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It is with mixed feelings that I share that Senior Vice President and Upper Great Plains Regional Manager Jody Sundsted will be retiring from federal service at the end of September 2020. Jody has been a reliable fixture at WAPA for his entire 35-year career, and I will greatly miss his valuable insight and seemingly infinite knowledge of WAPA, public power, our customers and the industry.

Jody began his career at WAPA as a general engineer in Billings, Montana, in 1985 after graduating from Montana State University with a bachelor's degree in industrial and management engineering.

From there, he steadily climbed the career ladder, gaining experience in multiple functions. He spent 11 years in the UGP Power Marketing Office, holding positions in the Contracts and Rates divisions, followed by 11 years serving as UGP's Financial Manager. Jody was then selected as UGP's Power Marketing Manager in 2008, a position he held until 2018 when he became the UGP Regional Manager. Most recently, Jody served as the acting Chief Financial Officer.

During his time at WAPA, Jody garnered both the Exceptional Service Award and the Secretary of Energy's Honor Award. If there was a major activity or initiative happening in UGP, you can be sure Jody was right in the middle of it, providing competent and steadfast leadership. He was instrumental in completing the UGP 2021 Power Marketing Initiative, extending UGP's firm power contracts through 2050, and co-leading UGP's transition into the Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization as a full member in 2015, a first for a power marketing administration.

From now until his retirement, Jody will continue to serve in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and work on other special projects, imparting his invaluable and extensive wisdom to the new Senior VP and Chief Financial Officer Mike Peterson.

Although WAPA and UGP will miss Jody's knowledge, experience and sensibility, we are fortunate he has spent much of his career sharing those attributes with the co-workers around him, so they are ready to forge ahead to a bright and successful energy frontier. Among these exceptional employees is VP of Operations Lloyd Linke, who will continue to serve as acting Regional Manager through the end of the calendar year.

Please join me in congratulating Jody on an impeccable federal career with WAPA. We will be holding a virtual retirement event in the future. Details are coming soon.

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