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## Western Area Power Administration

*Powering the energy frontier*



Thank you to those who attended our annual customer meeting on Monday. It was great to see some new and many familiar faces. A video of the meeting and associated materials is now available on [The Source](#).

This is also a great time to share a few updates regarding the pandemic. Some questions have been raised about applicability of Executive Order 14042 – aimed to ensure adequate COVID safety protocols for federal contractors. It has been decided that electric power sales by power marketing administrations are excluded from requirements in the order to be vaccinated. In short, PMA power sales agreements do not fit the applicable criteria under the order nor would inclusion in those agreements further the purposes for which the order is being implemented.

We have also received a few questions about when WAPA plans to end maximized telework. The Department of Energy's current workplace reentry guidance is set to begin Jan. 18 in phases. Entry dates will be staggered based on positions and key duties. What remains uncertain is how mask-wearing will apply in federal facilities, our ability to host visitors, whether we will return to full travel and if we can more frequently attend in-person meetings with you, our valued partners.

With the surge of cases within WAPA and in our territory, I encourage everyone to be careful as we head into the holidays. We have been so fortunate as an organization to have everyone recover or currently recovering from COVID-19 so far. I want nothing more than to see our case numbers decrease and our people safe and whole.

A brand new year is right around the corner. May we emerge from the pandemic as strong as ever as we continue a tradition of collaboration and partnership.

**Tracey A. LeBeau | Administrator and Chief Executive Officer**

Department of Energy

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