

Monthly Board Report – 9/12/24



Agribusiness and Water Council/NWRA

- White House Releases Research Strategy for PFAS
- States Invoke Chevron's Demise in WOTUS Challenge
- Net Farm Income Down 23% Underscores Need for New Farm Bill
- Governor's Water Policy Council Reviews "Ag To Urban" Groundwater Reform Proposal
- USDA to Announce \$7.3B in Funding from the New ERA Program
- Event to be Held in Marana on September 12th, AEPCO to Receive Award

American Public Power Association

- APPA Asks Treasury to Be Flexible Implementing Existing Nuclear Tax Credit
- KYMEA Unveil Plans for Natural Gas Power Plant
- Burlington VT Awarded Grant to Deploy Publicly Accessible EV Chargers
- Austin Energy Announces Deployment of AI-Driven Early Wildfire Detection

Arizona

- UofA Researchers Develop World's Fastest Electron Microscope Capable of Taking Freeze-Frame Photographs of Moving Electrons
- ADWR Director Testifies In Support of Tribal Water Settlement Legislation
- Ansari Defeats Terán in CD-3 Democratic Primary After Recount
- Governor Hobbs Agrees to Nominate New State Agency Directors

Bureau of Reclamation/Dept. of Interior

- AZ Will be in Tier 1 DCP Shortage Again in 2025
- DOI to Hold Oregon Offshore Wind Energy Lease Sale
- DOI Provides \$55M to Strengthen Drought Resilience
- Reclamation Joins Innovative Water Management Partnership

- IID Inked a Deal to Leave 700,000 AC-FT of Water in Lake Mead
- DOI Approves 10th Offshore Wind Project - Maryland Offshore Wind Project
- Gov. Grants First Floating Offshore Wind Power Research Lease To Maine
- BLM Releases Plan To Expand US West Solar Development (31M Acres)

California

- IID to Conduct Evaluation to Transition Customers to Average Billing
- CA Utility Regulators Establish Centralized Procurement Strategy
- CA Grid Operator Issues Heat Warning August 31st
- Legislators Break w/ Gov. Over Loan for State's Last Nuclear Plant
- CA Pioneers New Ways To Ease Interconnection Of Large DERs
- CA Targets Up To 2 GW Of Long-Duration Storage As Part Of 10.6 GW Clean Energy Procurement
- Robots Are Starting (Good) Fires In California (Controlled Burns)
- CA First Electric Train Could Be What's Coming To Your City
- CA Lawmakers Punt On Chances To Deal With Utility Bill Crisis

Colorado River Energy Distributors Association

- Monthly SMB Flows Costing \$5M-\$7M for Experiment
- Summer 2024 Costs 1/3 to 1/2 Below Projections
- No SMB (YOY) Detected Downstream of Dam
- Could Be Due to Increased Powell Level, Not Cool Mix
- Experiments Could Be Any of the Alternatives in Out Years
- CREDA Recommends WAPA Apply for Thermal Curtain from IRA Bucket 2BE
- Bypass Tubes Being Relined, \$8.9M Funded from BIL Funds

Department of Energy

- Funding Available to Pilot Clean Energy, EV Interconnection Queue Management Solutions
- Report Identifies Solutions to Gaps in U.S. Hydropower Supply Chain
- DOE Issues RFI for West Coast Offshore Wind Transmission Action Plan

- States & Territories Receive Funding for Efficiency Revolving Loan Funds
- Resource Hub Offers Suite of Tools for Utilities to Meet Growing Demand
- DOE Plans Up to \$400M for Clean Energy Projects in Rural, Remote Areas
- DOE Announces Projects Tapped to Receive Funding for Hydroelectric Improvement Projects
- DOE Offers Funds for Pilot-Scale Energy Storage Demonstration Projects
- DOE Invests \$2.2B in the Nation's Grid to Protect Against Extreme Weather, Lower Costs, and Prepare for Growing Demand
- DOE Unveils \$240M for Building Efficiency Upgrades
- Biden Administration Releases \$521M for 9,200 EV chargers
- DOE To Invest \$54.4M On Carbon Management Technologies
- DOE Awards \$50M To Six States To Help Manufacturers In EV Supply Chain
- DOE Selects 13 States, Virgin Islands For \$54M In Low-Income Weatherization, Renewables Funding
- \$8.8M Awarded To Universities For Research On Hydrogen-Fueled Turbines
- DOE Biden Awards \$62 Million To Help Speed Hydrogen Adoption

Environmental Protection Agency

- EPA Finalizes Stationary Combustion Engine Electronic Reporting Rule
- E&C Republicans Expand Oversight of EPA's \$27 Billion Green Bank
- Solidifies Plans For \$27B In Climate Funds Targeted By Republicans
- EPA Requests Voluntary Partial Remand of the Good Neighbor Rule

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission/NERC/NRC

- FERC Staff Report Offers Lessons Learned from 2024 CIP Audits
- Green Groups Push for Interconnection Reforms Before FERC Workshop
- NERC Released Draft of Part 1 of its Interregional Transfer Capability Study

Financial Focus

- Economic Impact Report Estimates Arizona's Solar Industry Generated \$7.3B in 2023, Including \$2.2B in Labor Income

- 2024 NCAA Men's Final Four generated \$429M of Impact for Arizona
- *Inc. Magazine* named over 130 Arizona companies to its list of the fastest-growing private companies in the US
- Promised Hydrogen-Fueled Future Is Stalled Over Tax Credits
- Fed Minutes Show Several Saw Case For Cutting Rates In July
- Interregional Power Transfer Capability Ranges From 1% To 92% Across US

Industry Update

- Pumped Storage Project in Nevada Highlighted in WGA Newsletter
- Research Facility in WA Aims to Accelerate Development of Energy Storage
- US Power Grid Added 20.2 GW of Generating Capacity in First Half of 2024
- NAESB Releases Draft Strawman Hydrogen Contract for Comment
- Developments in TX, CA Mark New Milestones for Geothermal Energy
- US Battery Rush Spurs \$1.4B Sodium-Ion Factory In North Carolina
- US Adds Most Power Generation In 21 Years As AI Demand Surges
- Next Challenge For The US Charging Network: Congestion
- Meta First Major Use Of Next-Gen Geothermal Power East Of The Rockies
- More Than 40% World's Electricity Came From Zero-Carbon Sources-2023
- Solar Power Is Shattering Global Records, 428 GW Installed Last Year

Markets

- TVA Board Approves Additional \$150M in Advanced Nuclear Funding
- TVA Sets Summer 2024 Record Power Demand
- NW Power Council Releases 2029 Resource Adequacy Assessment
- Draft Report Highlights Potential Challenges for NE Grid
- Berkshire Hathaway Energy's BHE Montana to Join CAISO's EDAM
- TX PUC Adopts Reliability Standard for ERCOT Region
- Vote Clears Path for WRAP Participants to Enter Binding Program in 2027
- MISO, SPP Advance 'Unprecedented' Transmission Plan That Could Support Up To 30 GW
- SPP Seeks FERC OK To Delay 2024 Interconnection Queue Process

- ERCOT Successfully Navigates Heat Wave, New Peak Demand Record
- PJM Capacity Could Jump 157% In Next Auction (Hit \$695-MW Day Cap)
- TX PUC Selects 17 Gas-Fired Projects Totaling @ 10 GW For Possible Loans

Meetings

- August 21st – Hoover Visitor Services Meeting
- August 22nd – Adaptive Management Work Group Meeting
- August 23rd – ABWC Annual Meeting
- August 27th-29th CoBank Water & Power Conference
- September 3rd – Met w/ GAO Over Lobbying Audit
- September 3rd – Met w/ B3 Strategies Regarding 2025 Contract
- September 4th & 5th – CREDA – Page, AZ
- September 6th – APPA/NRECA PMA Taskforce
- September 6th – NWRA Legislative Affairs Meeting
- September 10th – EVP Stateman Luncheon
- September 11th – Senate ENR Hearing – Help Hoover Dam on the Docket
- September 11th & 12th – Technical Review Committee Meeting Hoover
- September 16th-20th – DC Lobbying Trip

Oil & Natural Gas

- Russian Nat Gas Continues Through Ukraine, Lowering Price Volatility
- North Dakota Oil Production Gassier than Ever
- Mexican Imports of US Nat Gas Above 7 bcf/Day
- Global Natural Gas Demand Could Far Outpace Supply by 2030
- Widely Expected Fed Interest Rate Cuts Could Buoy Natural Gas Infrastructure, Prices
- Higher Gas Prices This Winter in EU as Geopolitical Complications Mount
- China's Nat Gas Demand Growth Could Falter Through Remainder of Year
- U.S. natural gas rig count fell by two units to 95
- Grid Challenges Make Dedicated Gas Generation Best Option For Data Centers: Kinder Morgan
- Natural-Gas Glut Is Forcing Drillers To Dial Back—Again

- Enbridge CEO Ebel Sees ‘Colossal’ AI Power Use, U.S. LNG Doubling
- Democrats Call For The Elimination Of Billions In Oil And Gas Subsidies
- DOE Approves Natural Gas Exports After Pause Is Halted
- Green Groups Challenge Federal Approval Of Louisiana LNG Export Facility
- North America’s LNG Export Capacity Expected To Double By 2028

Transmission/WAPA

- Deputy Secretary Signs BCP Base Charge & Rates, Effective October 1, 2024
- Mead Transformer Damaged by Bearing Fire, Replacement Onsite
- BPA Significantly Reduces Time Spent Replacing Wood Transmission Poles

Washington DC

- Westerman Introduces NEPA Reform Draft Legislation
- NDAA (S.4638) Likely to Be Tackled During September Work Session
- 1,100 Amendments Filed So Far
- House Version (H.R. 8070) Passed on June 14, 217-199
- Upper San Juan Fish Recovery Included in NDAA as Amendment
- EMBER Act (Sen. Kelly) Also Filed as Amendment
- Latta, Matsui Introduce H.R. 9083, the SECURE Grid Act
- OSHA Publishes Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Heat Illness Standard
- GOP Divided on Green Energy Laws Since Their States are Benefitting
- Bipartisan Carbon Study Bill Gains Momentum with Caucus Endorsement