

West-Wide Governance Pathways Initiative

**Joint WEM Governing Body & ISO Board of
Governors general session meeting
August 26, 2026**



West-Wide Governance Pathways Initiative

Agenda

- Briefing Book Update
- Formation Board Meeting
- ROWE Board Selection Process
- Executive Director Search Update
- Upcoming Meetings



ROWE Board Briefing Book - Outline

I. Background

II. Corporate Organization and Governance

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Corporate Formation
- c. ROWE Bylaws
- d. ROWE Policies
- e. Principal Place of Business

III. Regulatory Structure and Oversight

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Overview
- c. ROWE Governance Tariff
- d. CAISO Integrated Tariff
- e. ROWE-CAISO Agreement

IV. Market Oversight and Data Access

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Market Oversight
- c. Data Access

V. Budget and Finance

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Global Impact Contract Status
- c. Financial Reports
- d. Debt Financing
- e. Grant Agreements
- f. Budgets (2027-2028)
- g. ROWE Budget Process
- h. Cost Recovery Mechanism



ROWE Board Briefing Book - Outline

VI. Staffing & External Resources

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. ROWE Staff
- c. Consulting and Legal
- d. Stakeholder Support
- e. CAISO Pre-Launch Support

VII. External Coordination

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Website Branding Process
- c. Talking Points
- d. Key Communications Opportunities
- e. Office of Public Participation
- f. Tribal Engagement
- g. BOSR
- h. Consumer Advocate Organization

VIII. Stakeholder Process

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Stakeholder Representatives Committee
- c. Sectors
- d. Stakeholder Registration and Code of Conduct
- e. Voting and Remand
- f. Interim Stakeholder Process

IX. ROWE Evolution

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Implementation Analysis
- c. Evolution to Full Public Utility Status
- d. Adding Services.



Chapter II: Corporate Organization and Governance

The Board should prioritize the following actions:

1. Adoption of additional policies and principles, including:
 - Board Selection Policy;
 - Open Meetings Policy;
 - Open Records Policies;
 - Directors' Code of Conduct and Ethical Principles;
 - Employee Code of Conduct and Ethics Program;
 - Records Retention;
 - Updated Conflicts of Interest Policy;
 - Corporate Governance Principles.
2. Creation of certain committees of the Board, including:
 - Audit and Finance Committee; and
 - Public Policy Committee.
3. Outreach of the Public Policy Committee to:
 - Body of State Regulators
 - Tribes
 - Power Market Administrations
4. Establishment of clear protocols for Board communication with:
 - Body of State Regulators;
 - Tribes;
 - Consumer Advocates Organization; and
 - Stakeholder Representatives Committee.
5. Selection of the ROWE's Principal Place of Business.
6. Development of a roadmap for further action to enhance its governance framework.



Chapter III: Regulatory Structure and Oversight



Chapter IV: Market Oversight and Data Access

The Pathways Initiative Launch Committee recommended maintaining the market oversight functions that the CAISO has today, including the Department of Market Monitoring (DMM), Market Surveillance Committee (MSC), and the use of an independent expert, with some adjustments to the reporting and roles of those functions.

Collectively, these market oversight functions will provide the Board with information that will enable the Board to identify potential issues that could result in inequitable impacts on market participant classes and make the changes necessary to address those issues.



Chapter IV: Market Oversight and Data Access continued

There is a significant amount of information that is already publicly available to all western states: CAISO public data and reports; DMM public reports, presentations, and regulatory filings; work product from the MSC; and WEM Market Expert reports.

Information and data will continue to be shared in the way it is today. Specifically related to market data sharing with state agencies, one proposed solution could be a tariff revision:

- Amend the tariff to authorize CAISO to provide state specific market information to state agencies that may have a statutory obligation that requires certain market information...The ROWE and CAISO would partner to evaluate and provide the requested information pursuant to tariff provisions and applicable confidentiality protections. Each participating agency would execute a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) with the ROWE and CAISO to ensure that confidential market participant information remains protected.



Chapter V: Budget & Finance

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Global Impact Contract Status
- c. Financial Reports
- d. Debt Financing
- e. Grant Agreements
- f. Budgets (2027-2028)
- g. ROWE Budget Process
- h. Cost Recovery Mechanism



Chapter V: Budget and Finance

ROWE Budget

- Open and transparent process
- Include all costs associated with the activities required to meet its scope of services
 - Staff and Board - direct and indirect costs
 - Legal and Professional support - includes costs associated with the CAISO services in support of market operations and other services; HR, accounting, Market Expert, etc.
 - General and Administrative costs - e.g. travel, insurance, IT, etc.
 - Capital Cost Allocations
 - Funding reserves
 - BOSR, CAO
- Linked to CAISO budget process, tariff, and accounting systems at outset



Chapter V: Budget and Finance

ROWE Financing

- *Implementation Phase - through Global Impact as Fiscal Sponsor*
 - Stakeholder contributions
 - Foundation grants
 - **ROWE start-up funding mechanism:** FERC issued an order accepting the revisions on August 10. ([Docket No. ER26-2789-00](#)).
- *Long-term*
 - Tariff funding
 - Cost of Service study



Chapter VIII: Stakeholder Process

- a. Proposed Action Plan
- b. Stakeholder Representatives Committee
- c. Sectors
- d. Detailed Stakeholder Process
- e. Stakeholder Registration and Code of Conduct
- f. Voting and Remand
- g. Interim Stakeholder Process



Remaining Content

- Chapter I: Background
- Chapter III: Regulatory Structure and Oversight
- Chapter VI: Staffing and External Affairs
- Chapter VII: External Coordination
- Chapter IX: ROWE Evolution



Tribal Engagement

Scope: Partner with Tribal representatives across the West to better understand the range of current market engagement and unique challenges, how these may change and evolve over time, working collaboratively on recommendations for how the ROWE can best support their collective needs.

- Update: Gridworks has been engaged to help facilitate these efforts.
- Working with Tribal representatives to develop a proposal for the ROWE Board that will include ongoing work as the ROWE develops.



Formation Board Meeting

July Action Items:

- Approval of the Engagement of Executive Director Search Firm
- Approval of authorization for ROWE to enter into a vendor contract
- Review of Bank Loan Negotiations and Approval of Pursuing Negotiations (Executive Session)

Executive session: Discussion of Board Selection Process



ROWE Board Selection Process Schedule

Key Dates 2026	Step in Search Process
June 30	Deadline for Candidate Submission
July 15	Submittal of Qualified Candidate List to Nominating Committee
August 5	Shortlist determination. You will be notified by Lyceum after this date whether you have been selected or not for 1 st Round Interviews.
August 25, 27, 28, and 31	1st Round Candidate interviews with Nominating Committee. These will be 60- to 75-minute virtual interviews. All potential candidates should tentatively hold at least 2 of these dates. You will be notified by Lyceum after the last interview date whether you have been selected or not for Final Round Interviews.
September 14 and 15	Final Round Candidate interviews with Nominating Committee. These will be 60- to 75-minute in-person interviews. Location TBD. All potential candidates should tentatively hold both of these dates. You will be notified by Lyceum after the last interview date whether you have been selected or not for the Final Slate of Candidates.
By September 25	Nominating Committee recommends Final Slate of Candidates to Formation Board
By September 30	Formation Board appoints new Board of Directors



Illustrative Timeline for ROWE Executive Director/CEO Search

Key Dates (subject to change by the ROWE Inaugural Board)	Step in Search Process
August 14, 2026	Kickoff Discussion with Search Committee (Planning and Coordination of Key Dates)
Week of September 14 through November 6	Lyceum in Market
September 30	Formation Board appoints ROWE Inaugural 5-Seat Board of Directors
Week of November 16	Submittal of Qualified Candidate List to ROWE Search Committee / ROWE Inaugural Board
Week of November 16	Shortlist determination (Selection of candidates for 1 st Round Virtual Interviews)
Week of December 7	1st Round Virtual interviews with ROWE Inaugural Board (At the conclusion of interviews, selection of candidates to be made for Final Round In-person Interviews)
Week of January 4 or January 11, 2027	Final Round interviews with ROWE Inaugural Board (At the conclusion of interviews, selection of finalist candidate to be made and offer extended shortly thereafter) NOTE: Anticipated start date in February or March depending on notice period needed and timing of potential bonus payout.



Upcoming Opportunities for Engagement

- The last stakeholder meeting before the Board is seated will be on:
 - Friday, September 25, 2026
 - 10:00-12:00PT/11:00-1:00MT/12:00-2:00CT
- The Launch Committee will vote on the slate of candidates at the end of the September 25th stakeholder meeting.
- The Formation Board will meet on September 30th to evaluate the slate of candidates.
 - 8:30-10:00PT/9:30-11:00MT/10:30-12:00CT

Public Comment Period: September 4



Thank you!

- The Launch Committee can continue to be reached via pathways@westwidepathwaysinitiative.org
- All comments can be directed to comments@westwidepathwaysinitiative.org
- Pathways Initiative information continues to be hosted on the WIEB website at www.westernenergyboard.org/wwgpi

