

Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force

Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2026

NOTE ON RECORD: The recording/transcript for this meeting begins mid-meeting. The first approximately 30 minutes of the meeting including the initial call to order, the first roll call, opening public comment, approval of the July 22, 2026, minutes, and the beginning portion of Commissioner Cordova's presentation were not captured in the recording. As discussed on the record (see "Administrative Matter" section below), the Task Force re-did the roll call, re-opened public comment, and re-voted to approve the July 22 minutes once the recording issue was identified.

Call to order by Chair Taylor at 1:00pm

Initial roll call / quorum determination completed by Amber Gale

- I. Public comment period opened by Amber Gale
- II. Consideration of Approval of July 22, 2026, Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force meeting minutes.

Motion to approve by Director Humm. Second by Luke Papez. All members are in favor. Item passes.

- III. Presentations:

A. Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) Update

Presenter: Commissioner Tammy Cordova, PUCN and Gary Cameron, PUCN Staff Engineer

Regional Coordination Bodies (Commissioner Cordova)

Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB):

- Nevada's representative is the Governor's Energy Advisor, Director James Humm.
- WIRAB was formed in 2006 in response to the Federal Power Act; it was created by FERC as a federal body.
- WIRAB provides a venue for states to advise WECC, NERC, and other reliability organizations on Western regional issues and to ensure state concerns are heard.
- The Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB) supports WIRAB and other regional committees; committee work is posted on WIEB's website.

Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC):

- CREPC is a joint committee of the Western Public Service Commissioners and the Western Interstate Energy Board.
- Nevada's representatives are Commission Chair Haley Williamson and Director Humm (Governor's Office of Energy).
- CREPC focuses on regional cooperation on issues challenging the West, including transmission.
- WIEB holds two in-person meetings a year (the CREPC/WIRAB meeting) with substantial content and discussion, much of it on transmission; details are posted on WIEB's website.

CREPC Initiatives:

- CREPC Transmission Collaborative ("CREPC TC") works on Western transmission planning.
- CREPC 19-20 Ad Hoc Committee a subcommittee formed in response to FERC Order 1920, focused on cost allocation. Commissioner Cordova serves on this committee; Robin Arnold (WIEB) presented on it later in the meeting (see Section 3).

Commissioner Cordova closed with a brief overview of the PUCN itself (headquartered with two Commissioners in Carson City, with a Las Vegas office and one Commissioner in the South; office hours Monday–Friday, with email monitored broadly) and introduced Gary Cameron, PUCN staff engineer, to present on the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).

Q&A Following Commissioner Cordova's Remarks

Chair Jennifer Taylor asked whether, in connection with Senate Bill 448's requirement that the Task Force advise the Governor and Legislature on whether policies are in place to allow Nevada to join a regional transmission organization (RTO), the Commissioner had identified any policy steps needed from a PUCN perspective.

Commissioner Cordova responded that, at this juncture, there is no RTO that currently meets the applicable definition, so the question has not yet been practically before the Commission. She noted the Commission's ongoing docket process is transparent and open to stakeholder input, and that in the next phase of that docket the Commission will examine whether changes in law or regulation, or additional direction to the utility, are needed. She offered to return to the Task Force with updates as that work progresses.

Presentation: Gary Cameron -IRP Transmission Overview

Mr. Cameron, PUCN staff engineer, presented a high-level overview of the transmission components of NV Energy's current Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), organized into five categories of transmission projects:

- Previously approved transmission projects (status updates from NV Energy)
- Transmission upgrades tied to new renewable energy/battery storage interconnection requests (approximately 20–21 projects)
- Transmission needed to connect proposed new conventional natural gas generation at Fort Churchill
- Transmission projects required for NERC reliability compliance
- New transmission/high-voltage distribution projects to connect large load customers

Previously Approved Projects - Greenlink

The bulk of new information in this IRP on previously approved projects concerns progress on NV Energy's Greenlink project, which comprises four components: Greenlink West (Las Vegas to Yerington, diagonal routing), Greenlink North (Yerington to Ely), a "common ties" segment near Yerington, and a short segment from the Harry Allen substation to the Northwest substation.

- Greenlink West is delayed to end of 2027; Greenlink North is delayed to end of 2028.
- Greenlink West is currently under construction and terminates at the Walker River Substation in Yerington, which will be the largest-footprint substation in North America upon completion.
- Estimated total cost for the Greenlink projects: approximately \$4.5–\$5 billion (up from earlier, lower estimates).
- Neither Greenlink West nor Greenlink North is fully permitted. Mr. Cameron characterized Greenlink West's remaining permitting items as minor negotiations with little risk of denial; Greenlink North faces larger permitting hurdles.

New Renewable/Battery Interconnection Projects

- Approximately 21 projects, predominantly solar-plus-battery, with some standalone battery, geothermal, and at least one long-duration battery transmission project.
- Total estimated cost: approximately \$416 million.

Fort Churchill Natural Gas Generation

- IRP proposes roughly 1,200 MW (potentially up to 1,500 MW) of new conventional natural gas generation at Fort Churchill, in three phases over three years.
- A supplemental filing may add another ~200 MW; not formally part of the current IRP ask but anticipated as a future amendment.
- Total associated transmission cost: approximately \$485 million, including roughly \$5 million for a lead line from the generators to the Walker River substation, with the balance for lines connecting into the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center to serve data center load.

NERC Reliability Compliance Projects

- Approximately 5 projects, totaling roughly \$140 million, required to keep NV Energy in compliance with NERC reliability standards (identified through power flow studies under various operating conditions).

New Transmission for Large Load Customers

- Approximately 17 total projects (Northern and Southern Nevada, concentrated in Northern Nevada), totaling roughly \$1.9 billion, to connect large data center and other large loads.
- Mr. Cameron explained the cost-recovery structure: customers pay upfront (cash and/or security) for connection costs; if the customer follows through and becomes a full-service customer, that amount is refunded and the cost becomes an NV Energy cost offset by the customer's ongoing billed revenue.

Discussion Following Mr. Cameron's Presentation

Chair Taylor thanked Commissioner Cordova and Mr. Cameron. No further questions were raised for either presenter at that time.

Administrative Matter: Missing Recording / Re-Vote on Minutes

Nicole Ting (Deputy Attorney General, Nevada Attorney General's Office) advised the Task Force that the beginning portion of the meeting had not been recorded. She recommended that the Task Force: (1) conduct a new roll call to establish quorum; (2) re-open and re-close the initial public comment period; and (3) re-vote to approve the July 22, 2026, meeting minutes. She further recommended that, for the

portion of Commissioner Cordova's presentation that was missing, the Task Force arrange for that portion to be re-presented at a future meeting (by Commissioner Cordova or another presenter).

Roll Call (Redone)

Ms. Gale (Board Support) conducted a roll call. The following members/representatives were recorded present:

- Chair Jennifer Taylor (Enel North America – USA)
- Alise Porto
- Andrea Martinez
- David Rubin
- Erik Hansen
- Gail Bates
- Director James Humm (Governor's Office of Energy)
- Henry Shields
- Leslie Mujica
- Luis Cruz Negrón
- Luke Papez
- Michael D. Roberson
- Assemblyman Richard DeLong
- Richard Perkins
- Assemblymember Tracy Brown-May

Ms. Gale confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment (Re-Opened)

Ms. Gale re-opened the first public comment period, providing call-in details (telephone: 775-321-6111, Conference ID 541-443-588#, *5 to raise a hand by phone; raise-hand icon for Teams participants). No members of the public came forward to comment. The Chair noted a second public comment period would occur at the end of the meeting.

Approval of July 22, 2026, Minutes (Re-Vote)

Chair Taylor called for a motion to approve July 22, 2026, Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force meeting minutes, which had been circulated to members in advance.

- Motion: Director James Humm moved to approve July 22, 2026, minutes.
- Second: Luke Papez.
- Vote: Motion carried; no members opposed.

B. Presentation: Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB) - West-Wide Transmission Study (WestTech) and FERC Order 1920 Update

Presenter: Robin Arnold, Western Interstate Energy Board

Background - WIEB and CREPC

- WIEB originated in the 1970s via the Western Interstate Nuclear Compact, formed by Congressional statute at the request of Western state governors; some committees still address nuclear waste transportation across state lines.
- WIEB's territory covers 11 Western states plus the Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia; board members are appointed by each state governor or provincial premier (Director Humm is Nevada's WIEB board member).
- CREPC (Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation), formed in the 1980s, brings together state energy offices and utility regulatory commissions across the WIEB territory to address regional electric power issues.

History Leading to WestTech

In 2023, WIEB partnered with Gridworks on the Western States Transmission Initiative, interviewing states individually to identify gaps and needs around transmission. Resulting recommendations included forming a CREPC transmission subcommittee (the CREPC Transmission Collaborative, or CREPC TC) and potentially conducting an investment-grade regional transmission study the latter viewed as ambitious for states alone to undertake.

Around the same time, the West-Wide Transmission Study (WestTech) was announced, initially envisioned with a Northwest focus (led by Bonneville Power Administration and the Western Power Pool) before expanding regionally beyond the scope required by FERC Order 1000. CREPC deferred its own study effort and instead used the CREPC TC as the vehicle for states to engage with and provide input into WestTech, an industry-led effort producing 10-year and 20-year transmission studies with more than 70 regional partners and stakeholders, including tribal outreach.

WestTech 10-Year Study Results

- Compiled resource projections from participants' IRPs and supplemented with WECC Anchor Data Set information where IRPs were unavailable; consulted with states (including on busbar mapping) to ensure modeled resource locations reflected feasible siting and state policy (e.g., greenhouse gas reduction requirements), correcting early model outputs that misallocated resources in New Mexico and Oregon.
- For Nevada, modeled resource additions were primarily solar and battery storage.
- Region-wide, the 10-year reference case models a 173 GW increase in generation, with reductions in natural gas and coal resources.
- The study identifies transmission upgrades needed by 2035: in addition to already-planned/in-development projects, an additional 3,300 miles of upgrades are needed to address inter-regional reliability, deliverability, and efficiency.
- Benefits modeled: accommodates 30% regional load growth over 10 years; mitigates more than 75 identified steady-state power flow violations; reduces production costs from congestion/curtailment by an estimated \$500 million/year regionwide; enables an additional 10 GW of inter-regional power transfer during system-need events (e.g., regional heat waves).
- Total portfolio cost estimate: approximately \$60 billion, of which roughly two-thirds reflects projects already in development; new additions account for roughly \$14 billion.
- For Nevada specifically: the portfolio would enable 40% additional load growth by 2035 and help utilities meet Nevada's Renewable Portfolio Standard. Existing Nevada-related lines in the study include Greenlink (both segments), Swift North, and TransWest. The study also identifies an additional \$2.4 billion in needed upgrades for Nevada: two new lines, one reconductoring project, and two substation upgrades.

WestTech 20-Year Study (In Progress)

The 20-year study builds on the 10-year study, assuming (for modeling purposes) that all new lines identified in the 10-year study are built an assumption Ms. Arnold characterized as ambitious given typical development timelines. The 20-year assessment adds three scenarios:

- Reference case most reasonable assumptions as of the time developed.
- Flux scenario higher load growth, more renewable/technology breakthroughs and cost declines, and full achievement of voluntary (in addition to statutory) greenhouse gas goals.
- Core case more conservative; slightly lower load growth, assumes no renewable tax credits, but assumes cost breakthroughs in storage, geothermal, nuclear/SMRs, and carbon capture.

States, through the CREPC TC, provided input on these scenarios via virtual meetings with Energy Strategies and WestTech staff and in-person workshops, generally supporting a wide range of scenarios to identify "least regrets" projects needed across most or all modeled futures.

WestTech is separately developing a "WestTech 2.0" scoping paper to establish an ongoing, recurring study cycle (the current 10-/20-year study was a one-off effort as funded).

- The originally planned September release of the 20-year draft has skipped; a first draft is now expected by year-end 2026, with finalization expected by spring 2027.

Complementary Regional Efforts

- Western Transmission Consortium brings together utilities and merchant transmission developers to build project portfolios in the Southwest and Northwest.
- Western Governors' Association coalition last month, all 11 Western governors (including Governor Lombardo) signed a letter endorsing the WestTech study and forming a coalition on permitting/siting coordination, with goals including a governor-led regional permitting framework, prioritization of high-impact lines, predictable multi-state permitting schedules, stronger cross-state collaboration and best-practice sharing, stronger local/tribal participation, and maintaining strong federal relationships.

FERC Order 1920 Update

- Three FERC planning regions cover the West: CAISO, Northern Grid (NV Energy participates here), and WestConnect.
- Non-FERC-jurisdictional entities (e.g., Bonneville Power Administration, which owns/operates roughly 75% of Pacific Northwest high-voltage transmission) are not obligated to participate in Order 1920 planning or cost allocation, which creates coordination gaps.
- WestConnect and Northern Grid identified "Relevant State Entities" (RSEs) generally utility commissions or agencies with siting/permitting authority within their footprints, with overlap among some states.
- Given a historically mixed track record of planning-region/state coordination, CREPC's Transmission Collaborative spun off a 19-20 Ad Hoc Committee, which developed a charter and decision-making process; each state designated one voting representative (typically from its public utility commission). Commissioner Tammy Cordova (Nevada) and Commissioner John Harvey (Utah) serve as co-chairs.

Timeline

- Original FERC compliance filing deadline: June 2025.

- Two six-month extensions were requested and granted, moving the state-proposal deadline to end of April 2026 (to allow planning regions time to incorporate state input) and the final compliance filing deadline to June 2026.

State Cost Allocation Proposal

Developed with prior input from Energy Strategies, the states' proposal establishes a default cost allocation methodology for projects identified as needed in the 19-20 twenty-year planning process and that qualify for cost allocation (generally merchant-developer-proposed lines meeting planning-region qualification criteria). Key elements:

- A subscription element allowing both FERC- and non-FERC-jurisdictional entities to voluntarily purchase capacity on a line, reducing the pool of costs subject to involuntary allocation. This builds on FERC's openness to voluntary funding under Order 1920 and a similar subscription element FERC recently approved for CAISO's planning process.
- Remaining (unsubscribed) capacity costs are assigned to FERC-jurisdictional utilities in the planning region based on benefits quantification and a zonal cost assignment: approximately 10% for lines between 200–300 kV and 25% for lines above 300 kV, reflecting that higher-voltage lines tend to carry harder-to-quantify regional benefits (intended to reduce free-ridership).
- An alternative cost allocation process is available if a state disagrees with the default methodology once a project is identified: states have six months to agree on an alternative methodology, with each affected state commission holding one vote; adoption requires unanimous agreement for a single project, or at least 75% agreement among affected states (representing at least 75% of load served) for a portfolio of projects. Neither Northern Grid nor WestConnect proposed the portfolio-planning approach in their compliance filings, so single-project unanimous consent currently applies.
- The state proposal also calls for consultation with any impacted non-FERC-jurisdictional utilities that later join Northern Grid or WestConnect (a low-likelihood scenario at present).
- Northern Grid agreed to adopt the state agreement process in its compliance filing; WestConnect did not. Ms. Arnold noted states found it easier to work with Northern Grid and commended NV Energy and other Northern Grid participants for their engagement.
- FERC has not yet ruled on the compliance filings; timing is unknown, and FERC could reject portions and require resubmission. FERC must also choose between the state proposals and the planning regions' proposals for the default cost allocation methodology.

Q&A Following Ms. Arnold's Presentation

Chair Taylor asked whether any historical research referencing the Task Force's 2024 report recommendation to build a statewide transmission plan on the 2012 NIAC transmission initiative routing study (conducted under then-Director Stacey Crowley, now with CAISO) was being incorporated into current voluntary or Order 1920 planning efforts.

Ms. Arnold said she did not know but recommended reaching out to the Western Power Pool (Sarah Edmonds). She noted that Washington State's Department of Commerce had separate legislation for a state-led transmission study, but ultimately determined WestTech met that need and redirected its earmarked study funding to WestTech.

Chair Taylor asked whether NV Energy or Valley Electric Association (as transmission-owning entities) as opposed to government agencies were included in the states' Order 1920 outreach. Ms. Arnold confirmed outreach was limited to Relevant State Entities (utility commissions and siting/permitting agencies), not utilities themselves.

Chair Taylor asked whether the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), given its extensive land, siting, and permitting authority, was included in that outreach. Ms. Arnold confirmed federal agencies were not part of that list, but noted the Western Governors' Association initiative aims to coordinate both state-to-state and state-to-federal engagement, and suggested this could be a question for WGA at a future meeting.

No further questions were raised. The Chair thanked Ms. Arnold for her presentation.

C. Presentation: ROWE / Pathways Initiative Update

Presenter: Kathleen Staks, Western Freedom

Background

Ms. Staks reviewed the origin of the Pathways Initiative: in July 2023, regulators from five Western states (Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, and New Mexico) called for the region to develop a solution creating independent governance over the markets currently operated by CAISO an issue that had persisted for decades, with prior California legislative attempts having failed. Development of CAISO's Extended Day-Ahead Market (EDAM) and SPP's competing Markets+ day-ahead market created urgency to reach a solution that preserved a large, unified market footprint.

A 26-member Pathways Initiative Launch Committee (including David Rubin of NV Energy) formed in fall 2023 and worked over 18 months to develop a final recommendation, released fall 2024, structured as a three-step process:

- Step 1 (complete): Elevate the EIM/EDAM governing body from joint authority with the CAISO Board of Governors to primary authority over those markets.
- Step 2 (current phase): Create full independent governance authority over the markets in a new Regional Organization (RO), separate from CAISO.
- Step 3 (future): Ongoing evolution of the RO to add additional services/functions as desired by stakeholders across the West.

The final proposal was developed through extensive stakeholder input (workshops, work groups, public comment, expert input from attorneys, accountants, FERC-focused advisors, CAISO technical assistance, and input from a MISO board member). During 2025, California enacted legislation (referenced as Assembly Bill 825) enabling implementation of the proposal. The initiative is now in the implementation phase.

The Briefing Book

A Formation Committee (a subcommittee of the full Launch Committee), supported by several work groups, is developing a detailed "briefing book" for the RO's initial board, covering topics the board will need to address at and beyond seating. Chapters highlighted:

Corporate Organization and Governance

- Establishes governance policies for transparent, accessible operation, including open-meeting requirements.
- Creates a Public Policy Committee (a board committee) to conduct outreach to federal agencies, states, local entities, and tribes at the start of stakeholder processes for rule changes or new services, feeding that input back into the stakeholder process.

RO/FERC/CAISO Relationship

Addressed how a new independent entity gains Section 205 filing rights at FERC while protecting CAISO's corporate structure. Three documents are proposed to define this relationship:

- A governance tariff filed by the RO at FERC, establishing the RO's direct FERC relationship and process for exercising Section 205 rights.
- Amendments to the CAISO tariff to clearly delineate RO authority from CAISO authority over market-related provisions.
- An RO–CAISO Coordination Agreement, a contract covering the scope of services and support CAISO will provide to the RO.

Market Oversight and Data Access

- CAISO's existing market oversight functions (Department of Market Monitoring, Market Surveillance Committee, market expert) are envisioned to expand to or transfer to the RO, giving the RO board the ability to identify market issues (with particular attention to end-state/end-use impacts) and direct timely remedies.
- A related workstream addresses ensuring Western states have equitable access to data relevant to their own regulatory oversight of utilities, while preserving confidentiality.

Budget and Finance

- The RO will maintain its own budget for direct and indirect costs (board, staff, consultants, IT, travel), as well as costs such as support for the body of state regulators and a new consumer advocate organization; this budget must also be linked to CAISO's budget process given shared services.
- Because full tariff authority (and associated tariff-based funding) is at least a year and a half away, the initiative has pursued interim financing, including outside legal counsel support and a facilitator. FERC recently approved a tariff mechanism allowing CAISO to co-sign a loan with the RO; once seated, the RO board can work with CAISO and a bank to secure debt financing to cover implementation costs until tariff funding is available.

Stakeholder Process

- Creates a Stakeholder Representative Committee, built on CAISO's existing Regional Issues Forum model, to organize stakeholder input by sector and route information between stakeholders and RO board/staff.
- Includes a stakeholder registration process and an indicative-voting/remand process for use when there is significant opposition to a proposal.
- Interim stakeholder process arrangements are needed for the period before the RO has full authority, funding, and a permanent stakeholder structure.

Remaining chapters still in development (not yet released for comment) include additional regulatory-structure background, communications and branding/website planning, and an evolution chapter addressing the RO's potential future corporate and service expansion.

Tribal Engagement

Ms. Staks described early-stage work on a tribal engagement structure spanning the entire West, intended to bring tribal representatives meaningfully into RO decision-making. Gridworks has stepped in to help facilitate this effort.

5.4 Board Selection, Executive Director Search, and Timeline

- A Nominating Committee with voting representatives from 9 sectors plus a representative from the body of state regulators (10 voting members total), plus a non-voting liaison from the Formation Board, is conducting interviews from a shortlist of about 15 candidates, with final interviews targeted for mid-September 2026.
- The Formation Board is expected to approve a final board slate at the end of September 2026, with board members seated and engaged in October 2026.
- Board development of an Executive Director position description is underway, with input to be gathered from board finalists. The search firm (Lyceum), which conducted the board search, will also conduct the executive director search, beginning recruitment in mid-September 2026; the seated initial board will take over candidate evaluation from that point.
- A final stakeholder meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2026, at which the Launch Committee will take an indicative vote on the board candidate slate and present the full briefing book to stakeholders.
- Public comment on briefing book content presented to date is open through September 4, 2026.
- The Formation Board is expected to approve the final board candidate slate on September 30, 2026.

Q&A Following Ms. Staks's Presentation

Chair Taylor commended the pace of progress since passage of Assembly Bill 825 less than a year prior, and suggested Las Vegas be considered as the RO's principal place of business, citing Nevada's central location and connectivity advantages relative to Reno.

Chair Taylor asked for a rough estimate of the timeline by which NV Energy could participate in the new RO as its regional market/transmission entity, if NV Energy were to seek to have its current statutory delay lifted. Ms. Staks responded that this is difficult to estimate precisely. She noted the RO's first responsibility will be governance of the EIM/EDAM markets, so NV Energy would have a direct relationship with the RO by virtue of its EIM/EDAM participation. She said she does not expect an end state that mirrors RTOs elsewhere in the country, but anticipates increasing coordination potentially including with the Western Power Pool's WestTech effort and emerging resource adequacy programs (WRAP and a newer EDAM-entity-led RA initiative) developing over roughly the next five years, built on continued trust-building among red states, blue states, and diverse generator/customer interests.

Andrea Martinez asked whether the tribal engagement structure covers tribes in both California and Nevada. Ms. Staks confirmed it covers tribes across the entire West. Ms. Martinez asked whether Nevada's Department of Native American Affairs had been contacted for input; Ms. Staks said not yet, as the effort is in early stages, but noted Gridworks has partnered with LEPWA (an organization run by a tribal representative specializing in tribal engagement) to help guide outreach, and said she would take the suggestion back to the team.

Chair Taylor asked about engagement with non-investor-owned utilities such as municipal utilities and cooperatives ('munis' and 'co-ops') and public utility districts (PUDs). Ms. Staks noted a dedicated load-serving-entity sector (outside CAISO) exists among the initiative's nine stakeholder sectors, and acknowledged limited input to date specifically from Nevada co-ops and munis, noting an ongoing effort to broaden outreach as sectors self-organize.

The Chair thanked Ms. Staks for the update and again suggested Las Vegas as a candidate headquarters location.

D. Presentation: CEBA

Presenter: Lindsay Battenberg, Western Policy Director, CEBA

About CEBA

- CEBA is a business association representing over 300 members and describes itself as the voice of the largest carbon-free energy buyers in the world.
- As of the end of last year, generation from corporate buyer commitments accounted for at least 4% of total U.S. electricity generation.
- Total tracked U.S. corporate clean energy commitments since 2014 surpassed 150 gigawatts earlier this year; CEBA members represent 88% of all announced voluntary clean energy commitments.
- Membership spans hyperscalers, mining, retail, manufacturing, and other sectors.

Why Markets and Transmission Matter to Corporate Buyers

Ms. Battenberg outlined CEBA's view that well-designed organized wholesale power markets provide four categories of benefit to large customers (and to all electricity customers generally):

- Cost efficiencies from improved capacity factors, reduced reserve margins, broader dispatch footprints, and regional transmission planning.
- Reliability centralized dispatch over a larger balancing area gives grid operators access to a broader, more diverse resource mix and more advanced operational tools.
- Innovation competitive pressure drives continuous improvement, from demand response to storage and distributed energy resources, helping lower costs and accelerate decarbonization.
- Customer options markets enable more generation competition and clean energy integration; approximately 80% of bilateral corporate power purchase agreements nationally to date have occurred within organized wholesale markets, a structure the West currently lacks.

CEBA is also active in stakeholder processes in other U.S. RTOs (PJM, MISO, ERCOT, SPP) and at FERC on issues such as interconnection queue reform and transmission cost allocation, and offered to connect the Task Force with colleagues working in those markets.

CEBA's Priorities for the Western Market/RO

CEBA supports organized wholesale markets nationally, including emerging exploration in the Southeast, with the West viewed as a potential model. Key conditions CEBA sees as necessary for RO success:

- Governance equal-weight seat at the table for electricity customers alongside sellers.
- Market design accommodation of state policy and customer options (e.g., bilateral contracts); a level playing field for clean energy and customer-owned resources to provide reliability services.
- Transmission planning FERC/regulator oversight ensuring appropriate grid expansion where benefits exceed costs, deployment of advanced transmission technologies, and capture of long-term regional efficiencies when replacing aging assets.
- Generation reliance on full competition rather than advantages for utility-owned generation.
- Resource adequacy support for exploring new regional RA approaches (e.g., regional RA under the RO) that appropriately allocate risk between customers and sellers and reflect customer preferences.

Sector Priorities Relevant to Nevada

- Hyperscalers prioritize speed to power and reliability (many require round-the-clock power); a regional market can enable faster bilateral contracting and more tailored energy-attribute

procurement. Ms. Battenberg noted data center needs vary some support critical services (emergency, healthcare) while others may have more load-flexibility tolerance.

- Manufacturers prioritize reliability and cost, given energy-intensive, competitive production processes; a market can deliver both through broader-footprint dispatch efficiencies.
- Retailers (e.g., large chains) individually modest per-location usage, but significant aggregate load across many Nevada locations; thin operating margins make low, predictable costs the top priority, which a regional market can help deliver.

CEBA's Nevada-Specific Priorities

- Advancing a regional energy market as the top overall priority, noting Nevada's combination of strong projected load growth and abundant in-state clean resources (wind, solar, geothermal) makes it a critical piece of the broader Western market effort.
- CEBA is a member of the Pathways Launch Committee (governance, sector participation, market design) and is separately engaged in SPP Markets+ implementation via its Participant Executive Committee, watching closely how CAISO/SPP will manage market "seams" a joint CAISO–SPP report on this topic is due at the end of next month and CEBA plans to comment.
- Transmission active in WestTech (steering committee and the WestTech Assessment Technical Task Force), advocating that long-term transmission scenarios reflect customer demand, clean energy growth, and economic development needs; also supports near-term solutions to increase capacity of existing infrastructure (advanced transmission technologies, grid-enhancing/utilization metrics).
- Clean firm resources prioritizing policies to accelerate clean firm deployment to complement wind/solar, with particular interest in Nevada's enhanced geothermal potential; advocates for clean firm procurement requirements and planning frameworks that recognize system value.
- Utility/regulator partnerships building relationships to modernize planning and procurement frameworks; while not yet engaged in a Nevada regulatory docket, CEBA is monitoring Nevada's clean transition tariff efforts and the NV Energy IRP, and expects to engage in future Nevada dockets. CEBA is currently engaged in a similar clean transition tariff docket for Xcel Energy in Colorado (part of a large-load docket) and has been active on similar customer-driven programs in the Southeast (Georgia Power, TVA, Duke).

Q&A Following Ms. Battenberg's Presentation

Chair Taylor asked how CEBA views the importance of demand response in markets, given that CEBA's members are frequently among the largest market participants for demand response. Ms. Battenberg said CEBA's position has evolved: whereas in past years CEBA focused solely on utility-scale resources and deferred demand-response advocacy to other organizations, CEBA has, within the past year, begun explicitly advocating for demand response and distributed energy resources, including seeking their inclusion as eligible resources in state clean transition tariff dockets nationally driven in part by strong member interest in load flexibility.

Chair Taylor asked, in connection with the Task Force's Senate Bill 448, Section 33 obligation to advise on areas of the state where transmission or regional market growth could accommodate demand or renewable generation growth, whether CEBA had views on how members might weigh siting decisions (e.g., data centers or manufacturers) in Nevada's rural areas versus urban areas for economic development purposes. Ms. Battenberg said broader siting considerations are largely outside CEBA's scope, but highlighted Nevada's substantial geothermal potential (citing National Renewable Energy Laboratory-type resource mapping) as a distinguishing asset likely to be attractive to companies with

clean-firm energy goals and suggested that proactive transmission planning/build-out could help the state attract such companies to areas with strong resource potential.

No further questions were raised. The Chair thanked Ms. Battenberg for CEBA's engagement and closing summary of the day's topics.

IV. Future Meeting Dates

Ms. Gale presented proposed dates for upcoming meetings, noting the Task Force's remaining workplan items and the statutory due date for the 2026 report to the Governor and Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

- Next meeting: September 22, 2026.
- Following meeting: proposed October 12, 2026. Chair Taylor noted this is Indigenous Peoples' Day (a holiday for her employer, though not a state holiday) and asked for input.
- In-person meeting: November 13, 2026 (a Friday), to walk through the draft 2026 report, make changes, and discuss, in person at 700 East Warm Springs Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (exact room/location details to be circulated closer to the date).
- Final meeting: November 20, 2026 (via Teams), to vote on the final report.
- Report due to the Governor and the head of the LCB: November 30, 2026.

Richard DeLong asked where the in-person meeting would be held; Ms. Gale confirmed the address above and stated further location details would be sent as the date approaches. Chair Taylor asked whether there was any other discussion on the remainder of the 2026 meeting schedule; none were raised.

V. Items for Future Agendas

Chair Taylor noted she is reviewing the Task Force's 2024 report to identify recommendations not yet addressed, which will be a priority focus for future agendas as the Task Force develops its 2026 recommendations. She invited members to submit additional topic ideas to Ms. Gale at any time. No topics were raised on the record at this time.

VI. Public Comment (Second Session)

Ms. Gale opened the second public comment period (same call-in details as the first session). No members of the public came forward to comment.

VI. Adjournment

- Motion: Richard DeLong moved to adjourn.
- Second: Leslie Mujica.
- Vote: Motion carried; no members opposed.

Chair Taylor thanked all attendees for their time and noted the next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2026.