

WAPA at a glance

Western Area Power Administration, part of the U.S. Department of Energy, operates one of the nation's largest high-voltage transmission systems, delivering around 24,000 gigawatt hours of reliable hydropower across the West and Great Plains.

With more than 17,000 miles of transmission lines, 321 substations and four control centers, WAPA ensures affordable electricity reaches nearly 700 customers who, in turn, serve more than 40 million people.

WAPA operates at net-zero impact to taxpayers – funding its well over \$1 billion annual program through customer revenues – while its workforce keeps the grid safe and reliable around the clock, every day of the year.

Mission: Safely provide reliable, cost-based hydropower and transmission to our customers and the communities we serve.

15
State footprint

686
Wholesale power customers

40M
Americans reached

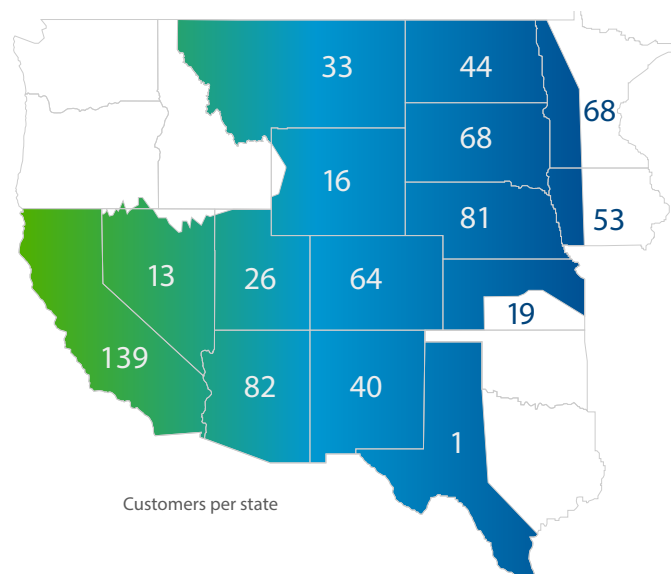
CUSTOMERS & ENERGY DISTRIBUTION

	#	Energy
Cooperatives	60	23.3%
Federal agencies	41	6.0%
Independent system operators	3	4.7%
Interproject	6	1.2%
Investor-owned utilities	20	1.6%
Irrigation districts	40	4.0%
Joint power authorities	6	3.1%
Municipalities	295	29.0%
Native American tribes	116	3.7%
Power marketers	12	0.1%
Project use (Reclamation)	86	4.9%
Public utility districts	13	8.9%
State agencies	49	9.4%
Transportation districts	2	0.1%

BALANCING THE GRID

Balancing authorities maintain constant alignment between supply and demand to prevent blackouts. WAPA operates the Western Area Lower Colorado Balancing Authority and serves as a Transmission Operator in the Southwest Power Pool's Regional Transmission Organization in addition to WAPA's Desert Southwest and Sierra Nevada regions. These responsibilities require close coordination with neighboring systems to safeguard reliability across diverse regions.

OUR SYSTEM AT A GLANCE



SAFEGUARDING U.S. ENERGY SECURITY

As demand for electricity grows from new industries such as data centers and advanced manufacturing, WAPA's responsibility to operate a safe, reliable and affordable transmission system is more critical than ever. By modernizing infrastructure, ensuring a highly skilled workforce and operating at net-zero cost to taxpayers, WAPA continues to strengthen America's energy security and deliver on its mission for the communities it serves.

17,293
Miles of owned transmission lines

292
Transformers

57
Hydroelectric powerplants

321
Substations

472
Communication sites

5,000
Miles of fiber optic cable

24,000
Gigawatt-hours produced/year

WAPA strengthens America's energy future

Strengthening grid reliability

Operating one of the nation's largest transmission systems, WAPA keeps electricity flowing to millions while maintaining stability across vast regions.

Unleashing U.S. energy

Through innovative financing and partnerships, WAPA enables billions in grid investment that expands capacity and connects new resources.

Supporting national security

From responding to energy emergencies to powering military installations, WAPA ensures the grid supports America's security and resilience.

PEOPLE POWER THE GRID

Behind the system is a skilled workforce that operates and maintains the grid around the clock, every day of the year. Crews respond to outages, wildfires, storms and other emergencies, while engineers, operators and IT specialists keep the system stable and secure. Although system demands have grown significantly over the past 20 years, staffing levels have not kept pace, increasing the burden on a highly specialized workforce whose expertise is critical to public safety and reliability.

MODERNIZING THE GRID

Reliability depends on continuous reinvestment. WAPA has about 170 active projects underway and is advancing more than a dozen public-private partnerships valued at nearly \$5 billion. These efforts are rebuilding or upgrading substations and transmission lines across the footprint, ensuring the system can meet growing demands. Projects like the SunZia transmission line in New Mexico and the Vail-to-Tortolita rebuild in Arizona highlight how WAPA leverages partnerships to modernize the grid while minimizing direct federal cost.

HOW WE PAY FOR RELIABILITY

WAPA's well over \$1 billion annual budget is primarily financed through customer revenues. By law, those revenues must recover the costs of operations, maintenance, purchase power during shortages and repayment of the federal government's capital investment, with interest. A small portion of appropriations from Congress supports capital needs, but these funds are also repaid over time. This structure enables WAPA to operate the grid with a net-zero impact on taxpayers.

A CRITICAL PARTNER

WAPA's system supports critical defense installations and federal facilities across the West and Great Plains. The agency plays a central role in DOE's mission essential functions, from emergency power restoration to cyber incident response. In close coordination with Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers, WAPA can deliver emergency hydropower during severe crises, stabilizing the grid and protecting national security.

 **\$1B+**
Annual budget

Net-zero
 Impact on taxpayer

24/7
 Operations

13.3
 T-line miles per employee

25+
 Military bases served

~170
 Projects with start dates