



## What Others Are Saying: The Regional Effort To Connect the Western Electric Grid

"We are going to increase our renewable electricity from 25 percent today to 50 percent in 2030, and we are going to double the efficiency of all the buildings. And as part of that, we are going to invest in infrastructure in a sophisticated electrical grid. And we can't confine ourselves to California, we have to extend to other states. So when the sun is down in one place, we have cheap solar power here and in fact in abundance, and we send it to Nevada or Utah or Arizona. And on the other hand, when the sun is higher or the wind is blowing in Wyoming, we can all share that. And with a large region interconnected with a smart grid, you are able to use intermittent power, as renewable energy is, and you get back a lot of the base load quality that the larger coal and gas plants would provide."

**Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.**

(Statement made at the May 29, 2015 California Chamber of Commerce Host Breakfast)

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"An integrated regional transmission system managed by a single RSO would allow grid managers to more efficiently draw on a broader and more diverse set of energy resources across the region, while respecting the energy policy preferences of each state and the needs and interests of non-participating utilities. The benefits could include more cost-effective integration of renewable energy sources, reduced electricity reserve margins, improved interregional transmission planning and enhancements of the high-voltage grid, and savings to ratepayers."

**Washington Governor Jay Inslee**

(Letter to Gov. Brown, dated July 7, 2016)

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"Such participation offers significant benefit to California and the Western region by sharing resources and reducing carbon emissions, while lowering the overall cost of energy. It also offers the potential of increasing the supply of clean, affordable power to consumers, which will make the region's economy more resilient. This is a significant step toward diversifying our renewable energy output, balancing power demand and supply, and leveraging regional collaboration to our advantage."

**Michael Picker, Chair of the California Public Utilities Commission**

(Statement taken from April 14, 2015 California ISO media release)

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"This paves the way for an efficient, regional approach to clean power that will help meet Governor Brown's goal of at least 50 percent renewable energy by 2030. Climate change doesn't respect jurisdictional boundaries, and by working together, we can reduce air pollution and carbon pollution more cost-effectively."

**Mary D. Nichols, Chairman, California Air Resources Board**

(Statement taken from April 14, 2015 California ISO media release)

"A larger ISO footprint will enhance reliability, provide for the efficient use of renewable energy, reduce western carbon emissions and lower costs for consumers."

**Jan Smutny-Jones, Executive Director of the Independent Energy Producers Association**

(Statement taken from April 14, 2015 California ISO media release)

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"With this regional approach, we are demonstrating it is possible to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the West through coordinated planning and more fully utilizing renewable energy sources. The transformation of the two largest electric transmission grids in the West can help incorporate more low-environmental impact renewable energy for the region, reducing greenhouse gas emissions throughout and sharing the benefits of solar, winds and other renewable energy sources with our neighboring states during times when the demand is high."

**Robert Weisenmiller, Chair, California Energy Commission**

(Statement taken from October 13, 2015 California ISO media release)

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"PacifiCorp and CAISO should be applauded for looking for ways to expand their partnership. Increased coordination and efficient operation of electric systems in the West can benefit consumers and help the region meet its clean energy goals. This partnership is leading the region and I look forward to seeing how it evolves."

**Maury Galbraith, Executive Director of the Western Interstate Energy Board**

(Statement taken from April 14, 2015 California ISO media release)

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"The California Chamber of Commerce firmly believes that a regional energy market—the coordination of electricity systems in the West—would reduce costs and is the most efficient, effective way to meet the region's growing demand for affordable, reliable and sustainable energy. A regional energy market has the potential to reduce energy costs in all participating states by integrating a diverse portfolio of resources on one coordinated grid."

**Allan Zaremborg, President and CEO California Chambers of Commerce**

(Statement taken from September 7, 2015 Los Angeles Business Journal)

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"Today's announcement between PacifiCorp and CAISO builds on the success of the Energy Imbalance Market that was implemented late last year. The EIM provided \$6 million in benefits during its first two months of operation, and today's announcement shows that consumers can see even greater benefits with further coordination of power system operations. These grid operating reforms improve reliability, efficiency, and renewable energy integration – including the West's abundant and low-cost wind resources."

**Rob Gramlich, Senior Vice President, Government & Public Affairs, American Wind Association**

(Statement taken from April 14, 2015 California ISO media release)

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"We commend the ISO and PacifiCorp for this leadership on regional coordination of vital electricity systems, which is crucial to accelerating our clean energy progress."

**Ralph Cavanagh, Energy Program Co-Director for Natural Resources Defense Council**

(Statement taken from April 14, 2015 California ISO media release)

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“As California continues to lead the way in creating a clean energy future, PG&E believes it is important to explore the benefits to all customers from potential expansion of the CAISO Balancing Authority Area. We congratulate the CAISO and PacifiCorp for leading the way and look forward to working with the CAISO and other stakeholders to advance this goal.”

**Steven Malnight, PG&E, Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs**

(Statement taken from April 14, 2015 California ISO media release)

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“By combining the operation of a large and diverse group of loads and generating resources, the ISO has many, many more logistical options for managing the natural variability of wind and solar. This is not a theory – it is the experience every day in other parts of the US, where grid consolidation has already been accomplished.”

**Fix the Grid**

(Letter to Gov. Brown, dated July 12, 2016)