

Monthly Board Report – 11/14/24



Agribusiness and Water Council/NWRA

- Farm Bill Likely Extended After Election Results
- Low Water on Mississippi River Renews Threat to Farm Shipments
- USDA Awards \$3B to Cooperatives to Speed Renewables Adoption
- Yellow-Billed Cuckoos Found in Arid “Sky Island” Mountains in SE AZ
- NESARC Sees Opportunity for Possible ESA Revisions Due to Election
- States (NJ, NM, & NC) File Petition to List 4 PFAS Hazardous Air Pollutants
- TVA Receives Award for Pollinator Project at Dam
- All but Two U.S. States Are in Drought (Only Alaska & Kentucky Aren’t)
- USDA Launches Study To Boost Cyber Resilience Of Rural Water Utilities
- Farmers Prepare for Export Hit to China Under Trump Administration
- Admin Restrict Drilling, Renewables In The US West To Help Struggling Bird
- DOI Proposes Strengthened Protections for Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat
- Doug LaMalfa to Make Bid for Western Caucus Chair
- ADEQ - 80% of AZ Public Water Systems Finished Required Lead Inventory

American Public Power Association

- APPA Submits Comments on Elective Pay and Municipal Bonds
- NES Launches Tool for Customers to Compare Energy Usage with Neighbors
- Utilities Push Back on Expanded FERC Jurisdiction in Permitting Bill
- Comments Filed for EPA's Combustion Turbine Federalism Consultation
- APPA Seeks Utilities to Participate in a Wildfire Risk Mitigation Project

Arizona

- AEPCO Plans to Assess Benefits of CAISO Extended Day-Ahead Market
- ADWR Seeking to Declare the Wilcox Basin an Active Management Area

- Kelly/Sinema Introduce Bill Transferring Ownership of Forest System Land to Tonto Apache Tribe
- Senators Announce \$107M Investment to Strengthen GRIC's Water Supply
- Gallego Announces Over \$31 Million in Water Funding Coming to Arizona
- EPA Partially Grants Sierra Club Petition to Object For Coolidge Gas-Units

Bureau of Reclamation/Dept. of Interior

- Haaland, Touton Vow 'Every Viable Option' on Table in Colorado River Plans
- Dems call on Reclamation to pay tribes unable to use Colorado River
- BLM Approves 2 GW Utah Geothermal Power Project
- UT Lawsuit Against BLM Holding Onto 18.5M Acres of Unappropriated Land
- \$82M To Bring Clean Drinking Water to Tribal Communities
- Interior Delivers \$46 Million for Klamath Basin Restoration
- Maine's \$456M Offshore Wind Port Application Denied Federal Grant
- McMorris Rodgers Submits Remarks in Support of Lower Snake River Dams

California

- Battery Storage Expanded Rapidly, Up 3 GW in 6 Months to 13,391 MW
- CA's Farming Heartland Goes Solar (Plans to Convert Up to 200 Sq. Mile)
- Newsom Signs Executive Order To Curb Electricity Costs

Colorado River Energy Distributors Association

- Still Waiting for "Cool Mix" Offramp
- Water Being Released from Glen Canyon Unusually Warm for November
- Salamander Discovered at -12 Mile Slough, May Impact EA
- No Fall HFE, Delayed for Likely 60 Hour Spring HFE in May 2025
- Weak La Niña Means Likelier Cold, Snowy Winter In Pacific Northwest
- Thermal Curtain Option Still Being Pursued by CREDA
- Slough Construction Ongoing
- BOR Applying for B2E bucket for Thermal Curtain Feasibility Study

Department of Energy

- DOE Makes \$900M Available for Next Generation Nuclear Technologies
- \$2B to Protect the Grid Against Extreme Weather, Expand Transmission
- \$10M for States and Tribes to Accelerate Transmission Across the Country
- DOE Makes \$10 Million Available for Transmission-Related Projects

Environmental Protection Agency

- Lee Zeldin to Head the EPA in Trump's New Term
- GHG Rule Stay Motion Denied by Supreme Court
- EPA Issues Final Rule Halting the Good Neighbor Rule

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission/NERC/NRC

- FERC Rejects Colocation Issue with Amazon and PA Nuclear Facility
- FERC Takes Final Action on Transmission Siting Rule 1977 – Tribal ROW
- US Should Add 35 GW Of Interregional Power Transfer Capacity To Boost Energy Adequacy
- NERC Releases for New Inverter-Based Resource Registrants

Financial Focus

- Feds Cut Interest Rates ¼ Point
- Inflation Rises to 2.6%
- Treasury/IRS Released Advanced Manufacturing Production Credit (45X)
- Sunlit Chemical, Taiwan's Premier Semiconductor Chemical Supplier, Opens 900,000-Square-Foot \$100M Manufacturing Facility in Phoenix
- Administration Puts \$428M Into Projects In Coal Communities
- Solar Wafer Makers Can Tap 25% US Tax Credit Under New Rule
- 'Green Bank' Launches \$250M Effort To Electrify California's Port Trucks
- Power Stocks Slump After Regulator Rejects Nuclear Deal
- Amazon Launched Drone Delivery Operations in Tolleson

Industry Update

- Amazon Funding 4 Nuclear Reactors on the Columbia River in Washington
- Argonne Using AI to Predict Weather, Protect Against Catastrophic Storms
- Edison Electric Institute President Dan Brouillette Stepping Down
- EPRI Exploring How Data Centers Can Adjust Energy Usage to Benefit Grid
- Data Centers Looking for Less Populated Regions, Energy Availability Key
- Major Louisiana CO2 Pipeline Project Considers Further Expansion
- KKR, ECP \$50B Investments in Data Centers, Generation for AI Growth
- Study Examines Adding Battery Storage to Hydropower Plants
- One Of The Largest Solar Projects Opens In Texas, Backed By Google
- Floating Energy Platform Could Power 1 MW w/ Solar, Wind & Wave
- US In Talks With Asian Nations To Deploy Small Nuclear Reactors
- Researchers Say AR May Have 19M Tons Of Lithium Critical For Batteries
- Admin Approves Nev. Lithium Project, Draws Legal Threat
- Conditions Reduce Hydropower Generation, Particularly In The PNW

Markets

- SPP Receives Deficiency Letter from FERC Regarding Tariff
- MISO & SPP Advance Nearly \$40B in High-Voltage Transmission Projects
- PJM Last Capacity Market Indicative of the Need to Build More Capacity
- PJM Floats Option to Fast-Track Interconnection For Shovel-Ready Projects
- FERC Rejects PJM Agreement Tied to Data Center and Pa. Nuclear Plant
- BPA Sticking w/ SPP After Evaluating EDAM Benefits
- TX Grid Chief Says Big Tech Must Pay More For Power Upgrades
- MISO, TVA To Sell 'Emergency Energy' Under Proposed Agreement

Meetings

- October 23rd – WESTMARC Infrastructure Committee Meeting
- October 23rd – CRSP Monthly Meeting
- October 25th – Help Hoover Dam Call

- October 25th – Westside Districts PAC Meeting
- October 27th-30th – APPA Customer Connections Conference
- November 4th – Drought ICG Meeting
- November 4th – GPCP RECs Discussion – WAPA
- **November 5th – Election Day**
- November 5th – Joint Public Power Meeting
- November 7th & 8th - CREDA Annual Meeting
- November 15th – ABWC Tucson
- November 18th – IEDA Meeting
- November 18th-20th CFC IBES Tucson

Oil & Natural Gas

- Republican lawmakers urge court to reconsider NEPA ruling on LNG
- US Allocates \$196M For Natural Gas Pipeline Modernization
- Outlook For Oil, Gas Demand Increasing To 2040
- Utilities Shoring Up Gas Supply, Preparing For Record Usage This Year
- US Seeks Up To 3 Million Barrels Of Oil For Emergency Reserve
- Big Oil Sees AI Boom Driving ‘Crazy Demand’ For US Natural Gas
- Escalating Middle East Conflict Keeps Natural Gas Markets on Edge
- Mexico Exports Seen Driving Natural Gas Demand Surge
- November Natural Gas Futures Begin to Claw Out of Oversold Territory
- Canadian Production Rebounds, Posing Fresh Potential Price Pressure
- U.S. LNG Exports to Asia Continue Outpacing European Deliveries
- Coal Retirements, Data Centers, Manufacturing Boosting Appalachian Natural Gas Demands
- US, Canada Natural Gas Rig Counts Tick Higher to 102
- Canadian Natural Gas Forward Prices Slump Amid Stout Supply
- Canadian Natural Slashing Natural Gas Drilling as Weak Prices Persist
- Egypt Snaps Up More U.S. LNG as Search for Spot Cargoes Continues
- Global Natural Gas Prices Move Higher as Middle East Tensions Rise
- LNG Freight Rates Forecast to Stay Lower for Longer
- Biden Plans to Publish Draft Gas Export Study by Year End

Transmission/WAPA

- WAPA Convened REC Call
- PDP Remarketing FRN Published, 2% Pool Partially Offset w/ Rewind
- TransCanyon Cross-Tie 500-kV Transmission Project (UT-NV) Advances
- WAPA New Customer Site - <https://www.wapa.gov/customer-data-site/>
- TX Law Granting Exclusive Right to Interconnect to Incumbent Utility Transmission Lines Ruled Unconstitutional
- WAPA- UGP Supply Proposals for S.D. Air Force Base
- WAPA Sierra Nevada to Pursue CAISO Day-Ahead Market Participation
- PDP Looking to Voluntary Reduction to Control Firming Costs

Washington DC

- John Thune Senate Majority Leader
- Mike Johnson Reappointed Speaker, Package to Protect that Office by Making the Motion to Vacate Harder to be Voted On
- Wyden Looks to Lame Duck for Prescribed Fire Push
- Mitch McConnell Stated Killing Chevron 'Most Consequential' Achievement
- House E&C Report State \$3B Spent on Environmental Justice Grants
- House E&C Chair Rogers Issues Letter to Stop Partisan Work After Election
- House T&I Urges DOT and FAA to Move Forward with BVLOS Rulemaking
- Republicans Senate Will Have New Powers On Energy And Climate
- Republican Wins Darken Outlook For Senate Permitting Bill
- Bob Latta (R-OH) Eyeing Top Spot on House E&C Committee