

# CLEAN & AFFORDABLE ENERGY CONFERENCE

Virtual

THURSDAY, MAY 4 &  
TUESDAY MAY 9  
9:00 - 11:30 AM PT



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# Thursday, May 4

## Local Energy Resources & Resiliency

### 9:00 - 10:10am PT

Communities across the Northwest would benefit from community-based investments to expand the role of customer-side resources. Customer side resources, such as energy efficiency, demand response, storage, and distributed renewable energy, support local energy resiliency and decarbonization. What is needed to accelerate customer-side resource investments to support community energy resiliency and help communities meet their decarbonization goals?

#### **Moderator**

Marli Klass

Energy & Environmental Justice  
Policy Associate  
NW Energy Coalition



Marli joined the Coalition as an Energy and Environmental Justice Policy Associate in 2021. Before joining the Coalition, she worked as a law clerk at Bonneville Power Administration. Her work at Bonneville included working on a broad range of legal issues regarding electricity generation and transmission. Marli has also worked for Crag Law Center, where she gained invaluable experience in environmental litigation. As a Palauan woman, she has also worked extensively within her community doing energy and environmental outreach. Marli holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Pre-Law from the University of Hawaii and a J.D. from Lewis and Clark Law School, where she primarily focused on energy, innovation, and sustainability law.



## **Panelist**

Amy Cilimburg  
Executive Director  
Climate Smart Missoula



Amy loves putting her passions to work leading Climate Smart Missoula, strengthening connections, initiating new programs, and building a resilient community. She was part of the team that launched this organization and has been at the helm since its inception. Amy has worked on climate and energy policy for the past decade, encouraging solutions at the local, state and federal levels. She did much of this through her work at Montana Audubon and by volunteering locally to help develop Missoula's Climate Action Plans. She lives in Missoula with her husband, daughter (who is away at college!), and dog. You might see her out running our trails with said dog, who keeps up just fine. Her daughter, meanwhile, runs way too fast.

## **Panelist**

Scott Gibson  
Energy Storage & Emerging  
Technologies Department Manager  
Snohomish County PUD



Scott Gibson is the Energy Storage & Emerging Technologies Department Manager at Snohomish County PUD. He is a Professional Engineer and a 1987 graduate from the University of Wyoming where he received a BSEE. After graduation, Scott worked for Boeing and then with a consulting company designing electrical systems for commercial and industrial facilities. In 2000, Scott joined the PUD where he had the opportunity to work on the development of a tidal generation project, assist with the design and construction of two “run of the river” hydroelectric projects and then be the project manager for the PUD’s first state-of-the-art utility scale microgrid. He is now managing a new department that focuses on battery energy storage and emerging technology projects.

**Panelist**  
John Seng  
Policy Manager  
Spark Northwest



John has worked on climate justice issues in Oregon and Washington, organized with Minnesota 350, and conducted research for a food justice organization in Minneapolis. With Spark Northwest, John advocates for policy to support a just clean energy transition that transfers power and wealth to low-income, BIPOC, and rural communities. He holds a Master of Science from the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey School of Public Affairs. Outside of work he is a runner, climber and painter who loves exploring the mountains and forests of the Pacific Northwest.

# Thursday, May 4

## The Value of Markets & Transmission Expansion to the West

10:15 - 11:25am PT

West-wide electricity markets and transmission will play a key role in helping the Northwest meet our decarbonization and economic goals. How could an expanded western electricity market be of value to the Northwest? How can we ensure adequate transmission is available for enhancing economic benefits from renewable energy and storage projects?

### Moderator

Fred Heutte  
Senior Policy Associate  
NW Energy Coalition



Fred came on board in February 2011, and is very pleased to be involved with the Coalition again after being a co-founder and board member in the 1980s. He has a background in energy and climate policy and worked at several firms involved with energy efficiency program evaluation in the Northwest and nationally. He later formed a database services business assisting nonprofit groups around the country. He has been active in the Sierra Club's national energy and climate effort and leads their delegation at the UN climate conferences, and currently serves on the board of the Citizens Utility Board of Oregon.



## **Panelist**

Spencer Gray

Executive Director

Northwest & Intermountain Power  
Producers Coalition



Spencer Gray joined NIPPC as Executive Director in February 2020. He is responsible for leading NIPPC's efforts toward a more competitive and nimble electric power system that can satisfy the region's evolving policy objectives. Mr. Gray worked in Washington, D.C., for a decade as a member of several congressional staffs. He served in senior capacities on Capitol Hill for U.S. senators from the Northwest, including as a legislative director and a member of the professional staff of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. His areas of legislative and oversight responsibility have included electric power markets, the Bonneville Power Administration, hydroelectric licensing, pollution regulation, and a variety of public land matters. He has also provided analytical expertise to public-interest organizations and the financial sector, including in the institutional brokerage segment of FBR Capital Markets. A native of Montana, Mr. Gray is a graduate of Yale University.

## **Panelist**

Leah Rubin Shen

Managing Director

Advanced Energy United



Leah Rubin Shen oversees Advanced Energy United's legislative, political, and regulatory engagement in the western region of the U.S. She also supports state-level implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act across all regions. Prior to joining Advanced Energy United, Leah advised U.S. Senator Chris Coons on energy and environmental policy and studied the electrochemistry of new materials for fuel cells.

### **Panelist**

**Kathy Anderson**  
Senior Manager, Real Time  
Operations & Markets  
Idaho Power



Kathy Anderson is the Senior Manager, Real Time Operations and Markets at Idaho Power Company. She manages the team responsible for the safe and reliable real-time operation of Idaho Power's bulk-electric transmission system, generation dispatch, balancing area and load service obligations including EIM Operations. She oversees the administration of Idaho Power's FERC Open Access Transmission Tariff and the generator interconnection queue process. Kathy is also involved on behalf of Idaho Power in regional market development and policy efforts. Kathy served as the co-lead of a team preparing for Idaho Power's entry into the Western Energy Imbalance Market. She has served on various committees representing Idaho Power at WECC, NAESB, and NERC in her career, including serving as a former chair of WECC's Market Interface Committee. She holds a bachelor's degree in finance and an MBA with an accounting emphasis. She joined Idaho Power in 2005.



## Acronyms

BPA - Bonneville Power Administration  
CAISO - California Independent System Operator  
DER - distributed energy resources  
DR - demand response  
EDAM - Extended Day Ahead Market (run by CAISO)  
EE - energy efficiency  
EV - electric vehicle  
FERC - Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
IRA - Inflation Reduction Act  
IIJA - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (also known as BIL - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)  
NIPPC - Northwest & Intermountain Power Producers Coalition  
NWECC - NW Energy Coalition  
NWPCC - Northwest Power & Conservation Council  
PUC - Public Utility Commission  
PUD - Public Utility District  
SPP - Southwest Power Pool  
UTC - Utilities and Transportation Commission  
WECC - Western Electricity Coordinating Council  
WEIM - Western Energy Imbalance Market (run by CAISO)  
WPP - Western Power Pool  
WRAP - Western Resource Adequacy Program

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