission lines operating in 15 western states serving 40 million Americans.

Established under the 1977 Department of Energy Organization Act, WAPA has returned \$13.5 billion to the US Treasury since inception, reflecting a 1.8x multiple of appropriations received.

In FY 2020, the Administration returned \$272 million, delivering a 2.9x multiple on appropriations.

Peterson serves as principal financial advisor to WAPA Administrator and CEO, overseeing efficient and effective financial management of a \$5.6 billion portfolio, providing strategic direction and leadership to ensure that financial policies, regulations and practices conform to federal statutory and DOE regulatory requirements. Drawing upon more than two decades of experience in the energy and financial markets, Peterson has developed an acute understanding of the energy value chain from resource discovery to fuel combustion to power generation and distribution, gaining an appreciation for the important role reliable, resilient and low-cost energy plays within society.

Prior to joining WAPA, he served as the principal financial officer for private, private-equity-backed and publicly traded enterprises within the energy sector. Previously, Peterson served as managing director of two New York-based investment boutiques, most recently as head of energy research. Before that, he held equity and energy commodities research analyst positions with Morgan Stanley and SunTrust Robinson Humphrey. Early in his career, Peterson traded electricity and natural gas for Duke Energy and equity index futures and options at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

Peterson holds a Master of Business Administration in Finance from the University of Chicago, a Master of Science in Financial Markets and Trading from the Illinois Institute of Technology, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Economics from the University of Denver. He also earned the rank of Eagle Scout.