



Wisconsin Public Utility Institute
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Regional Transmission Organization Fundamentals *and* RTO Advanced

April 13-17, 2026

AGENDA

CEUs available for the following:

- ***RTO Fundamentals April 13-15 – 1.5 CEUs***
- ***RTO Advanced April 15-17 – 1.2 CEUs***
- ***Both Programs April 13-17 – 2.7 CEUs***

All times are Central.

May include both in-person and remote speakers and panelists.



Regional Transmission Organization Fundamentals

Monday April 13

Background, Overview, Transmission Planning, Resource Adequacy

Time (Central)	Session Title	Speaker(s)
8:30	Regional Transmission Organization Fundamentals registration check-in	
8:45 – 9:00	Welcome Introductions	Lori Sakk <i>Director, Wisconsin Public Utility Institute</i>
	Opening Remarks	Devesh Ranjan <i>Dean, College of Engineering, University of Wisconsin-Madison</i>
9:00 – 10:30	Background • History – How and why were RTOs/Independent System Operators created? ➤ Congressional and State Action ➤ Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Action (FERC) ➤ Differences/Similarities Among RTOs ➤ Requirements, Benefits, and Drawbacks for Participating in an RTO • RTO Functions and Coordination among RTOs	Zach Cohen <i>Partner, Jenner & Block</i> Anand Viswanathan <i>Partner, Jenner & Block</i>
10:30 – 10:45	Break	
10:45 – 12:00	Overview • Stakeholders – Who are the players? What are their perspectives/interests/politics? ➤ Role of Stakeholder Governance ➤ Influence of Stakeholders • Regulatory Oversight – FERC, North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), States, Independent Market Monitor (IMM), Courts • Jurisdictional Overlap	Tricia DeBleekere <i>Executive Director, Organization of MISO States</i>
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch	
1:00 – 2:00	Transmission Planning • Regional Transmission Planning ➤ Role of Local Transmission Owners; Transmission Owners' Agreements ➤ Role of Competition • Regional Transmission Planning vs Local Planning • Interregional Planning • Planning Timelines • Cost of Transmission • Load Interconnection Process	Ginger Hodge <i>Director, Market Intelligence – Midcontinent, Customized Energy Solutions</i>
2:00 – 2:10	Break	

2:10 – 3:10	Transmission Planning • Generator Interconnection Process ➤ Level Setting – What is the queue, and how does the process work? ➤ Current MISO Queue and Improvement Efforts • National Queue Experiences • Transformation Conclusions	Cynthia Crane <i>Manager, MISO Regulatory Strategy, ITC Holdings</i>
3:10 – 3:20	Break	
3:20 – 4:30	Resource Adequacy • Resource Adequacy Construct Overview • Resource Availability and Need • Variability Among RTOs • Revisit of 1 in 10-day Standard	Arne Olson <i>Senior Partner, Energy and Environmental Economics (E3)</i>
4:30 – 5:30	Networking Reception with light appetizers	

Tuesday April 14

Markets

Time (Central)	Session Title	Speaker(s)
8:30 – 10:00	Markets • Overview of Electric Markets ➤ Capacity ➤ Forward/Day Ahead ➤ Bilateral ➤ Ancillary Services ➤ Vertically Integrated/Competitive Market	Kent Withrow <i>Director, Market Intelligence – ERCOT, Customized Energy Solutions</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Break	
10:15 – 11:30	Markets • Congestion Management • Market Participants • Locational Marginal Prices (LMPs) ➤ Energy Price, Congestion Cost, and Losses ➤ Day Ahead and Real Time LMPs	Joseph Bowring <i>President, Monitoring Analytics</i>
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch	
12:30 – 1:45	Markets • Market Settlements • Market to Market • Communication Between RTOs	Mathangi Srinivasan Kumar <i>Market Training Program Lead, New York Independent System Operator</i>
1:45 – 2:00	Break	
2:00 – 3:00	Role of the Market Monitor	Mary Wierzbicki <i>Division Director, Office of Technical Reporting and Economics, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission</i>
3:00 – 3:05	Stretch Break	
3:05 – 4:30	North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) • Role and Oversight ➤ NERC Regional Entities • NERC Reliability Standards • RTO Interaction with NERC • Changes to the Bulk Power System • Addressing Emerging Risks	Jamie Calderon <i>Director of Standards Development, North American Electric Reliability Corporation</i>

Wednesday April 15
Current Issues, Looking Forward

Time (Central)	Session Title	Speaker(s)
8:30 – 10:00	Current Issues • Transmission Planning and Cost Oversight • Load Growth • Queue Reform • Resource Adequacy	Moderator: Orrie Walsvik <i>Associate Attorney, Michael Best & Friedrich</i> Panelists: Juan Pablo Carvallo <i>Assistant Leader: Energy Markets & Planning Department, Lawrence Berkely National Laboratory</i> Erin Murphy <i>Senior Director, Regulatory and Political Affairs, NextEra Energy Resources</i> Carolyn Wetterlin <i>Senior Manager, Regional Transmission Organization Policy, Xcel Energy</i> Mary Wierzbicki <i>Division Director, Office of Technical Reporting and Economics, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Break	
10:15 – 11:45	Looking Forward • Future of RTOs • Energy Markets of the Future	Moderator: Marcus Hawkins <i>Commissioner, Public Service Commission of WI</i> Panelists: Monsherra Blank <i>Regulatory Affairs Manager, SPP</i> Eric Johnson <i>Executive Director, External Affairs, ISO-NE</i> Mathangi Srinivasan Kumar <i>Market Training Program Lead, New York ISO</i> Bob Kuzman <i>Executive Director, External Affairs, MISO</i> Ryann Reagan <i>Policy Advisor II, Governmental & Member Services, PJM Interconnection</i> Adam Schultz <i>Director, Pathways Implementation, CAISO</i> Rebecca Zerwas <i>Director of State Policy and PUC Relations, Board Liaison, ERCOT</i>
11:45 – 12:00	Wrap-up and Boxed Lunch	
12:00	RTO Fundamentals Adjourns	



Regional Transmission Organizations Advanced

Wednesday April 15

Resource Adequacy

Time (Central)	Session Title	Speaker(s)
1:00	RTO Advanced registration check-in	
1:15 – 1:30	Welcome Introductions	Lori Sakk <i>Director, Wisconsin Public Utility Institute</i>
	Opening Remarks	Sarah Justus <i>WPUI Board Chair</i> <i>Public Relations Manager, kp environmental</i>
1:30 – 2:45	Resource Adequacy - Capacity Market Designs - Resource Accreditation ➤ Methods and Models ➤ Installed Capacity ➤ Unforced Capacity - Demand Response Participation	Juan Pablo Carvallo <i>Assistant Leader: Energy Markets & Planning</i> <i>Department, Lawrence Berkely National Laboratory</i> Frank Felder <i>Principal, Independent Electricity Consultants</i>
2:45 – 3:00	Break	
3:00 – 4:15	Resource Adequacy Metrics - Historical Metrics - Potential New and Changing Metrics	Ryan Deyoe <i>Power Markets Specialist, Telos Energy</i>
4:15 – 5:15	Networking Reception with light appetizers	

Thursday April 16

Energy Adequacy, Interconnections, Pricing

Time (Central)	Session Title	Speaker(s)
8:30 – 10:00	Energy Adequacy - State Resource Planning - RTO Resource Planning - Ensuring Enough Energy Produced - Energy Storage - Cost Allocation	Werner Roth <i>Senior Market Economist, Public Utility</i> <i>Commission of Texas</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Break	
10:15 – 11:30	Interconnections and Expansion Planning - FERC Orders ➤ 890, 1000, 2023, 1920, 1920-A ➤ FERC Large Load Interconnection NOPR - New Interconnection and Transmission Service Option Alternative Interconnection Options	Cindy Hammarlund <i>Senior Consultant, Market Intelligence-MISO,</i> <i>Customized Energy Solutions</i>
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch	

12:30 – 1:45	Large Load Integration • Interconnection and Planning • Operations and Reliability • Solutions to Accelerate Large Load Integration	Drew Siebenaler <i>Associate Director, Interconnection Services, Electric Power Engineers</i>
1:45 – 2:00	Break	
2:00 – 3:15	Markets and Pricing • Congestion • LMPs • Shadow prices • Dispatch/Optimization	Michael Ferris <i>Professor, Department of Computer Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison</i>
3:15 – 3:20	Stretch Break	
3:20 – 4:30	Jurisdiction and Pricing at the Seams • Impacts on Operations Planning & Pricing • Potential Solutions	Johannes Pfeifenberger <i>Principal, Brattle Group</i>

Friday April 17

Advanced Technologies, What's Next

Time (Central)	Session Title	Speaker(s)
8:45 – 10:00	Advanced Transmission Technologies • Grid Enhancing Technologies ➢ Topology Optimization ➢ Flow Control ➢ Line Ratings ➢ Advanced Conductors • FERC and State Policy Action	Mitchell Myhre <i>Director of Grid Planning and RTO Relations, Alliant Energy</i> Adam Manty <i>Manager, System Planning, American Transmission Company</i> Mike Warntjes <i>Transmission Line Services Engineer, American Transmission Company</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Break	
10:15 – 11:45	What's Next for RTOs • Future of Utilities and RTO Interaction • Extreme Events and Reliability • New Technologies • Changing Roles for RTOs	Moderator: Marcus Hawkins <i>Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin</i> Panelists: Sarah Rogers <i>Principal Analyst, Electric Wholesale Markets and Transmission Strategy, National Grid</i> Mitchell Myhre <i>Senior Manager of Business Planning and Regulatory Strategy, Alliant Energy</i> Brian Tulloh <i>Executive Director, External Affairs – North Region, Midcontinent Independent System Operator</i> Jeremy Twitchell <i>Energy Research Analyst, Pacific Northwest National Lab</i>
11:45 – 12:00	Wrap-up and Boxed Lunch	
12:00	RTO Advanced Adjourns	

Thank you to WPUI member organizations!

Corporate level:



Sustaining level:



Contributing level:

Dairyland Power Cooperative
Deloitte
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
Ranger Power
Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c.

Associate level:

Great Lakes Utilities
Illume Advising, An E Source Company
ITC Midwest
kp environmental
WPPI Energy

Standard level:

Advanced Energy United
Boardman & Clark LLP
Christensen Associates Energy Consulting
Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin
CleanCounts
Clean Grid Alliance
Customers First! Coalition
Customized Energy Solutions
Focus on Energy
Foley & Lardner LLP
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
GDS Associates, Inc.
Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.
Kentucky Public Service Commission
Michaels Energy
Midcontinent Independent System Operator
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin
Pacific Economics Group
Perkins Coie LLP
Power System Engineering
Preferred Intelligence LLC
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Quarles & Brady LLP
RENEW Wisconsin
Slipstream Group, Inc.
Stafford Rosenbaum LLP
Superior Water Light & Power
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association
Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group
Wisconsin State Legislature