



Upcoming Discussions:

[Reliability in the West Discussion Series: Cybersecurity](#)

Wednesday, June 4, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Mountain Time

Our panelists will explore the current cybersecurity threat landscape and share strategies for risk mitigation, including the impact of AI and the use of cloud services.

Previous Discussions:

[Reliability in the West Discussion Series: Summer Outlook](#)

May

The discussion provided a broad overview of summer 2025, the weather outlook, aridification, extreme weather events, and wildfires. The panel also discussed issues related to IBRs, battery storage, and resource adequacy for the summer.

Panelists included:

- James Hanson, Manager of Operations Analysis, WECC
- Vic Howell, Director of Reliability Assessments and Modeling, WECC
- Sunny Wescott, Chief Meteorologist, U.S. Department of Homeland Security – CISA

[Reliability in the West Discussion Series: Data and Modeling](#)

April

This discussion explored the crucial role of modeling in system planning and operations, highlighting how models provide valuable insights and support decision-makers. Our panelists discussed the significance of assumptions, the necessity for high-quality data, and the inherent limitations of modeling.

Panelists included:

- Glenn Blackmon, Director, Energy Policy Office, Washington Department of Commerce
- Enoch Davies, Manager, Reliability Modeling, WECC
- Chelsea Loomis, Manager, Regional Transmission Planning Services, Western Power Pool

[Status Update—Large Loads](#)

March

From data centers to electrolyzers, large loads pose a challenge to the West. The discussion explored key questions regarding the risk posed by large loads, the gaps in our understanding, and areas to look for solutions to meet that challenge. Additionally, this discussion offered insights from WECC's Large Loads Study conducted by Elevate Energy Consulting.

Panelists included:

- Julia Matevosyan, Associate Director & Chief Engineer, Energy Systems Integration Group (ESIG)
- Katie Rogers, Manager, Reliability Assessments Reliability Assessments, WECC

[Large Load—System Performance Risks](#)

February

This session focused on the practical considerations of large loads and their risks to generation and essential services. It explored the operational effects on the interconnection, including the potential for oscillations and the implications for Resource Adequacy.

Panelists included:

- Scott Beyer, Transmission Expansion Planning Director, PacificCorp

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- Tricia Johnstone, Director of Operational Readiness, California Independent System Operator
 - Kyle Thomas, P.E., Vice President Engineering and Compliance Services, Elevate Energy Consulting

2024 Reliability in the West Discussions:

- [Critical Resource Challenges](#)
- [Large Load Experiences](#)
- [Large Load Impacts](#)
- [Emerging Risks](#)
- [Summer Assessment](#)
- [Summer Outlook](#)
- [Inverter-based Resources—Registration](#)
- [Inverter-based Resources—Grid-forming Technology](#)
- [Inverter-based Resources and Ride-through](#)

2022 – 2023 Resource Adequacy Discussions:

- [Transmission Considerations](#)
- [Public Power](#)
- [Considering Consumer Impacts](#)
- [Summer Outlook—2023](#)
- [Navigating a Regional Approach](#)
- [Cutting Through the “Noise”—A Discussion with Commissioners](#)
- [NERC Winter and Long-Term Reliability Assessments](#)
- [Resource Adequacy and Western Heat Domes](#)
- [Spanning the Technology Gap](#)
- [Steel in the Ground](#)

Future Discussions:

The discussion series encompasses many topics and issues related to reliability, giving stakeholders an opportunity to stay current, gain knowledge, and take part in discussions on the most pressing issues that affect the region. We welcome your feedback and suggestions on discussion topics, please share them with us by taking the [survey](#) or by email engage@wecc.org.