Embracing Our Shared Future: Stability, Safety, Service

Mid-West Electric Consumers Association Board meeting
Sept. 27, 2021

Tracey A. LeBeau
Administrator and CEO
Next (first) steps

- Keep focus on core mission
  - **Stability**: leveraging our firm foundations
  - Focus on rates, operations, culture
- Support each other
  - **Safety**: staying and keeping each other safe
  - HP/JC, Inclusivity, collaboration, patience
- Organizational resilience
  - **Service**: focusing on customers and communities; finding opportunities
  - Innovation
Stability: Navigating through historic conditions

- Securing and operating the grid amidst extreme weather and drought.
- Drought and PPW working group exploring potential approaches
- Focus on rate and grid stability.
- Firm organizational foundation + WAPA learning culture = setting us up for success.
PPW funding in proposed Infrastructure Act

• $500 million reimbursable funding for PPW expenses.
• Figure chosen based on denied authority for $400M in PPW over past four fiscal years’ budget requests and to cover $100M costs incurred during February polar vortex.
• Use limited to current PPW funding authorized by annual appropriations.
• Not vehicle for drought recovery.
Safety: Leadership throughout the organization

• COVID-19 response and recovery
• Human Performance Improvement & Just Culture program
• Leverage Leadership Development
Leadership updates

• Selection process ongoing for:
  – Chief Strategy Officer
  – TIP Manager

• Search beginning for DSW Regional Manager
  – Acting managers in the interim
  – Currently Jack Murray
COVID update

• No date or timeline for re-entry.
• Vaccines required for staff (Federal and contractor).
• Visitors will need to attest status before entering facility.
• Mission-essential travel only.
• Evaluating re-entry and post-pandemic workplace.
Service: Shifting challenges into opportunities

- Connecting with customers and stakeholders is more important than ever.
- Historic times: finding opportunities to be innovative, inclusive and solution-oriented.
- WAPA leadership – listening, removing hurdles, asking how can we help?
- Moving past re-entry: how do we gather better?
DC updates

• Active discussions continuing with Administration, Congress, DOE & DOI leadership.

• TIP *Federal Register* notice.

• No mention of selling PMAs or moving to market-based rates.

Capitol Hill
Photo courtesy of NPS
Markets remain a focus

- DSW selects CAISO EIM
  - Expected transition in 2023
- SPP RTO-West evaluation
  - Expansion terms and conditions approved by SPP Board
  - Negotiating federal terms of participation
  - How to allocate costs for DC ties
Contact/Follow me and WAPA

Tracey LeBeau
720.962.7705
lebeau@wapa.gov

wapa.gov
@westernareapowr
Western-area-power-administration
WesternAreaPower1
westernareapower
wapa.gov

Brookings Substation, 2019