

## Monthly Board Report – 10/8/25



### Agribusiness and Water Council/NWRA/USDA

- 2018 Farm Bill Officially Expired After Being Extended Twice Previously
- Farmer Says ‘We’re In A Very Dire Situation’ Ahead Of Harvest—With Zero Soybean Orders From China
- Trump Explores Bailout Of At Least \$10 Billion For U.S. Farmers
- Senate Confirmed Travnicek & Kramer to be Assistant Secretary for Water and Science and Assistant Administrator of the EPA
- Burgum Rolls Out Plan for Interior-Based Wildfire Service
- Admin Asks Court to Kill 4 PFAS Drinking Water Limits
- Fertilizer Outlook: Global Risks, Higher Costs, Tighter Margins
- NWRA Sends Letter of Support for Multiple Water Bills
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upholds CWA’s Exemption for “Irrigated Ag Return Flows” *Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s, et al. v. Nickels, et al.*
- DOI Proposes to Rescind "Conservation and Landscape Health Rule"
- ELRP Expands to Support Livestock After Floods and Fires
- Mark Hansen (WA) has been elected Family Farm Alliance President
- Administration to Advance New WOTUS Rule
- Corps Launches Western Water Cooperative Committee

### American Public Power Association

- Public Power Week coming up October 5-11
- APPA Defends Public Power's Exclusion from FERC Jurisdiction
- APPA Files Comments on EPA’s Proposed Extension for CCRMUs
- Ann Arbor Public Power Launches 2026 Ballot Campaign
- APPA Offers Members a New Resource on Data Centers
- Corps Releases Guidance on Prioritizing Energy-Dense Projects
- APPA Submits Comments on UAS BVLOS NPRM
- Midwest Electric Selects Chris Lawrence to Replace Jim Horan

## Arizona

- 9 Municipalities Have Passed Ordinances Against Large Water Users
- SRP Invests \$2.9 Million in Research at ASU, NAU and UofA for 2025-2026
- Kelly Legislation to Improve Cleanup of Abandoned Hardrock Mines
- ASU No. 1 in Innovation 11th year in a row by *U.S. News & World Report*
- Queen Creek to pursue \$240M deal to supply water for future growth
- ADWR Exploring AMA in Ranegras Plain Groundwater Basin – Vicksburg
- APS & TEP are Both Starting the Process to Raise Rates by about 14%
- CRITs Seeking “Legal Personhood” for Colorado River

## Bureau of Reclamation/Dept. of Interior

- US Reviewing Five Offshore Wind Farms Under Construction
- Offshore Wind Has No Future In The U.S., DOI Secretary Says
- Hoover to Stay Above 1035’ Throughout 2027 WY (Most Probable)
- Min Probable Shows Dropping Below 1035’ in May 2027
- DOI & USDA Release National Wildland Fire System Reform Plans
- DOI is Taking Steps to Implement Layoffs

## California

- CA Plans To Boost Wildfire Fund By \$18 Billion
- CA Electric-Vehicle Drivers Will Lose Carpool Lane Privileges
- CA Zeroes Out Funding For World’s ‘Largest Virtual Power Plant’
- TID Reports that Solar Over Canals Project is Generating Power
- Public Power in CA Hails Passage of New Regional Electricity Market Bill
- LADWP Returns Attic Insulation Rebate for Residential Customers
- Rate Hike for SCE Customers to Increase Bill by \$16/Month (Average)
- Data Center Reporting Rules Head to Governor Amid Water Use Concerns
- Pending Closure of Two Major Oil Refineries Could Hike Gas Prices \$1+ Gallon by Next Summer (17%-20% Capacity Reduction/\$8 per Gallon)
- Palo Alto City Council Approves Battery Storage Agreement

- MWD selected Shivaji Deshmukh as GM, current Inland Empire GM
- Tommy Beaudreau to Represent IID via WilmerHale
- Newsome says California 'can't make up' for expiring federal EV tax credit
- Hydrogen And Batteries Power 'First-Of-Its-Kind' CA Energy Microgrid
- Gov Vetoes Bill To Codify Load Flexibility In California Energy Grid Planning

### **CREDA/Upper Basin**

- Most Probable 24-Month Shows Powell Falling Below 3525' in Feb 2026
- La Niña Conditions Very Likely from September 2025 through January 2026.
- Discussion on Fall HFE Impacted by Government Shutdown,
- November HFE Being Considered, Available Units Could Impact Volume

### **Department of Energy**

- DOE Secretary Says We Need To Add 100 GW In The Next 5 Years
- DOE Says Data Centers Should Be Ready To Bring Their Own Power
- Wright On Nuclear Capacity: It's Going To Be 2 Or 3 Years, Not Months
- High Costs, Reduced Staff Hamper DOE's Tribal Energy Program
- DOE Awards BWX \$1.5B - Uranium Enrichment Centrifuge Experiment Pilot
- DOE Seeks Proposals for AI DCs, Energy Projects at Idaho National Lab
- DOE GDO Expands Utility-Specific Long-Term Transmission Planning Technical Assistance Offerings
- DOE Approves Sixth Loan Disbursement to Restart Michigan Nuclear Plant
- New DOE Initiative Aims to Accelerate Speed of Large-Scale Grid Infrastructure Project Development
- DOE Plans To Claw Back \$13B In Green Funds
- DOE Announces \$625M For 'Beautiful, Clean Coal' And Gas
- DOE Grid Deployment Office now Headed by Tina Francone as Director
- DOE Axes Biden-Era Projects, Saving Taxpayers \$7.56B
- DOE Launches Study Aimed at Boosting Oil and Gas
- DOE Eyes New Must-Run Orders for Power Plants
- DOE Floats New Cuts To Hundreds Of Clean Energy Grants

## **Environmental Protection Agency**

- Trump EPA Seeks To Speed Up Permitting For AI Infrastructure
- EPA Wants To End A Requirement That Large Polluters Report Their Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Oregon Challenges EPA Decision To End \$87 Million Solar Grant
- House E&C Subcommittee Holds CAA Permitting Hearing
- EPA Grants Arizona Authority to Oversee Injection Wells Under SDWA
- Major Automakers Call For EPA To Ease Tailpipe Emissions Rules
- Administration Moves To Relax Rules On Hydrofluorocarbons
- EPA Mulls Postponing Coal Plant Wastewater Compliance, Changes To Regional Haze Rule
- Senate Confirms Jessica Kramer as Assistant Administrator - Office of Water
- CEQ Has Issued New Guidance to Help Agencies Update NEPA Procedures
- EPA Sued Over Canceled \$7B Solar Program

## **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission/NERC/NRC**

- Senate Approves FERC Nominees Swett, LaCerte In Party-Line Vote
- FERC Ends Effort To Update Policy For Gas Pipeline, LNG Proposals
- Senate EPW Committee Holds Hearing on NRC Oversight
- FERC Approves Actions Modernizing Reliability, Security Bulk Power System
- FERC Announces Tech Conference on Wildfire and the Bulk-Power System
- FERC Chair Asks Grid Operators to Respond on Large Load Forecasting
- New FERC Chairman Rosner Outlines Priorities: 'Build, Build, Build'
- Trump's Nuclear 'Renaissance' Rests On Risky Plan For Radioactive Waste
- NRC Renews License For NextEra's Point Beach Nuclear Plant In WI
- FERC to Sunset 53 Regulations Under Trump Executive Order

## **Financial Focus**

- Global EV Sales Growth Slows To 15 Percent In August
- Tariffs, Tax Cuts Fight Each Other In Latest CBO Outlook

- US Launches Pilot Program To Speed Air Taxi Deployment
- US Re-Evaluating \$2.3 Billion Loan For Nevada Lithium Mine
- Trump Moves To Get Equity Stake In Company Developing NV Lithium Mine
- Speculation Occurring Regarding Other Critical Mineral Equity Targets
- SEMICON West kicks off in Phoenix this Month

## **Industry Update**

- Energy Grid Growing Faster Than Anticipated – 2.3% in 2025, 3% in 2026
- Mining Megadeal Shows The World Is Crazy For Copper
- Clean Hydrogen Faces Challenges Globally Amid U.S. Pullback
- EPRI, Nuclear EI Update Roadmap For Advanced Nuclear Capacity
- U.S. Energy Grids Under Pressure From Energy-Hungry Data Centers Are Changing Strategy – Interruptible Loads
- Natural Gas Turbine Market Fired Up as Multi-Year Backlog Seen Persisting
- LES Receives Google Funding For Energy Efficiency for Affordable Housing
- Lakeland, Fla., Approves Liquid Nitrogen Generation Pilot Project PPA
- Babcock & Wilcox, Denham Capital Announce Partnership to Convert Existing Coal Plants to Power Data Centers
- Report Finds Rising Cost of New Plants Outpacing Planning Assumptions
- Blackstone to Acquire PA 620 MW Gas Power Plant for Nearly \$1 Billion
- US Electric Rates Up 7% since 2024
- TVA Taps Type One Tech For Fusion Plant
- Energy-Related CO2 Emissions Are Falling In Every State
- WI Unveils Historic Solar Farm w/ Battery Storage - Round-The-Clock Power
- Battery Storage, Spared From IRA Cuts, To Grow As Energy Prices Rise
- U.S. Plans To Use Emergency Powers To Stop More Coal Closures
- Evergy, TerraPower Eye Sodium Advanced Reactor Site In Kansas
- Utility-Scale Battery Systems Increasingly Being Used for Price Arbitrage
- Coal Retirements Expected to Take 27 GWs Offline by End of 2028
- AI Power Demand To Grow Tenfold By 2030, New Report Says
- First Privately Funded Uranium Enrichment Plant In U.S. To Be Built In KY
- EPRI Launches Grid Planning Tool for Transportation Electrification

## **Markets**

- Complaint Over MISO's \$22B Transmission Portfolio Faces Opposition
- PJM Tries To Ease Threats To Grid From Supersize Data Centers
- SPP Pool Approves Accelerated Large Load Interconnection Policy
- EIPC Identifies Baseline Interregional Transfer Capabilities Across Eastern Interconnection Under Extreme Weather
- GridBeyond Expands Services with Revenue Floor and Synthetic Toll Contracts in ERCOT and CAISO
- TVA & Type One Energy Accelerate Fusion Commercialization in TN
- PJM Kicks Off Initiative to Balance Reliability with Large Load Growth
- ISO-NE Study Explores Possible Strategies to Reduce Emissions in New England's Evolving Grid
- Customers In 7 PJM States Paid \$4.4B For Data Center Transmission In 2024
- Governors in PJM Launch Collaborative to Act on Various Issues
- Data Center Growth Cited in Defense of MISO Transmission Plan
- Groups Challenge MISO Cost Allocation Plan For Coal Power Plant

## **Meetings**

- Sept 18 – Ag to Urban Meeting
- Sept 19 – ABWC Annual Meeting
- Sept 22 – Electrical District Modernization Discussion
- Sept 25 – WRA – Western Markets Energy
- Sept 26 – Fighters Over the Fairway Golf Tournament
- Sept 29-Oct 2 – DC Visit
- Oct 5-7 – APPA Board Meeting
- Oct 8 – NYPA Visit Regarding Hydropower
- Oct 19-22 – Gridliance Conference

## **Oil & Natural Gas**

- FERC Chairman Says Natural Gas Projects Key to U.S. Competitiveness

- Weather, LNG Shape Market as Natural Gas Futures Hover Near \$3 MMBTU
- US Biofuel Plan Would Reallocate Half Or Less Of Waived Blending Quotas
- EIA Storage Report Confirms Stout Gas Supply
- WM Opens its First California Renewable Natural Gas Facility
- NGI Forecasts 86 Bcf Storage Injection, Exceeding Historical Averages
- US Feds Signaling Support for Doubling LNG Exports Within 5 Years
- NW U.S. Natural Gas Prices Remain Historically Low in 2025
- White House Looking To Make Oil Deals At Climate Week
- Shutdown May Slow Oil And Gas Drilling On Public Land
- CDN, MX Advance Energy Ties, Spur North American Gas Competition
- U.S. Natural Gas Consumption Forecast to Climb This Winter, but Prices to Hold Steady on Record Output
- Abundant Lower 48 Gas Reserves Skyrocket 16% Higher in Two Years
- MX's Richest Man Carlos Slim Bets on Natural Gas in \$2B Deal with Pemex
- Henry Hub Prices Poised to Climb as Winter Nears and LNG Activity Mounts
- US Natural Gas Exports to Mexico Climbing Despite Rising Prices
- Iraq Awards Excelerate Chance to Develop Floating LNG Import Terminal
- Judge Rules Biden Administration Went Too Far By Indefinitely Blocking New Drilling Off Large Portion Of U.S. Coast

## **Transmission/WAPA**

- 2.1-GW SOO Green Transmission Project Advances With Iowa Agreement
- FERC Approves WAPA's 220 Filing

## **Washington DC**

- First Government Shutdown Since December 2018
- House Passes but Senate Rejects Competing Stopgap Spending Plan
- Senate Modifies the Approval of Nominees allowing for Bloc Approval
- Johnson Backs Virginia Wind Project In Break With Trump
- Hochul Pushing Trump To Fast-Track New York Nuclear Plan
- US And UK Expected To Sign Nuclear Energy Deal During Trump Visit
- Trump Proceeding With Biden's \$1.3 Billion Battery Parts Loan

- Senate Confirms Dozens Of Nominees In First Test Of New Nuclear Rules
- Problem Solvers Caucus Proposes Bipartisan Energy Deal
- US Launches Effort To Speed Power Grid Projects For AI
- House T&I Marks Up and Passes Counter UAS Legislation
- Senate EPW Holds Hearing on Corps Oversight
- House Approps Committee Approves HHS Legislation w/ LIHEAP Increase
- Another Reconciliation Bill Faces Headwinds, “Not Much Left on Energy”
- Senate Indian Affairs Committee advanced William Kirkland as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs
- Defense Bill’s Energy, Environment Amendments Pile Up
- House Passes NDAA; Work in Senate Continues
- Republican Appropriators Go 12 for 12, Work for Regular Order
- HNR Holds Hearing on NEPA Reform Proposals
- House Pass 3 Energy Bills: GRID Act (HR 1047), HR 3062 (Cross-Border Energy Infrastructure Act), & National Coal Council Reestablishment Act
- House Passes Bill To Fast-Track Dispatchable Generation Interconnection
- House T&I Committee Approves Pipeline Safety Bill
- Thune Lines up Second Big Nominees Package (100 Nominees)
- FEMA Canceled \$11B in Disaster Payments to States