Clean Energy Vision Project

Transition Plan—Component Documents and Materials

Draft: Oct. 3, 2011

1. Fact Sheets

* Jobs and Economic Development (Economic Case for Transition to Clean Energy)
* Energy Security
* Health
* Reliability and Cost
* Land and Water Use

2. Ten FAQs about Transition to Clean Energy

3. Ten Truths About the Current Grid and Clean Resources

4. Ten Key Policies—and why each is a priority (aka 2-page Policy Reference Guide)

5. Overview Brochure: *Goals of a Clean Electric System for the Western US*. What we should expect a clean electric system to deliver (vs. low expectations for the electric system today). Our statement of where every state to work to get to, in 2030 and 2050. Outlines portfolios of clean resources, and interactions between electricity and other sectors (now in Section 1 of the Transition Plan). 10-15 pp. Graphics heavy. Primary audiences: PSCs/staffs; Legislatures/staffs; local elected/staffs; general public.

6. *More Reliable, Less Expensive Power*. Detailed explanation of how EE, DR, DG, RE interact to improve reliability, reduce risk and cost. 10-15 pp. Audience: PSCs, legislatures.

7. *Power Companies and the Transition to Clean Energy*. Sections include: a) Incentives to encourage utility investment in EE/DR/RE under current Ratebase-Rate of Return regulation; b) RAP Clean First policy suite, “Aligning Power Sector Regulation with Environmental and Climate Goals;” c) policies for BPA and WAPA. 20 pp. Audiences: utilities, PSCs, investors, legislatures.

8. *Future of Electric Service: New Utility Business Models and Non-Utility Suppliers*. Potential to move beyond regulated monopolies to a competitive electric services industry; protecting consumers and the environment without monopoly regulation. 5-10 pp. Audiences: utilities, PSCs, legislatures, investors, clean-tech companies.

9. *Sustained, Orderly Transition: Guiding Policy and Investment Toward Clean Energy*. Sections include: coal retirement policies; flexibilities for states; uncertainties. 10-15 pp.

10. *Policy Reference Manual* (current draft Section 2, with 1-2 page description of each policy; references to detailed info). 30-40 pages; web-only.

Candidate Issues for FAQs, Truths, BPA/WAPA sections

FAQs (candidate issues listed below will be emended and agreed by the group)

* Why should states move away from coal, gas?
* Why does energy security matter?
* What can states do today to begin move to more secure and sustainable resources?
* Can we keep the lights on without a lot of coal and gas?
* How will investments today shape the grid we’ll have in 2040?
* Does moving to a clean energy economy create more economic benefit than staying with coal and gas?
* If existing coal and nuclear fleet is retired, is it possible to meet western and US GHG reduction targets with RE and EE alone? (Roger Hamilton)
* Will a clean energy economy as described in the 2050 CEV document provide a significant number of jobs and economic stimulus? ? (Roger Hamilton)
* Is it true that biofuels and biomass electricity generation are neutral with regard to GHG emissions? ? (Roger Hamilton)
* Will clean energy cost more? (Ken Toole)
* Will a clean energy grid be reliable?
* Will a more efficient electric system require me to live less comfortably (heat, AC)?
* Why should I have to pay to have my neighbor’s house insulated?
* Do we currently have the technology to do this?

For Policy makers:

* Don’t variable resources strain the transmission and distribution system?
* Will energy efficiency investments pay off—and how will we know?
* What subsidies are required to make renewable competitive?
* Does the public support clean energy only if they don’t have to pay more?

Ten Truths (Candidate statements)

* Clean energy creates more jobs, spurs new industries
* Clean energy improves public health
* A clean electric system is feasible and affordable
* Investment in clean energy provides more value than investment in fossil generation
* Closing coal plants will not increase what we pay for electricity
* We can have reliable electricity without a lot of coal and gas
* A clean electric system based around wind and solar power is reliable
* Large-scale wind-solar development has less environmental impact than coal and gas
* It’s not feasible to meet GHG reduction targets solely with EE and DG PV.
* Coal plants are not essential for future grid reliability.
* Clean coal—with carbon capture and storage—is unlikely to be affordable.

BPA, WAPA (initial suggestions from Henry Tilghman)

* Reciprocity - PMAs commit to comply with FERC policies unless they expressly conflict with other statutory mandates
  + Alternatively, FERC exercises Section 211A authority over PMAs
* EIM - PMAs commit to EIM, and 5-minute scheduling
* Negative Pricing/Environmental Redispatch -- BPA withdraws its current policy
* BPA abandons efforts to have existing large hydro generation qualify under state RPS
* Evaluate need to amend NW Power Act/other statutes if they conflict with CEV