

Federal Land Siting Discussion

January 11, 2011

Holiday Inn

San Diego, CA

Agenda

January 11, 2011

8:00 – 8:15 am

Introductions/Agenda Review

John Chatburn

8:15 – 8:45 am

Federal vs. Private Lands

What are the guiding principles for siting facilities on public lands and what is the process for making changes? What are the challenges that need to be addressed? i.e. layered approvals, granting of eminent domain, environmental requirements, etc.

Presenter: Walt George, BLM

8:45 – 9:30 am

Case Study – Gateway West

According to the Bureau of Land Management, the Gateway West line is intended to connect the Windstar Substation in Wyoming to the Hemingway Substation in Idaho. The proposed project is about 1,150 miles long and is led by Rocky Mountain Power (PacificCorp) and Idaho Power. The purpose of the project is to deliver power from current and future resources, including wind, which will meet customer needs while strengthening the reliability of the region's transmission system. This project crosses extensive federal lands and private lands and presents numerous land use questions.

Sample projects: Gateway West, Boardman-Hemmingway

- *Speakers: David Solan, Kip Sikes, Idaho Power (invited), John Cupparo, PacificCorp (invited)*

9:30 – 10:15 am

Case Study- Tehachapi and Generation Siting

California has pushed for siting and permitting large scale projects throughout the desert on Federal Lands. This effort has been driven by accessing stimulus funds. As a result the state and federal agencies, utilities and generators have had to work quickly to approve permits for construction. The presenters will discuss efforts to build projects to meeting California's RPS requirements in a timely manner while addressing land use concerns.

- *Speakers: Michael Picker, Senior Advisor to the Governor for Renewable Energy Facilities, Bhaskar Ray, Southern California Edison*

10:15 – 10:30 am

Break

10:30 – 11:30

Cascade Crossing Collaboration

PGE is proposing a new 550 kV transmission line that crosses federal, tribal and private lands. PGE, relevant state and federal agencies have

created a collaborative team to develop permitting timelines and public input considerations. The panel will elaborate on:

- a. Proposal*
- b. NEPA process*
- c. State Energy Facilities Siting Council process*
- d. Tribal process*
- e. 'Planning to plan' collaboration*
- f. Coordination of state and federal agencies*
- g. Public input issues*
- h. Tools used to facilitate coordination*
- i. Lessons learned and suggestions for greater efficiency*

11:30 – 12:00 pm

Next Steps

1. Establish federal and WGA tracking systems on the status and obstacles to permitting proposed transmission projects. This system would be populated with data WGA derives from interviews with transmission project sponsors on specific transmission projects.
2. Identify needed changes to federal agency rules/statutes/procedures.
3. Hold meeting with Secretaries and FERC (February breakfast meeting?) on collected data and identify next steps to improving process.
4. Monitor success of siting and present findings to federal agencies at later date (Annual or Winter meetings?)