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FERC proposes to extend, tighten control over grid reliability

In a package of orders, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission moved March 18 to expand the number of lines potentially subject to mandatory reliability standards and to tighten its authority over the standards-setting process.

The commission issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to require the North American Electric Reliability Corp. to define all 100-kilovolt and above lines as part of the "bulk electric system," which would make them subject to mandatory reliability standards. Under the proposal, regional reliability councils would have to obtain NERC and commission approval if they wish to exempt any lines from the 100-kV standard. There "may be limited circumstances when a variation from the proposed uniform 100-kV threshold is appropriate," the commission said.

FERC Chairman Jon Wellinghoff said that, "without this step, FERC cannot fulfill Congress' intent to protect the bulk electric system."

In a separate order, FERC directed NERC to revise its rules to eliminate a procedure that the commission said "can be used to prevent compliance with FERC directives to address particular reliability matters." Known as "balloting down," the procedure effectively allows NERC stakeholders to veto a commission directive by refusing to approve a new or modified reliability standard intended to comply with the FERC directive, the commission said.

The commission said the reliability organization's current rules "do not provide a reasonable assurance that NERC is capable of complying with FERC reliability directives and that misuse of the NERC standards development process thwarts Congress' fundamental goal of instituting mandatory standards to protect reliability of the bulk power system."

In addition, the commission issued orders proposing to remand two reliability standards back to NERC for changes and directing NERC to make changes to other specific reliability standards that FERC called for in Order No. 693.

Commissioner Phil Moeller said this is "quite a significant package" of reliability orders, adding that the commission "is open to comments as we look to the next round of this debate." —ROBERT VARELA

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OMB begins review of EPA greenhouse gas rule

In keeping with plans to issue a final rule this month, the Office of Management and Budget began a review on March 9 of a draft final rule on vehicle greenhouse gas emissions and fuel economy standards. The joint rulemaking by the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency would both increase mileage standards and set greenhouse gas emission standards for vehicles under the Clean Air Act. A final EPA rule would trigger regulation of power plants and...
other stationary sources of greenhouse gases.

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said the agency would phase in regulation of stationary sources over five years, beginning in 2011 with sources that emit more than 75,000 tons of carbon per year. The agency is expected to issue a final tailoring regulation in April that would set such an emissions threshold; the law itself has a 250-ton per year threshold.

Several measures are pending in Congress to halt or delay regulation of greenhouse gases from stationary sources under the Clean Air Act in order to give Congress time to pass comprehensive climate change legislation.—ROBERT VARELA

Los Angeles mayor proposes carbon reduction surcharge

The board of commissioners of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power on March 18 approved Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's proposal that the municipal utility institute a "Carbon Reduction Surcharge" that he said "is an unprecedented step towards creating thousands of green-collar jobs and turning Los Angeles into the greenest big city in America." The Carbon Reduction Surcharge of 0.7¢ per kilowatt-hour is part of a proposed Energy Cost Adjustment Factor increase of 2.7¢ per kWh.

The City Council now must decide whether to review the proposal; otherwise it will go into effect. Three members of the council have said they want to do so, the Los Angeles Times reported March 18.

"For Los Angeles to be the cleanest, greenest city, we need participation from every Angeleno. This carbon reduction surcharge empowers every person in this city to play a role in building our green future and placing Los Angeles at the forefront of the green revolution," Villaraigosa said. "By investing in renewables and energy efficiency, we are building the foundation for an emerging industry that will attract good paying, green collar jobs to Los Angeles."

The funds from the surcharge would be deposited into a Renewable Energy and Efficiency Trust Fund that is expected to generate 18,000 jobs over the next 10 years, Villaraigosa said. The trust fund would invest in two types of programs: energy efficiency and a solar feed-in tariff.

The energy efficiency program will train and deploy Angelenos to conduct efficiency retrofits throughout the city, the mayor said. Working in conjunction with the Los Angeles Community College District, the Community Development Department and the Joint Training Institute, the LADWP will recruit entry-level workers, train and deploy them in teams to conduct energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits.

The solar feed-in tariff will allow the owner of a solar facility to sell electricity directly to the LADWP through a 20-year power-purchase agreement. The feed-in tariff "will create jobs in both the public and private sector in manufacturing solar equipment, installation and maintenance, program administration and upgrading utility grids while also reducing electricity use during peak hours, reducing transmission congestion and accelerating deployment of renewable energy resources," the mayor's office said.

The Los Angeles Business Council said it "strongly supports an ambitious feed-in tariff program in our region."

To ensure that the Carbon Reduction Surcharge is transparent for ratepayers and stakeholders, a neutral ratepayer advocate will be appointed and placed in the Office of the Controller to oversee it, Villaraigosa said. The Carbon Reduction Surcharge will appear as an itemized charge on the customer's bill.
For the vast majority of ratepayers, the monthly bill will increase by roughly $2.50 - $3.50 a month, the mayor said. Most ratepayers are in LADWP's Tier 1 category, based on their power usage, which translates into a $2.50 - $3.50 increase on their monthly bills. Customers who use more energy—falling into Tiers 2 and 3—will pay proportionally more. For small businesses, the increase would be approximately $54 per month, or 20%.

"However, the objective of this initiative is not to charge more, it is to use less," the mayor's office said. "So we are dedicating 100% of the Carbon Reduction Surcharge to renewable energy and energy efficiency."

To mitigate the impact of the increase, Los Angeles residents will have access to the Green Doctor program, where the DWP will conduct house calls for energy audits and offer free energy efficiency improvements, and other energy-efficiency programs. Small businesses will qualify for up to $2,500 in free energy-efficiency lighting upgrades, which could lower their energy costs by up to 25%, the mayor said.

Another reason for instituting the surcharge now is that, under California's cap-and-trade law (AB 32), the city "will end up paying huge fines to Sacramento, with no local benefit," unless it cuts its dependence on fossil fuels, the mayor said. The fines "could total up to $300 million in 2011-2012, and more than $600 million the next year."

—ROBERT VARELA

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Do not regulate coal ash as hazardous waste, Western governors tell Obama

The Environmental Protection Agency should not begin regulating coal combustion byproducts as a hazardous waste, the Western Governors' Association said in a March 5 letter to President Barack Obama.

The letter comes in response to the EPA conducting an internal review on whether to change the regulatory status of such byproducts from a solid waste to a hazardous waste. In 1993 and 2000, EPA had determined that the byproducts did not warrant such a change in regulatory status.

In the letter, the Western governors said "the regulatory infrastructure is generally in place at the state level to ensure adequate management of these wastes under state non-hazardous waste programs."

In light of the Tennessee Valley Authority coal ash spill, the letter calls on states to review their existing regulations and make any changes that are necessary, with appropriate guidance from EPA.

"Should the EPA begin regulating CCB as hazardous waste, it would undercut the Western states' existing and effective state regulatory authority resulting in additional and unwarranted regulatory programs that have the potential to add costly burdens to our states' budgets that are already significantly strained," said Brian Schweitzer, governor of Montana and WGA Chairman.

A policy resolution attached to the letter said such a change also would possibly result in higher electric bills and halt use of coal combustion byproducts for road construction and other beneficial purposes.

The letter and a copy of the resolution are available on the WGA Web site. —DAVID L. BLAYLOCK

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Philadelphia may establish energy authority

The Philadelphia City Council plans to consider creating an energy authority that could buy power on behalf of residents, taking advantage of Pennsylvania's retail access law. The bill was introduced by Councilman Darrell Clarke and is cosponsored by 16 of the council's 17 members.

The proposed Philadelphia Energy Authority would be "enabled to act as an electric generation supplier, electricity supplier, broker, arranger, aggregator or marketer of electricity or related services for sale to end-use consumers." A five-member governing board would be appointed to oversee the authority.

The impetus for the bill is the pending expiration at the end of this year of rate caps that were put in place by the state's 1996 deregulation law. PECO, the investor-owned utility serving the Philadelphia area, is expected to increase its rates by about 10% when the caps come off, The Philadelphia Inquirer said. Under the 1996 law, PECO, a subsidiary of Exelon, will be the default supplier for retail customers in its territory. Rate caps for PPL Electric Utilities expired on Jan. 1 and its base rate went up by approximately 30%. — ROBERT VARELA

Cities vie for Google fiber broadband program

The competition to become a Google fiber community has begun. After the Internet giant announced in February it would choose "a small number" of trial locations in the United States for its experimental high-speed broadband fiber network, cities across the country have started campaigns to bring Google wireless to their communities.

Many city residents and governments—among them the public power cities of Palo Alto and Santa Clara, Calif.; Seattle, Wash.; College Station, Texas; Omaha, Neb.; Lansing, Mich.; Memphis, Tenn.; and Columbia, Mo.—have created lobbying campaigns both through community and virtual events, with more than 400 Facebook pages and groups popping up since the announcement for submissions. Meanwhile, a few have gotten a little more outrageous in their efforts, such as Topeka, which has been renamed "Google, Kan.," for the month of March, and Duluth, Minn., which has a campaign to name firstborns "Google" and "Googlette" (still no word if there have been any takers).

The Google broadband network promises to deliver 1-gigabit-per-second speeds, a vast improvement over the 10-megabits-per-second speeds offered by most broadband networks in the United States, to at least one city with a population between 50,000 and 500,000. Applications are due March 26.

Google said it wants to see what developers and users can do with ultra high-speeds, test new ways to build fiber networks to help inform and support deployments elsewhere, and operate an "open access" network to give users the choice of multiple service providers.

"Above all, we're interested in deploying our network efficiently and quickly, and are hoping to identify interested communities that will work with us to achieve this goal," Google said in its RFI. "We also want to work with a community where we can bring significant benefits to residents and develop useful proofs-for-concept that can have a broader impact."

Many of the public power cities campaigning for the program have pointed out how well suited city-owned utilities are for working with Google broadband, thanks to city ownership of poles and utility rights-of-way.

In 2006, Google launched a broadband WiFi network in Mountain View, Calif., where
"Like our WiFi network in Mountain View, the purpose of this project is to experiment and learn," Google said. "Network providers are making real progress to expand and improve high-speed Internet access, but there's still more to be done. We don't think we have all the answers—but through our trial, we hope to make a meaningful contribution to the shared goal of delivering faster and better Internet for everyone."

Google is accepting applications from both city governments and nominations from residents and community groups on the Google Fiber Web site. —DAVID L. BLAYLOCK

29 governors urge action on wind energy, including renewable electricity standard

A coalition of 29 governors called on the federal government to take steps to promote wind energy, including a requirement that utilities provide at least 10% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2012. In a March 16 report to Congress and the White House, the bipartisan Governors' Wind Energy Coalition also urged development of a stronger interstate transmission system and extension of the renewable energy production tax credit and grants.

A mandatory national renewable electricity standard "—coupled with associated transmission system additions and markets for renewable electricity credits—would enable least-cost development of the highest quality renewable energy resources regardless of their locations, streamline compliance through uniformity of terms and conditions, and enable transfer of renewable electricity or its environmental attributes to all regions in the nation," the coalition said.

The fact that each state has its own approval process for transmission is a major impediment, the report said. "What is needed is federal and regional facilitation of the process for planning and approving transmission lines that serve multiple states while also respecting the needs and circumstances of the individual states involved."

The cost for an expanded interstate transmission system has been estimated on the order of $75 to $100 billion to support economic power transfers and meet 20% of renewable energy standards, the report said. The governors said that "actual transmission investment should flow from successful renewable power projects that can offer to purchasers the lowest delivered price of power for their product."

The report also recommends Congress and the administration:

- fully support coastal, deep water and offshore wind energy technology and transmission research and development;
- streamline permitting processes for both offshore and on-shore wind energy development projects; and
- expand the Department of Energy's work with the states and the wind industry to accelerate innovation.

"It is our hope that these recommendations—and the national bipartisan consensus they represent—will advance the energy deliberations now under way in Congress," Rhode Island Governor Donald L. Carcieri said. —ROBERT VARELA
APPA offers board governance training this May in Indianapolis

APPA's Public Utility Governance Workshop, scheduled for May 4-5 in Indianapolis, provides newly elected and appointed utility policymakers with a comprehensive introduction to their responsibilities and the processes of electric utility governance and policy setting.

Utility managers are encouraged to attend with their commissioners, utility board, or council members.

This one-and-a-half day course covers the following topics:

- Introduction to the electric utility industry,
- Trends in corporate governance,
- Duties and responsibilities of utility policy officials,
- Understanding the value of your utility,
- Setting strategic direction and delivering quality service,
- Monitoring performance and accountability,
- Assuring an effective CEO, and
- Effective governance and best practices.

Those needing a more thorough introduction to power supply and delivery should also consider attending the Power Supply 101 course on Monday, May 3. —HEIDI LAMBERT

President signs bill allowing tax-credit bonds to be issued as direct-pay bonds

President Obama on March 18 signed into law a jobs bill (H.R. 2847) that includes a provision to allow issuers of tax-credit bonds the option to issue the bonds as direct-pay bonds, similar to the Build America Bond model. APPA strongly supports the provision, which would apply to issuers of Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs).

As enacted, the legislation would provide the full subsidy of 70% of the interest to issuers of CREBs who choose the direct-pay option. In an earlier version, the Senate had reduced the subsidy to 45% but the House restored the subsidy to the full amount that otherwise would be provided under a tax-credit bond.

Under tax-credit bonds (such as CREBs), the bondholder receives the subsidy in the form of a tax credit; under direct-pay bonds, the issuer receives the subsidy. Build America Bonds have been popular with investors since their creation in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. —ROBERT VARELA

FERC proposes RTOs pay demand response providers the same as
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission proposed March 18 that regional transmission organizations be required to pay the market price for energy—the full locational marginal price—in all hours to demand response providers that participate in the RTOs’ wholesale energy markets. The commission said it is concerned that “some existing, inadequate compensation structures have hindered the development and use of demand response.”

The current compensation levels for demand response may “be leading to under-investment in demand response resources, resulting in higher, and unjust and unreasonable, prices in the organized electricity markets,” the commission said in a notice of proposed rulemaking.

Each RTO has developed its own compensation methodology for demand response resources and the levels of compensation vary significantly, FERC said. PJM pays the locational marginal price minus the generation and transmission portions of the retail rate, while ISO-New England and the New York ISO currently pay the locational marginal price when prices are above a threshold level.

The commission’s proposal applies only to demand response acting as a resource in the RTO-run wholesale energy markets, such as the day-ahead and real-time markets. It will not apply to ancillary services markets or to demand response under programs that RTOs administer for reliability or emergency conditions.

The commission is seeking comment on its proposal, on the merits of alternative approaches and on whether terms such as "expected levels," "price signals," and "market prices" are defined properly in the proposed rule. Comments are due 45 days after the notice is published in the Federal Register. —ROBERT VARELA

__Public power utilities challenge PG&E-backed anti-public power ballot measure__

A coalition of public power utilities from throughout California filed suit March 18 to disqualify Proposition 16 from the June 8 statewide ballot, saying the proposition is an attempt by PG&E "to lock in its monopoly in its existing territories." PG&E has said it will spend up to $35 million pushing the proposed state constitutional amendment, which would require a two-thirds voter approval for any local government to enter the electricity business or expand its territory.

Proposition 16 would make it virtually impossible for public agencies to provide any energy services to new customers, the coalition said. If passed, the proposition is also likely to prevent cities that have public power utilities from extending their distribution systems to newly built neighborhoods—or even to one new customer—in the future without going through the expense of seeking authorization from a two-thirds supermajority of voters, they said.

Proposition 16 should be disqualified, the suit says, "because the petition used to qualify it misrepresented and concealed the initiative's true purpose and effect, and because the initiative itself is so permeated with misinformation that it prevents a reasonable voter from making informed choices and therefore constitutes a violation of due process under the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution."

Among the misinformation alleged in the lawsuit:

- The intent of Proposition 16 is to protect PG&E’s monopoly over its existing service area, but the initiative misrepresents that its purpose is to control taxes, borrowing and spending.
Proposition 16 conceals the fact that the sole beneficiaries of the initiative would be investor-owned utilities such as PG&E and that the targets of the initiative are any public competitors of these investor-owned utilities.

The self-entitled "Taxpayers Right to Vote Act" misrepresents Proposition 16 as a measure to control taxes and public spending, but the creation or expansion of public utilities do not have anything to do with taxes. The initiative is simply an attempt to impose a two-thirds vote requirement for the creation or expansion of a public utility.

The initiative misrepresents that Proposition 16 is a measure to control local government borrowing, which is already controlled by California law, including a two-thirds voting requirement.

The initiative fails to disclose that Proposition 16 "would effectively eliminate local governments' ability to develop alternatives to investor-owned utilities, as well as eliminate the ability of citizens to choose how they receive electricity."

"Public utilities such as the Modesto Irrigation District could be prevented from providing electricity to new customers right next door to customers we already serve," said MID Assistant General Manager of Transmission & Distribution Tom Kimball. "Not only will Proposition 16 have a negative impact on public utility operations, it will potentially escalate electric rates for all consumers as well. It is imperative that ratepayers understand what this proposition is truly about."

"The so-called 'Taxpayers Right to Vote Act' doesn't help taxpayers, and doesn't empower voters—in fact it does the exact opposite. It's anti-competitive, anti-democratic, and misleading in its entirety," said San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera. "State law enables courts to remove initiatives that misrepresent and conceal their true nature and purpose. If our elections laws are to mean anything, the court must strike this deceptive amendment from the ballot."

The lawsuit was filed by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, San Francisco Local Agency Formation Commission, City and County of San Francisco, City of Moreno Valley, the City of Redding, the California Municipal Utilities Association, the San Joaquin Valley Power Authority, the Modesto Irrigation District and the Merced Irrigation District. —ROBERT VARELA

FCC releases national broadband plan

Clarify the congressional mandate allowing state and local entities to provide broadband in their communities is among the recommendations in the Federal Communications Commission's National Broadband Plan, released March 16. The plan's goals for the next decade include every American having "affordable access to robust broadband service," and every American being able "to use broadband to track and manage their real-time energy consumption."

"Broadband can play a major role in the transition to a clean energy economy," the FCC said. "America can use these innovations to reduce carbon pollution, improve our energy efficiency and lessen our dependence on foreign oil." The plan includes recommendations to:

- modernize the grid with broadband;
- "unleash energy innovation in homes and buildings by making energy data readily available to consumers"; and
- improve the energy efficiency and environmental impact of the information communications technology sector.

A series of recommendations in the plan deal with policies to promote competition. These include:

- collecting, analyzing, benchmarking and publishing detailed, market-by-market
information on broadband pricing and competition;
• developing disclosure requirements for broadband providers; and
• undertaking a comprehensive review of wholesale competition rules.

In a section on ensuring efficient allocation and use of government-owned assets, the plan recommends establishing low and more uniform rental rates for access to poles, and improving rights-of-way management "for cost and time savings." —ROBERT VARELA

Costs for renewable transmission should not be shared across regions, utilities tell Senate leaders

The allocation of costs for new long-distance transmission lines should not be shared across regions, even when it comes to expansion of transmission of wind and solar power, a group of Western public power utilities told Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., in a Feb. 19 letter.

"We strongly support the development of renewable and other clean energy sources," the letter said. "However, decisions about when and where to build new generating resources involve market choices by resource developers and customers. The only way to ensure that these decisions are made in a cost-effective manner is to provide price signals that show the true costs of these decisions."

"A policy that assigns costs of new transmission facilities to the users of new transmission facilities will properly allocate the costs," they said. "To avoid market distortions that will harm consumers, transmission cost allocation policy should place the costs of investments, rather than allocate transmission costs across a broad region."

At issue is energy legislation that passed the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee last June. The bill, S. 1492, includes a provision to base cost allocation on measurable benefits, which the letter asks the Senate leaders to maintain in the legislation brought before the full Senate.

The Coalition for Fair Transmission Policy, a coalition of investor-owned utilities, has argued the same, including in a letter to the two senators on Feb. 9. JEA, Salt River Project and Santee Cooper also signed onto that letter.


Smart grid could cut utility carbon emissions by 12%, DOE lab says

A smart electrical power grid could decrease annual electric energy use and utility sector carbon emissions at least 12% by 2030, according to a new report from the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The report's estimates assume full deployment of a smart grid or virtually 100% penetration of smart grid technologies.

The report, The Smart Grid: An Estimation of the Energy and CO2 Benefits, shows a
direct link between the smart grid and carbon emissions, PNNL said. It evaluates how
different functions of the smart grid could provide substantial reductions in energy use
and carbon emissions, both directly by using new technology and indirectly by making
renewable energy and efficiency programs more affordable and potentially larger.

Direct mechanisms include incorporating smart grid-enabled diagnostics in residential
and commercial buildings; adding more plug-in hybrid electric vehicles; and the
conservation effect of consumers being more aware about their own energy use, the
laboratory said.

"By making the grid smart, we make it more efficient and more accommodating of
renewables, and we're able to cut down on the amount of carbon we emit to generate
the electricity we need," said Rob Pratt, PNNL research scientist. "We wanted to show
the additional benefits inherent in the smart grid's potential contribution to the nation's
goal of mitigating climate change by reducing the carbon footprint of the electric power
system," he said.

PNNL researchers analyzed nine different ways by which the smart grid could reduce
carbon emissions. "Some mechanisms proved insignificant, and the larger ones each
appear capable of providing about a 3% reduction. In combination, they could reduce
the electric grid's carbon footprint by a very substantial 12% or more." The report also
outlined recommendations for future research in each of these areas to fulfill the
administration's goal of substantial carbon reductions by the year 2030.

A basic perspective of the analysis is that, during the next 20 years, smart grid
technology will become pervasive in the United States because of the cost efficiencies
and reliability improvements it provides for the electric power system, PNNL said.

—ROBERT VARELA

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APPA to offer two webinars in April

APPA is offering two Webinars in April that will focus on solar power projects and
communicating the benefits of smart grid.

On April 6, "Solar Projects: Two Case Studies from APPA Member Utilities" will focus
on two recently completed solar projects and is free for DEED members. First, learn
about new online solar tools, developed by the Solar Electric Power Association, and
how one utility applied and benefited from them. Then, in the second half of the
webinar, hear how another utility responded to their community's request for renewable
energy.

On April 13, "Smart Grid: Educating Your Boards, Staff and Customers" allows
participants to hear from a consultant about the importance of educating boards, staff
and customers throughout the smart grid development process and learn techniques
for effective communication. Then an APPA member utility will share a case study on
their successful experiences in communicating and educating their community on the
utility's smart grid efforts.

For more information, visit www.APPAnet.org and click on Events or contact Heidi
Lambert (202/467-2921; hlambert@APPAnet.org).

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### Classifieds

**Lineworker**

**Training coordinator (transmission lineman)**—Tri-State is a Denver-based progressive and rapidly growing non-profit consumer-owned wholesale supplier of electric power to 44 distribution cooperatives in Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and New Mexico. With over 1,100 employees, Tri-State operates and maintains fossil fuel power plants with owned coal-fired capacity of 1,826 megawatts, gas turbines with 526 megawatts of capacity, and over 5,000 miles of high voltage transmission lines. This training coordinator position is responsible for planning, developing and conducting training courses specific to the operation and maintenance of the transmission system. This will include reviewing and evaluating available training resources, both internal and external and providing recommendations; evaluating ongoing training programs to monitor employee progress and/or improve results; and keeping informed of maintenance and construction methods and materials in the industry and recommending needed changes. Requirements for this position are: associates degree or certificate in power line operations and maintenance or construction, or electrical technology or closely related field, or equivalent combination of education and experience; seven to 10 years of experience in a responsible position covering the phases of transmission operation and maintenance work including experience as a transmission lineman; knowledge of training development, including instructional methods and training aids; ability to effectively conduct classroom instruction and prepare and present written training material, including visual and audio aids; thorough knowledge of power utility transmission line construction standards, work practices, safety rules, transmission line equipment, and OSHA rules and regulations that

**Electric division manager**

—Moorhead Public Service (MPS) is accepting applications for electric division manager. The electric division manager is responsible for the operation of the utility's electric division. MPS proudly serves over 16,000 electric customers. MPS' total load is comprised of approximately 36% residential, 6% small commercial/industrial, and 53% large commercial and industrial. MPS's top seven customers comprise approximately 30% of MPS' total electric sales. MPS purchases 52% of its power from Western Area Power Administration, 47% from Missouri River Energy Services, and generates approximately 1% from two municipally-owned wind turbines located in Moorhead. MPS receives its power over 24 miles of 115-kV transmission lines operating in a double-breaker, closed-loop design. MPS has five distribution substations and 509 miles of distribution lines, of which 75% is underground. The electric division manager reports to the general manager of MPS. Ideal candidates for the electric division manager position would have at least 10 years of experience in the electric utility field. Applicants should have proven expertise in both technical and administrative ability in positions of progressively greater responsibility. The electric division manager supervises and coordinates staff regarding design, operation, and expansion of MPS' electric system. Ideal candidates would offer a broad skill set that includes comprehension of the "big picture" of electric utility operations. In addition, the successful candidate must share MPS' mission to provide innovative, efficient, reliable, and high-quality municipal service to the businesses and residents of Moorhead, Minn. Employment application and job description are available online at mpsutility.com/employment. Applicants must complete an MPS application form.
apply to transmission line operations and maintenance; and ability to effectively use and apply personal computer and related business applications software and materials particularly associated with training development functions. Competitive salary and benefits package with possible relocation assistance. To apply for this position submit resume and salary history online at www.tristategt.org, then click on "Careers," or mail to: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., HR (APPATCTL), P.O. Box 33695, 1100 W. 116th Ave., Denver, CO 80233. Equal opportunity employer - minority/female/disabled/veteran.

Journeyman electrical lineman
—Electrical journeyman lineman is responsible for construction and maintenance of electrical system for a municipal electric utility, including substation and transmission lines. Knowledge of overhead and underground distribution systems required. May assist other departments as needed, which includes water, street and sewer departments. Wage negotiable depending upon experience and qualifications. Competitive benefits package included. Send resume and references to: City of Big Stone City, P.O. Box 246, Big Stone City, SD 57216-0246. Phone 605/862-8121. The city of Big Stone City is an equal opportunity employer.

Management

Senior vice president or vice president, power supply and market operations—Austin Energy is currently recruiting for a power supply and market operations executive to be filled at one of two levels depending on qualifications: senior VP or VP. Please visit the city of Austin’s employment Web site to review position requirements and to apply online at austincityjobs.org. The position is listed under "job req #066619." For more information, contact Sonya Alexander-Harry at 512/974-3228 or sonya.alexander-harry@ci.austin.tx.us.

General manager—Trinity PUD is seeking qualified candidates with over

General manager—PUD #1 of Kittitas County in Ellensburg, Wash., seeks a highly qualified individual with strong leadership skills for the position of general manager. The successful candidate should have a minimum of five years of senior management experience in the electric utility industry. For further information on the requirements sought, please contact our search firm below. Position reports to an elected Board of Commissioners. With a full benefit package, compensation will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. The successful candidate should be able to begin work in spring of 2010. Please submit a complete package, including cover letter, resume, recent salary history, along with six business and three personal references by fax, or e-mail, no later than March 30, 2010 to: Langley & Associates Executive Search, Inc.; Attn: Carol M. Langley, President. Phone 303/694-2228; fax 303/694-2216; e-mail cmlangley@earthlink.net.

Reliability

Reliability compliance specialist—Tri-State is a Denver based progressive and rapidly growing non-profit consumer-owned wholesale supplier of electric power to 44 distribution cooperatives in Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and New Mexico. With over 1,100 employees, Tri-State operates and maintains fossil fuel power plants with owned coal-fired capacity of 1,826 MW, gas turbines with 526 MW of capacity, and over 5,000 miles of high voltage transmission lines. Executes the company’s compliance plan, assists in the development of processes and procedures to be used in the discharge of compliance activities, and verifies compliance with all applicable North American Reliability Corp. (NERC) Reliability Standards. Other responsibilities include the management and implementation of reliability standards compliance tracking programs, training, and assisting employees and co-op members with interpretation of NERC reliability standards and its reliability entities. Bachelor’s degree in business, math, science, engineering.
eight years of electric utility experience with at least six years in management positions. A bachelor's degree in an appropriate field is highly preferred. The successful candidate must have excellent people and communication skills with proven leadership ability. Trinity PUD offers a great retirement plan, outstanding benefits programs and an excellent compensation plan based on performance excellence. For more information about this position or to submit your application, please contact Gary Hobson or Beth Wray at NRECA Executive Search at executivesearch@nreca.coop. Your application must be received by May 8, 2010, and include a cover letter, resume, three professional references, and salary expectations.

General manager—The Joint Board for Administration of the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency (KMEA) and the Kansas Municipal Gas Agency (KMGA) has retained Little & Associates, Inc. to assist them with the recruitment of a new general manager to replace the incumbent who will be retiring. KMEA and KMGA are headquartered west of Kansas City, Mo., in Overland Park, Kan. The general manager reports to the Joint Board for Administration and the executive committees of both agencies and their respective boards of directors and supervises a staff of 15 employees. KMEA is a joint action agency serving 74 municipalities throughout the state of Kansas. The services of KMEA are to: provide power supply projects to its member cities, manage the mutual aid program where cities assist each other in the event of an emergency or disaster that affects their electric utility; operate an equipment loan program, enhanced with on-site technical support; intervene in regulatory hearings on mergers, oversee wholesale rate, transmission access and environmental issues; monitor legislative and industry activity for events and trends that could benefit or jeopardize the cities' welfare; advocate the member cities' positions before industry organizations, regulatory authorities and legislative bodies and conduct power supply and transmission feasibility studies. The general manager position requires a college degree (or equivalency in experience) in business, engineering, or related discipline, or equivalent experience. Eight years of related experience with an electric utility, including compliance experience, preferred. Knowledge of the NERC and WECC standards. Familiarity with the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB). Competitive salary and benefits package, including relocation assistance. Submit resume and salary history to Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., HR (APPARCS), P.O. Box 33695, 1100 W. 116th Ave., Denver, CO 80233, or submit online at www.tristategt.org, then click on "Careers." Equal opportunity employer. Minority/female/disabled/veteran.

Technician

System operator/maintenance—Chillicothe Municipal Utilities is seeking an experienced system maintenance/operator for immediate employment. The successful applicant will be responsible for operation, maintenance, and construction of diesels, gas turbines, generators, and auxiliary equipment at the Beardmore Energy Center to produce electricity. Experience and knowledge of SCADA and GIS is preferred. Chillicothe Municipal Utilities is an equal opportunity employer and offers an excellent compensation and benefit package. Applicants should send a full resume to the attention of Mike Jacobs, Electric Production Superintendent, Chillicothe Municipal Utilities, P.O. Box 140, Chillicothe, MO 64601. For questions, call Mike Jacobs 660/646-1661. Applications will be accepted through April 16, 2010.

Substation technician—$37.51 per hour, $38.64 per hour after April 30, 2010. Are you an outdoor enthusiast? Clallam County has mild weather, very little rain and is located on the beautiful Olympic Peninsula in Washington. We have lakes, mountains, rivers and an ocean sea coast where hunters, fishermen, hikers, campers, bikers, skiers, kayakers and all outdoor enthusiasts gather for an abundance of outdoor fun. There are also great communities, schools and shopping. Clallam County PUD is seeking a
public administration, finance or other relevant field. An advanced degree is highly preferred. The position requires at least 10-plus years experience and well defined and effective skills in the management of strategic planning and in staff leadership in a joint action agency or other relevant utility industry public sector or cooperative area. Three or more years in public sector management and leadership in the operation of power systems, contract administration and public relations are highly preferred. The position requires successful experience leading multiple services, and comprehensive understanding of the functions, principles, practices, techniques and operations of municipal utility administration. Candidates must be able to establish and maintain excellent relations with boards of directors, staff and city management, participate in local, area, state and national organizations and demonstrate successful leadership skills in establishing and achieving exceptional organizational performance and business and financial goals. KMEA is an equal opportunity employer and can offer competitive compensation and benefits. Qualified applicants M/F should e-mail a letter of qualifications and resume to Little & Associates, Inc. at dlittle@littlerecruiting.com.

Check out APPA’s career services on the Web

Visit Careers in Public Power at APPAnet.org. Our career center allows job seekers to upload resumes—and recruiters to obtain resumes from job seekers. APPA members can post online ads for $175 for a 30-day posting or $225 for a 60-day posting (rates are $275 and $325, respectively, for nonmembers). Ads in Public Power Weekly cost 70 cents per word for members and 80 cents per word for nonmembers. Job posting subscriptions are available in packages of five or 10—or unlimited for a full year. If you have questions about classified ads in Public Power Weekly, APPAnet.org or Careersinpublicpower.com, write or call David L. Blaylock, DBlaylock@APPAnet.org or 202/467-2946.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

2010

Webinar: Development of an Internal NERC Compliance Plan Using the APPA NERC Compliance Manual
March 23

Economic Development Conference
May 5 - 7
Indianapolis, Ind.

Supply Management Committee
May 5 - 7
Lineworkers Rodeo and Engineering and Operations Technical Conference
March 26 - 31
Omaha, Neb.

Webinar: Solar Projects: Two Case Studies from APPA Member Utilities
April 6

Webinar: Smart Grid: Educating Your Boards, Staff and Customers
April 13

Overhead Distribution Systems Workshop
April 13 - 16
Colorado Springs, Colo.

General Accounting, Finance and Audit Spring Meeting
April 22 - 23
Washington, D.C.

Constructing, Operating, and Maintaining Underground Distribution Systems Workshop
May 3 - 6
Sacramento, Calif.

Spring Education Institute
May 3 - 7
Indianapolis, Ind.

Washington, D.C.

National Conference
June 20 - 23
Orlando, Fla.

Summer Education Institute
Aug. 2 - 6
Orlando, Fla.

Constructing, Operating, and Maintaining Underground Distribution Systems Workshop
Sept. 13 - 16
Orlando, Fla.

Business and Financial Conference
Sept 19 - 22
Indianapolis, Ind.

Legal Seminar
Oct. 10 - 13
San Francisco, Calif.

Customer Connections Conference
Oct. 24 - 27
Anaheim, Calif.

Fall Education Institute
Nov. 1 - 5
Portland, Ore.

Public Power Leadership Workshop
Nov. 3 - 5
Portland, Ore.

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