

Welcome to the June issue of the *WAPA and Markets* newsletter. WAPA continues to participate in the multiple market developments, studies and dialogues underway in the Western Interconnection. Here you will find timely updates across WAPA's major energy market activities currently under evaluation and development:



SPP RTO PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS CONTINUES

On April 28, WAPA issued a *Federal Register* notice (FRN) on its recommendation for WAPA's Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) and Rocky Mountain (RM) regions to pursue final negotiations with the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) regarding SPP Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) membership, and for the Upper Great Plains (UGP) region to expand its participation in the Western Interconnection. The purpose of the FRN is to provide an opportunity for written public comments to help inform WAPA's decision about whether to proceed to final negotiations with SPP.

WAPA hosted a webinar on May 11 to provide a summary of the recommendation and respond to clarifying questions. A second question and answer session was held May 25. The public comment period, which opened with the publication of the FRN on April 28, will close on June 12.

WAPA appreciates customer involvement in this process and will carefully consider all written comments received be-

tween April 28 and June 12 as we evaluate whether SPP RTO membership in the Western Interconnection will provide long-term value amid a rapidly changing electric industry.

Once WAPA's Administrator has made a decision, WAPA will respond to comments and provide notice of the decision with a posting on its website. If WAPA decides to move forward with final negotiations with SPP, and those negotiations are successful, RM and CRSP will then execute SPP membership agreements and UGP will expand its participation in SPP.

If an affirmative decision is made, SPP RTO go-live in the Western Interconnection is targeted for spring 2026.

The FRN, Recommendation Report, presentations and webinar recordings are posted on WAPA's SPP RTO membership exploration webpage located on [The Source](#).



DSW ANALYZES RESULTS AND REFINES PROCESSES IN CAISO'S WEIM

Since April 5, WAPA has been participating in the California Independent System Operator's (CAISO's) Western Energy Imbalance Market (WEIM) for the Western Area Lower Colorado Balancing Authority operated out of WAPA's Desert Southwest (DSW) region.

Merchant function representatives for both WAPA and customers are reviewing bid results and market dispatches daily with CAISO. WAPA Operations staff also participate in the daily sessions and use the information presented to refine

strategies to manage balancing, scheduling and transmission availability for market transactions. Initial results indicate potential savings from market participation; however, settlements tools need further development to provide definitive results.

More information on DSW's effort is available on the [DSW energy imbalance market activities webpage](#).



DSW BEGINS PARTICIPATION IN SPP MARKETS+ PHASE ONE DEVELOPMENT

On April 11, DSW executed an agreement with SPP to participate in Phase One of the Markets+ development. Other participating entities are listed in SPP's [news release](#).

Initial executive committee, task force and working group meetings have taken place. WAPA has subject matter experts participating as voting members in the executive committee, the operations and reliability working group, and the rates and resource adequacy task forces. We are also collaborating with Arizona Electric Power Cooperative to cover all meetings and provide our joint perspectives as the proposed tariff takes shape.

DSW participating in the development of Markets+ provides critical insights and understanding of intricate nuances of Markets+ as WAPA identifies best paths forward that protect the value of hydropower and transmission services. WAPA remains committed to fully analyzing, exploring and understanding alternative ways of doing business to make the best decisions based on WAPA's core statutory mission, regional circumstances and customer needs.

For more information on SPP's day-ahead market design, visit the [SPP Markets+ webpage](#).



CAISO EXTENDED DAY AHEAD MARKET (EDAM) UPDATES

On Feb. 1, the CAISO Board of Governors and the Energy Imbalance Market Governing Body approved the CAISO EDAM proposal. Draft tariff language was posted in March.

In April, WAPA's Sierra Nevada (SN) and DSW regions submitted joint comments to CAISO on the draft EDAM tariff language reiterating a primary unresolved concern that EDAM, with the current design, might utilize WAPA's transmission system without providing adequate compensation. SN continues to work with its host balancing authority, the Balancing Authority of Northern California, and the CAISO

to attempt to develop pathways to address our concerns. CAISO is continuing to hold stakeholder meetings, and WAPA will continue to participate in those processes.

CAISO intends to file the EDAM tariff with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) by the end of June and, subject to FERC approval, EDAM is targeted to go live in early 2025.

For more information on CAISO's day-ahead market design, visit the [CAISO EDAM webpage](#).



WESTERN ENERGY IMBALANCE SERVICE MARKET UPDATES

On April 1, Xcel Energy's Public Service Company of Colorado Balancing Authority Area was incorporated into the SPP Western Energy Imbalance Service (WEIS), and three new participants began WEIS operations. The three new participants are Xcel Energy-Colorado, Platte River Power Authority and Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC.

SPP also published the [2022 WEIS Benefit of Market Report](#), which estimates that WEIS provided \$31.7 million in net benefits to its 12 participating western utilities in 2022.

Thank you for reading the *WAPA and Markets* newsletter. For more information, call your regional representative or visit the [WAPA and markets webpage on The Source](#).



Consistent with the *Power Forward 2030* strategic direction, WAPA will continue to work closely with customers, generating agencies and others to identify the best path forward that protects the value of hydropower, transmission services and power system assets for the benefit of preference customers and the nation.

