WREGIS Path Forward
Frequently Asked Questions

As of December 19, 2025

Q1. Why did M-RETS decide not to renew the contract?

A. We cannot speak for CleanCounts (formerly M-RETS), but in general, time requirements for the development work did not align with their expectations. Please see their press release for more information: https://www.mrets.org/blog/wecc/

Q2. What did the WECC Board decide at its June 2025 meeting as a result of M-RETS's decision not to renew the contract?

A. The WECC Board directed WECC management to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to third-party software developers for a custom software solution. The Board also directed WECC management to conduct outreach and solicit stakeholder feedback on corporate structure and governance to establish WREGIS as a stand-alone company.

Q3. Has WECC retained experienced outside advisors to assist with the software development efforts?

A. Yes. We are working with a consultant who is experienced in both software development and entrepreneurial ventures. Additionally, experienced individuals on WECC's IT team and other outside experts will assist with the RFP development. The RFP will be distributed and open to experienced, successful software development companies.

Q4. Will WECC retain project management expertise for the software development project?

A. Yes, once a vendor is selected, we will use a project manager to ensure all development milestones are met.

Q5. Will WECC retain project management expertise for the creation of the new entity?

A. WECC will use internal and external project management and legal expertise for the activities related to the separation of WREGIS from WECC.

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Q6. What will the opportunities be to provide feedback on the RFP and software development project?

A. A survey was sent to all active WREGIS users on July 7. Results from this survey will be used to inform the RFP requirements and vendor selection process. The goal of the software development project is to have a minimum viable product (MVP) ready by December 31, 2027, when our contract with CleanCounts ends. The MVP will enable customers to perform their jobs and meet compliance requirements. We will post the RFP on wecc.org and the WREGIS page for awareness.

Q7. How are you defining the MVP?

A. WREGIS staff evaluated the current system functionality to identify functions and features necessary for users to perform their core duties, such as registering generators, data reporting, compliance reporting, REC creation, REC transfers, and REC retirements. These features are the backbone of the MVP.

Q8. Was any thought given to approaching one of the original founding entities (Western Governors Association, Western Regional Air Partnership or California Energy Commission) rather than forming a new company?

A. As part of our due diligence, we did consider whether transferring WREGIS operations to an existing organization was viable. After consideration, we determined that the needs of WREGIS and its customers and stakeholders would be best served by creating a stand-alone company that is focused solely on the needs of WREGIS and its customers, rather than having those interests be secondary to other interests.

Q9. Governance of the new company will be very important. Will there be opportunities for stakeholders to get involved in the governance discussions?

A. Yes. WECC will be engaging with key stakeholders and committees to solicit feedback on the governance structure. Recommended governance and corporate structures will be discussed in committee meetings and public forums in July and August. Additionally, we have posted the recommendations. A public comment period will be open August 1–29 to provide enough time to gather feedback and present it to our Board with recommendations in September.

Q10. What will happen to WREGIS's reserve funds?

A. The WREGIS reserves will fund the software development efforts as well as the expenses for establishing the new company.

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Q11. Will fees go up because of the decision to build new software and separate WREGIS from WECC into a stand-alone entity?

A. While it is very early in the process, we do anticipate that fees will change. The fee structure has not changed in the 18 years since WREGIS began operating. The fee levels have decreased several times in the last 18 years and have never increased. As we move through the process and develop a budget for the stand-alone WREGIS, we will share more information. We will work with the WREGIS Committee to ensure that customers can plan for any anticipated changes. Based on market research, WREGIS fees are now approximately 25% of market rates.

Q12. Is there a path forward if WECC does not receive satisfactory proposals in response to the RFP?

A. WECC is confident that there are numerous software developers capable of creating a tracking system. We have already identified several credible and qualified developers, and we will also post the RFP publicly to increase the number of qualified respondents.

Q13. How can I provide feedback to WREGIS about my needs?

A. We sent a survey to active users of the WREGIS system in July to solicit feedback on system use and features to inform the development of the RFP for software development. We are focused on the development of an MVP that enables users to perform their jobs and meet compliance requirements. Once the MVP is functional, we will prioritize enhancement requests and work with users on additional feature and functionality requests.

Q14. What opportunities are available for stakeholders to get involved?

A. Many opportunities for engagement are available, including monthly WREGIS Committee meetings, Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) meetings, July and August town halls, and a comment period on the corporate structure and governance recommendations. Additionally, questions or feedback can be sent to engage@wecc.org or provided in one-on-one meetings, depending on stakeholder preference. Learn more about becoming a SAC member here.

Q15. Will users have an opportunity to test the software before it goes live? If not, will WREGIS consider identifying some beta-testers or take steps to make system changes shortly after going live based on early feedback?

A. Yes, we plan to conduct user acceptance testing (UAT) that will include a small subset of stakeholders. The details of the UAT, including participation, will be determined in the coming months. The focus of development efforts initially will be on the MVP as defined in Q7 above. Once the MVP is fully functioning, further enhancements will be evaluated, prioritized, and implemented based on feedback from users.

Q16. WREGIS's initial survey asked for input on various aspects of WREGIS but did not ask for detailed feedback. How would WREGIS like stakeholders to provide more detailed feedback on user experience and areas for improvement? Will there be a more detailed survey in the future?

A. The immediate development efforts will be on the MVP, as defined in Q7 above. Interested stakeholders may provide input on any aspect of the WREGIS transition during the public comment period (August 1–29). Feedback and questions may also be submitted at any time to engage@wecc.org. After the MVP goes live, users may submit enhancement requests using a customer-facing ticketing system. A future survey may also be considered at that time.

Q17. Will the transition be sensitive to scheduling conflicts (e.g., compliance deadlines)?

A. We recognize that any software transition will affect customers. We will work to minimize impacts and will share information about the software migration timeline as it is developed. Please let us know about potential timing issues by emailing wregishelp@wecc.org, so we can consider them.

Q18. Why is WECC issuing an RFP to develop custom software instead of finding an existing software solution?

A. Our review of the market found that no turnkey software solution exists for WREGIS.

Q19. What will be the composition of the hybrid board? How many independent directors and how many stakeholder directors will be on the board of the new entity?

A. Specific details are in development. We encourage stakeholder input during the comment period and upcoming SAC and WREGIS Committee meetings.

Q20. Will the transition to a new software affect the current credits held or reported in WREGIS user accounts?

A. No. Once the software is developed, all existing account information will be imported into the new software without impact to account holders.

Q21. Will the MVP include an API? Can stakeholders review this and the RFP grading criteria?

A. A sample of the grading structure is included in the RFP. Items that are considered sensitive such as API or other system requirements and further details of the grading rubric are in the Product Requirements Document and will be shared with interested vendors under the nondisclosure agreement terms outlined in the RFP.

Q22. When will WECC announce the selected software partner?

A. A high-level summary of the top RFP respondents will be presented to the WECC Board of Directors at its September open meeting. The announcement of the selected partner is anticipated by mid-October, following confidential contract negotiations.

Q23. Why can't WREGIS customers submit an RFP response?

A. It is important that all users of WREGIS have confidence in the neutrality of the platform. They need to have confidence that the platform is not being developed with a bias toward any user or class of users. For this reason, we have decided that WREGIS users are disqualified from developing the platform. We are applying this criterion as a bright line consistently across all interested developers. Unfortunately, this will disqualify a handful of developers, but we believe that this approach is critical to the success of the future WREGIS organization.

Q24. If WREGIS is going to be separated from WECC, why not wait until the separation has occurred, so the new WREGIS entity can develop the software?

A. WECC is committed to the successful transition of WREGIS to a stand-alone organization, and time is critical from a software development perspective. The current contract term ends in December 2027, and the MVP must be operational before then. The new organization and software must be fully functional before the end of the contract term. Additionally, the CleanCounts (f/k/a M-RETS) contractual agreement is between WECC and CleanCounts.

Q25. Will there be a process in place that allows stakeholders to request changes to the system?

A. Yes. The process is yet to be determined, but we envision a customer-facing ticketing system to report bugs and request enhancements.

Q26. Will you consider having a technical advisory committee to help ease the transition and provide feedback during the software development?

A. No. The SAC can provide input, and we plan to have a subset of customers participate in user acceptance testing later in the process but before the go-live date.

Q27. Will change requests be the same as outlined in the current committee charters?

A. When the new organization is in place, a new charter will be drafted for the SAC based on the structure of the new entity. System updates will likely be handled through a software ticketing system, and there will likely be some level of stakeholder involvement in ticket prioritization.

Q28. Will the new organization hire dedicated software resources?

A. Yes. The organization will have internal development resources on staff. There may also be external resources retained depending on the complexity and breadth of development work in the queue in the future.

Q29. Can you share more information about desired features and functionality beyond the MVP?

A. After the MVP is released, there will be a mechanism (yet to be determined) that will provide for stakeholder enhancement requests and prioritization. It is the intention that non-MVP features are those that do not exist on the current platform, are not working as intended, or only affect a small number of specialty users. Features that have reasonable workarounds will also be candidates for non-MVP releases.

Q30. Will comments from the open comment period in August be shared?

A. Comments may be submitted by August 29 via the online form and will be visible publicly.

Q31. Regarding the RFP, has the coding language been selected?

A. As part of the RFP response process, developers will suggest what they believe is the most appropriate "tech stack."

Q32. Will WECC continue to solicit stakeholder feedback after the August open comment period closes?

A. Yes. WECC will continue to solicit stakeholder feedback via engage@wecc.org through additional comment periods and other outreach like town halls as we move forward.

Q33. Did WECC look at other options for housing WREGIS outside of becoming a stand-alone organization?

A. Yes, WECC looked at several different options and is recommending that the best path forward is for WREGIS to become a stand-alone organization. Please see the document on governance and structure recommendations for more information.

Q34. Will WREGIS become a stand-alone organization before Phase 1 of the software goes live?

A. No. WREGIS will remain at WECC until the new software is fully functional. We will continue to work on the structure and governance of the new organization in the meantime to ensure a smooth transition.

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Q35. To ensure that changing needs are met, to what extent will state program administrators be involved in the software development?

A. Subsets of all stakeholder types will be involved in User Acceptance Testing. Additionally, once a vendor has been selected, a software advisory group will be formed. The composition of this group is under development and is planned to include broad stakeholder representation. The software will be built in a way that will facilitate future change and scalability.

Q36. What does WECC mean when it says the software will include an improved user interface?

A. The benefit of a greenfield build is that we are not retrofitting an existing product; rather, we can work from the ground up. Our focus will be on system requirements and user experience. Details of the user interface will be determined as we work with the selected software vendor on design, but some included improvements will be APIs, look and feel, and modern design geared toward efficient operations and usage.

Q37. What will user training in the new system look like?

A. WREGIS staff will be developing a training plan based on stakeholders' needs. This plan may include "roadshows," in-person opportunities, web-based trainings on specific features and functions, video training modules, and written training documents posted to WREGIS.org. Training will be available before the system goes live so users are ready for the new system on day one.

Q38. What are the planned software phases and how can I get involved in testing?

A. Phase 1, the initial release, is planned for December 31, 2026, and it will contain 103 unique features across several categories and is intended to provide the core functionality necessary for users to perform the tasks that they perform in the current system. Phase 2 identifies an additional 38 features and is planned for mid-2027. We used input from our customer survey to help us validate key features. Learn more about Phase 1 and 2 features. If stakeholders are interested in participating in software testing, contact us at engage@wecc.org. We will coordinate with our development partner about criteria for populating the different test groups from a best practices perspective. We will then populate the test groups throughout the agile development phases with users who meet those criteria.

Q39. How does WECC envision it will search for the WREGIS CEO?

A. We anticipate using a search firm to fill the CEO role. The timing of that and other hires has not yet been determined. However, the goal is to have full-time staff on board before the separation of WREGIS from WECC in 2027.

Q40. How many FTEs will the new organization have to support customers?

A. The new organization will have a dedicated customer support employee to answer help desk questions that are not IT related. It will also have IT resources that will support customers with IT or technical issues. Additionally, ticketing software will be used for customers to submit issues and enhancement requests.

Q41. Has a software partner been selected?

A. We are excited to announce a partnership between WECC and Atomic Object. See the full announcement.

Q42. If the market should move in that direction, will the new system accommodate the accounting of hourly RECs?

A. Yes, this scenario is included as part of our future-state development planning. The benefit of greenfield development is that we can build the system to be flexible enough to adapt to an evolving future.

Q43. Will Atomic Object conduct stakeholder interviews to help with persona[*] development?

A. No. We are developing the personas based on extensive internal experience and our summer survey. Given our development timeline and the foundational nature of this exercise, we will not be conducting additional stakeholder interviews regarding personas. Additional opportunities for stakeholder input and feedback as the software is developed will be provided through surveys and testing groups.

[*]Personas are a software development tool intended to capture a broad range of system users.

Q44. Will Atomic Object be presenting in committee and town hall meetings?

A. No. Atomic Object is focusing its time and effort on building a best-in-class software platform. Updates to committees and other stakeholders will continue to be handled by WECC management. The new Software Launch Forum participants will be privy to some demonstrations and will convey pertinent information to other stakeholders through committee or town hall meetings.

Q45. When will the Software Launch Forum be populated with stakeholders and up and running?

A. WECC is working with Atomic Object on forum charter development, membership, and implementation. We estimate that the forum will comprise approximately 10 stakeholders, who are a representative sample of all stakeholders. WECC will share progress on these elements at the January 2026 stakeholder meetings.

New questions since the last post:

Q46. What is the budget development timeline?

A. The budget development cycle begins a year in advance of the budget year. The 2027 budget development process will begin in January 2026. WECC will share forecasts and updates for 2026 financial results at WREGIS Committee meetings. As new information becomes available, the draft budget for year one as a stand-alone company will be updated and shared with stakeholders.