# **Utility Planning in a Changing Landscape**

### **Lunch & Learn Series**

Session 3: Getting the Most Value out of Customer-Side Resources and Distribution System Planning

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (PST) / 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (MT)

**NOVEMBER 3, 2021** 

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#### Session 3: Getting the Most Value out of Customer-Side Resources and Distribution System Planning

November 3, 12:00pm - 1:30pm (PST) / 1:00pm - 2:30pm (MT)

Customer-side resources can enable utilities to optimize their system, manage electricity demand, and reduce the need for additional utility-scale generation, leading to a cleaner, more efficient, resilient, and affordable energy system. Fully deploying these resources (including energy efficiency, storage, distributed generation, flexible demand) highlights the importance of distribution system planning – something that has traditionally been done without stakeholder input. Distribution system planning (DSP) is critical for the planning and development of the electric grid. It is a way to forecast and maintain the electric system's reliability and efficiency while providing affordable services to customers. What is the potential impact of various state clean energy and climate policies and utility commitments on the way utilities plan for the future?

- How can distribution system planning be done with greater stakeholder involvement?
- How can this lead to the development of more customer-side resources?
- How can customer interests and benefits be fully considered in distribution system planning?

Jeff Bissonette
Senior Advisor,
NW Energy Coalition



Jeff Bissonnette has dedicated his work life to public interest advocacy, working for community groups and campaign organizations in Washington, DC, Illinois, New York and Oregon. Working on issues from food security, international solidarity and environmental issues, most of his work since 1998 has centered around energy and utility issues. Jeff has worked for the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon, the Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association, the Union of Concerned Scientists, and is currently a contractor with the NW Energy Coalition, all roles focused on energy and climate.



## Session 3: Getting the Most Value out of Customer-Side Resources and Distribution System Planning

**SPEAKERS** 

Samir Succar,
Senior Director for
Distributed Grid
Strategy at ICF



Samir leads ICF's Distributed Grid Strategy group focused on innovative approaches to distribution system planning, grid modernization strategy, and distributed energy resource (DER) integration. He focuses on the impact of DER and the implications for utility business models and system planning processes.

**Bradley Williams, P.E.** 

Vice President, Industry Strategy & Innovation Engineering at *Oracle* 



Bradley Williams is VP of Oracle Utilities Industry Strategy & Innovation Engineering. Brad has more than 35-years of utility industry technology innovation experience. Prior to joining Oracle, nearly 13-years ago, he was an Analyst in Gartner's Energy and Utilities Industry Advisory Services. He spent the first 20-years of his career at Southern California Edison, and then PacifiCorp. Brad holds 6 US Patents in grid innovations, has numerous technical publications, and is a licensed Professional Engineer.

Angela Long,
Manager of Planning & Strategy at
Portland General Electric



Angela Long is responsible for leading PGE's efforts to establish its first Distribution System Plan (DSP) as well as a comprehensive and transparent framework for clean energy resources. Angela has over 13 years of professional energy experience in the energy industry working in the utility, consulting and public sectors.



## Session 3: Getting the Most Value out of Customer-Side Resources and Distribution System Planning

#### **Acronyms**

**CETA** – Clean Energy Transformation Act

**DER** – Distributed energy resource

**DR** – Demand response

**DSM** – Demand side management (sometimes used to refer to all conservation or energy efficiency measures, and load management)

**DSP** – Distribution system planning

**EE** – Energy efficiency

EO-20-04 - Oregon Governor Brown's Executive Order on Climate

**IOU** – Investor-owned utility

**IRP** – Integrated resource plan

**NWPCC** - Northwest Power and Conservation Council

**RA** – Resource adequacy

**RFP** – Request for proposals

**RPP** – Resource procurement plan



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Thank you for joining our 2021 Fall Lunch & Learn Session.

To provide feedback on this session, please complete this survey.

Join us for our next Lunch & Learn!

#### Session 4: Electricity Reliability and the Clean Energy Future

November 10, 2021 12:00pm - 1:30pm (PST) / 1:00pm - 2:30pm (PST)

#### Register!

The Coalition encourages you to make a donation and continue to support our work.

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