

Transmission Planning and Operations Conference

DATE, TIME, LOCATION

March 8-9, 2011

March 8 - Conference: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

March 9 - Member Roundtable: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Denver Marriott South at Park Meadows

10345 Park Meadows Drive

Littleton, CO 80124

Phone: (303) 925-0004

Fax: (303) 925-0005

Web Site: <http://cwp.marriott.com/denms/rmel/>

Hotel Reservations:

Call 1-800-686-2767 or (303) 925-0004 for room reservations at the Denver Marriott South at Park Meadows. A special room rate of \$129 single or double is available when you mention RMEL. The reservation deadline to receive this rate is

February 14, 2011.

You must mention you are making your reservation as part of the RMEL room block when calling the hotel. By not doing so, you may be incorrectly told that the hotel is full or quoted a different room rate. If the contracted room block is not met, RMEL is financially liable for penalties.

Government Employees: If you make your reservation at the federal government rate please be sure to mention you are part of RMEL so you will be counted towards the room block.

Directions:

From I-25: Exit at Lincoln Avenue, exit #193. Turn west on to Lincoln. Turn right at next light, which is Park Meadows Drive. Hotel is on the right. Parking is complimentary. For customized driving directions go to www.mapquest.com. Shuttle service from the airport: Super Shuttle, (800) 258-2836. Complimentary hotel shuttle service within a 5 mile radius.



DESCRIPTION

This conference addresses subjects related to planning, permitting, design, construction, technologies, renewable integration and substations. Also will cover regulatory and policy issues.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Those involved with transmission of electricity. Transmission planners. Management and senior management, engineers, consultants, regulators and project managers involved in planning, building, operating and maintaining transmission

systems. Those addressing right of way and easement. Individuals with other backgrounds are also welcome to learn about the issues in this section.

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

8:30 a.m. - 9:10 a.m.

Effectively Navigating the Permitting and Approval Process for Your Transmission Project

Roxane Perruso, VP & General Counsel, TransWest Express LLC

Craig Knoell, Transmission Infrastructure Program Manager, Western Area Power Administration

Western's Transmission Infrastructure Program requires a Statement of Interest to assure the proposed transmission project meets program and project criteria. Subsequent business case/financial models and risk assessments are follow-up approval requirements that are essential to providing Western mandatory evaluation information for reasonable expectation of repayment according to statute. This presentation outlines the approval process and summarizes the permitting and regulatory aspects associated with Western's TIP Program and its borrowing authority.

9:10 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

Nucla – Sunshine 115 kV Transmission Project

Pat Dille, Transmission Project Manager, Tri-State Generation & Transmission Assn.

Jacob Perkins, P.E., Project Civil Engineer, Black & Veatch Corp.

This presentation will cover the construction of the Nucla – Sunshine 115 kV Transmission line including both the overhead transmission line and underground power cable system.

9:50 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Break

10:00 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.

Public Process for Transmission Projects

Tom Kent, Manager, Transmission & Distribution, Nebraska Public Power District

The presentation will address the recent transmission projects completed or in progress for NPPD, the relationships with their customers, the public process approach, and the experience obtained, lessons learned, etc.

10:40 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.

Southwest Power Pool Integrated Transmission Planning

Katherine Prewitt, Director, Planning, Southwest Power Pool

The Southwest Power Pool (SPP) planning processes seek to identify system limitations, develop transmission upgrade

plans, and track project progress to ensure timely completion of system reinforcements. SPP has initiated a new transmission planning approach to address these concerns and help guide our members in the building of transmission for the next 20 years. Integrated Transmission Planning (ITP) is the process by which SPP will develop proactive regional transmission planning principles for the multiple planning horizons. ITP's goal is to build a robust transmission grid that will meet the near and long term needs of our members and their customers. ITP will focus on regional transmission projects that will integrate with local projects, building a strong transmission backbone to connect load centers to low-cost generation across SPP's footprint.

Large Extra High Voltage (EHV) projects will be planned as far out as 20 years, with flexibility to evolve with the changing economical and political landscape. SPP is currently in the first phase of the ITP process, identifying the ITP20, ITP10, and ITP near-term plans. The ITP 20 year plan is being formed this year and will be ready for implementation. The major goals of this first ITP planning process are to identify projects that will integrate the SPP region from west to east, support the current transmission service and generation interconnect queues, and relieve known congestion within the SPP transmission grid. It is expected that ITP will define and provide a robust EHV plan for the region that is a value-based, cost-effective solution that considers both economics and reliability.

11:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Fort St. Vrain to Fordham 230kV Underground Transmission Project

Scott Rowley, System Maintenance Manager, Platte River Power Authority

The scope of this project included rebuilding several 115kV overhead lines in and around Longmont CO. This included the Tristate Del Camino Tap to Meadow 115kV section. This section was rebuilt overhead as a double circuit 115/230kV line section. PRPA rebuilt the WAPA 115kV Longmont Northwest to Golden Ponds Tap section as well. This line was rebuilt underground as part of a double circuit 115/230kV line section. This is the first underground cable in WAPA's transmission system. Another unique aspect of this project included installing a fiber optic CT system to monitor the current flow on the underground sections of this line. The system is designed to assist Platte River Power System Operators with real time fault information on the 115 and 230 kV line sections.

AGENDA CONTINUED

1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Environmentally Responsible Transmission Construction

Jim Palmer, Director, Marketing, Thomas & Betts Steel Structures Division

Thomas & Betts decided there must be a better way to build transmission lines and searched globally for best practices and innovative processes. Teaming up with PLS/Air2, Erickson Air-crane and Helical Pier Systems, Thomas & Betts created a better way that not only greatly reduces environmental impact but does so at lower total project costs and faster completion times. This new approach to transmission line construction is called Environmentally Responsible Transmission (ERT). It is air-centric to eliminate access roads and environmental impact. This presentation provides new techniques to quickly build a line at the lowest total installed cost with the least environmental impact.

2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Break

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Attendee Announcements

Any registered attendee is invited to make a short announcement on their company, new products, technologies or informational updates. Announcements may include showing a product sample but not videos and power point slides. Please limit announcement to 5 minutes.

2:30 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.

Empowering Landowners for a Successful Project

Matt Armfield, Sr. Real Estate Representative, Westar Energy

This presentation will address notification, contacts, access planning and the construction control side of transmission projects, particularly toward rebuilds, as well as new alignments. In the western United States, where there is significant amount of wind energy needing in need of being delivered to its destination, Westar is rebuilding the vast majority of their lines to a higher capacity. Many remain at the same voltage and others are being rebuilt to a higher voltage. The presentation will discuss the ongoing transformation in the approach and attitudes of the industry when working with property owners in a more collaborative fashion.

3:10 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Overview of the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project

Tom Wray, Project Manager, SunZia Southwest Transmission Project, Southwestern Power Group II

Mr. Wray will provide a presentation on the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project. This presentation will describe SunZia

and its progress toward completing all permitting work. Mr. Wray will discuss his experience with the Bureau of Land Management that is the Lead Agency for completing an Environmental Impact Statement for SunZia. This discussion will include his experience with involving the Department of Defense, the conservation community and private land owners during the EIS process.

3:50 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Stakeholder Involvement in Planning and Siting Energy Infrastructure

Kip Sikes, Manager, Operations Analysis & Development, Idaho Power Company

Idaho Power has successfully involved stakeholders through Community Advisory Committees in planning and siting transmission and substation infrastructure. This process includes extensive education and participation in the analysis and decisions including need, alternatives, siting, and impacts of energy production and transportation for our use while considering a long-term view of the future.

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

TRANSMISSION VITAL ISSUES ROUNDTABLE

Roundtables offer a unique forum for peer-to-peer sharing of experiences, critical issues and expertise. The roundtable is a discussion group, open only to RMEL members. Discussion is based on topics brought by attendees. Typically one or two presentations are given, followed by attendee discussion and sharing. Roundtables are focused on the open discussion period and provide each attendee the opportunity for participation and dialogue on their particular issue. Roundtables are held in conjunction with a conference and many topics presented at the conference are discussed further in the roundtable setting. The roundtable is a good opportunity to share experiences, troubleshoot problems and network with peers in a smaller, informal setting. Each participant is offered a chance to pose questions and share information. All attendees are encouraged to bring issues for discussion and materials for sharing.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATES

All attendees will receive a continuing education certificate worth **6.0 Professional Development Hours (PDHs)** by RMEL, upon completion of the course. RMEL serves a large territory in which attendees participate in a number of accrediting organizations, each with their own requirements. Depending on the certifying body you are affiliated with, RMEL PDHs may be applied towards your recertification credit. It is the responsibility of the attendee to determine if the credits are applicable to their certifying body and how they may be ap-

plied. Use the event brochure, and agenda to determine how the content applies to your certification. The attendee is also responsible for verifying how the quantity of RMEL PDHs convert to your certifying body credits. Typically 1.0 PDH is equal to .1 CEU, but you should always verify the conversion scale. All attendees will receive a continuing education certificate worth **1.0 Professional Development Hours (PDHs)** by RMEL, upon completion of the roundtable.

RMEL EDUCATION

RMEL's resources and 30 annual events help everyone at your organization do their best. Content is designed to help attendees and members feel productive and knowledgeable as they get back to work armored with practical takeaways. Continuing education credits are given at each event, and members can even bring an RMEL event to their location.

RMEL MISSION STATEMENT

"To provide a forum for education and the sharing of ideas to better serve the electric energy industry and its customers."

EDUCATION MISSION

Programs Designed by Members to Address Member Needs

RMEL's education program is designed to meet the needs of its members by expanding the knowledge base at every level within companies. From high-level conferences and executive forums to workshops that reinforce and build upon skills and operational practices, the membership drives the content of RMEL products and services.

As technology, public policy and consumer satisfaction drive changes to your job faster than ever before, RMEL helps you stay prepared with daily access to information that impacts your organization.

SECTIONS - Content Related to Your Interests is Easy to Find

RMEL sections make your experience finding tangible value with the association easier than ever before. In some ways, you've probably identified with an RMEL section without even trying. RMEL sections include generation, transmission, distribution, safety and management.

CORE EVENTS - Reoccurring Events Let You Plan Ahead

Core events in each section reoccur at the same time every year so you can plan ahead. At least one signature event has been established for each section, and section participants

can quickly and easily identify with their events. Topics at core events evolve to stay relevant and ahead of electric energy industry trends.

ELECTIVES - Events Dedicated to Critical Issues of the Day

From year to year, RMEL will offer new events in each section to cover the latest technologies, evolving trends and critical issues that aren't covered at core events. These events will zero in on your top priorities at any given time and may not repeat from year to year. Electives can take the form of an RMEL conference, workshop or roundtable.

COURSE CATALOG - Bring RMEL Courses to You

Bring an RMEL workshop to your location or region. Refer to the course catalog for your section to choose a course from a listing of successful RMEL events, which will be taught by an instructor RMEL has worked with in the past. These are not scheduled events, and are specifically designed to custom-fit your needs and timetable.

ROUNDTABLES - Discuss Your Priorities and Drive RMEL Content

These forums allow you to meet in a setting that focuses on trust and peer-to-peer sharing. RMEL roundtables serve as a catalyst for future program development. By increasing your participation in discussion forums and enhancing roundtables, you can maximize the potential of the RMEL community and network with RMEL contacts throughout the year—whether you're at an RMEL event, your desk, or in the field.

IDENTIFY YOUR RMEL SECTION - RMEL Benefits Start at www.RMEL.org

Identify your interests by updating your profile on www.RMEL.org then watch for the content and benefits of your section in your inbox. You can select the section(s) you wish to participate in, along with identifying your specific area of expertise and responsibility.

REGISTRATION

YOU DO NOT NEED YOUR MEMBER ID TO REGISTER. However, to save time when filling out this form, you may simply list your member ID number rather than fill out all the contact information. If you do not have an ID or do not remember it, complete the entire form and you will be assigned an ID number. Each individual of a member company is assigned their own personal member ID.

Your Personal Member ID#: _____ Name: _____

No Member ID? No Problem. Please provide the following instead:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

HOW TO REGISTER

ONLINE

Register online at www.RMEL.org

PHONE

Call RMEL at (303) 865-5544

FAX

Fax your form to (303) 865-5548

MAIL

Send form and payment to RMEL

CONFERENCE 411

RMEL Transmission Planning and Operations Conference

March 8, 2011 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Registration Includes: Continental breakfast, breaks, lunch, training, course materials, attendee roster and, upon course completion, a continuing education certificate.

- Member full-day meeting \$250
- Non-RMEL member full-day meeting \$500

RMEL Transmission Vital Issues Roundtable

March 9, 2011 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Registration Includes: Roundtable discussion, continental breakfast, breaks, attendee roster and, upon course completion, a continuing education certificate.

- Member Roundtable \$50

Total:

PAYMENT

Check (RMEL; 6855 S. Havana St, Ste 430; Centennial, CO 80112)

Visa Master Card or American Express

Card#: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Cancellation Policy: Fees are refundable if cancellation is received on or before 5 p.m. on **February 25, 2011**. If cancellation is received after that date, half of the registration fee will be refunded. Payments will be processed for those who do not attend or do not cancel by 5 p.m. the day before the event. To have someone take your place, please notify RMEL anytime before the event.

TRANSMISSION