

The NWPPA logo consists of the letters 'NWPPA' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The background of the entire cover is a collage of images related to the power industry: a worker in a hard hat and safety vest, high-voltage power lines and towers, a large electrical transformer, a city skyline, and a large industrial building with a dome. The overall color palette is a mix of blues, greys, and oranges.

NWPPA

Northwest Public Power Association

ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS

CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

2024 E&O



Our Resilient Communities

2024 E&O



NWPPA
Northwest Public Power Association

ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

WELCOME FROM THE CONFERENCE CHAIR



Hello, future E&O attendees!

I want to extend an early welcome to NWPPA's 2024 Engineering & Operations Conference and Trade Show, which is returning to Tacoma, Washington.

Tacoma is a beautiful city on the shores of Puget Sound, its skyline dominated by the state's largest mountain. Tacobet, the indigenous name of Mount Rainer, is where the city gets its name, meaning "mother of waters." The people of the Puyallup Tribe have hunted, gathered, fished, and celebrated life in the area where Tacoma is located since time immemorial, and they continue to live in and contribute to the region to this day.

As we gather in Tacoma, the theme for this year's E&O will be Our Resilient Communities. Our utilities are owned by the communities we serve, and that creates an important and meaningful relationship. It is our responsibility and privilege to provide safe, reliable power to our communities in an economical and environmentally responsible way. This mission provides amazing opportunities as well as distinct challenges, especially now. We produce power in a myriad of traditional ways and at the same time are looking forward to new ways of harnessing renewables. We maintain older technology while incorporating new innovations. Ultimately, our goal is to always ensure that the lights turn on when we flip that switch.

But what happens when the lights don't turn on? Whatever the cause of the outage, we get to work to restore power. And this is where our communities come in, this is where they show their resilience. Regardless of where our customers live, regardless of the struggles they face, our customers persevere, and it is our job to ensure we are there for them before the dust even has a chance to settle.

In a wolf pack, the strongest wolves help the rest of the pack continue moving forward, making sure that no one is left behind. The 2024 E&O will give you the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge, and industry relationships you need to lead your communities forward. This year's event will feature more than two dozen educational sessions as well as two exceptional and resilient keynote speakers—Clara Pratte and Aron Ralston. Pratte is the founder and managing director of operations for Navajo Power, and you may recognize Ralston from his internationally best-selling book, "Between a Rock and a Hard Place," and its Oscar-nominated film adaptation, "127 Hours."

Additional general sessions to look forward to include the ever-popular CEO/GM panel, as well as a hot topic panel focused on building resilience through mutual aid; fire mitigation; cyber and physical security; and other strategies.

Another highlight of the conference will be the more than 200 industry-specific vendors who bring their expertise and products to the E&O Trade Show floor each year. These vendors are your subject matter experts for utility projects, equipment needs, new tools, and innovative technologies. I encourage you to take advantage of this unique opportunity to see the latest and best products and services all in one place. And we have exciting news—the grand opening of this year's trade show will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday. This earlier time will provide you with yet another chance to peruse all that the show has to offer.

Finally, as a time for celebration and togetherness, the E&O will close out with the awards banquet. This banquet will honor winners of the Safety Contest Awards, Safety Heroism Award, Career Commitment to Safety Award, and Excellence in Engineering or Operations Award. If you know someone in the industry who deserves any of these awards, please help us celebrate them by submitting a nomination at www.nwppa.org/awards-nominations by Jan. 31, and don't forget to enter the safety contest before Feb. 29. More information about the awards can be found on page 24.

On behalf of NWPPA and our talented organizing committee, I am honored and delighted to invite you to register for the 2024 E&O. I thank you for your support of NWPPA, your attendance, and I wish you a pleasant and rewarding experience in Tacoma, Washington, April 9-11.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Ferrera". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rob Ferrera, 2024 E&O Conference Chair

SMUD
Sacramento, California

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE*

MONDAY, APRIL 8

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Environmental Task Force Meeting

10 a.m.–5 p.m. Registration open
(attendees and exhibitors)

10 a.m.–5 p.m. Exhibit move-in/booth setup

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

7–9 a.m. Exhibitor move-in/booth setup

7:30 a.m.–6 p.m. Registration open
(attendees and exhibitors)

9–10:50 a.m. General session
Welcome
Keynote speaker: Clara L. Pratte,
Strongbow Strategies and Navajo
Power, PBC

11 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Trade show grand opening and lunch

1–3 p.m. Industry roundtables
(Engineering, Operations, Supply Chain)

3:30–6:30 p.m. Trade show reception

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

7:30–8:30 a.m. New Technology Showcase
(with continental breakfast)

7:30 a.m.–6 p.m. Registration open
(attendees and exhibitors)

8:40–9:50 a.m. General session
CEO and GM panel discussion

10–10:50 a.m. Concurrent sessions

11 a.m.–1:50 p.m. Exhibits open with lunch

2–2:50 p.m. Concurrent sessions

3–3:50 p.m. Concurrent sessions

4–4:50 p.m. Concurrent sessions

5–6:30 p.m. Exhibits open with reception

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

7:30–8:30 a.m. Utility personnel breakfast

8 a.m.–6 p.m. Registration open
(attendees and exhibitors)

8:30–10 a.m. General session
Hot topic panel: Building Resilience

10:10–11 a.m. Concurrent sessions

11:10 a.m.–12:50 p.m. Exhibits open with lunch

1–1:50 p.m. Concurrent sessions

2–2:50 p.m. Concurrent sessions

3–4 p.m. Closing general session
Closing keynote: Aron Ralston,
adventurer and subject of the film,
“127 Hours”

5:30–6:30 p.m. Chairman’s reception

6:30–9 p.m. Banquet, awards, and entertainment

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

8-10:30 a.m. Committee breakfast

* Schedule subject to change.

All of the information in this program (and more!) will be available on the NWPPA Events app by mid-March. To download the app for free, visit the App Store or Google Play and search for NWPPA Events.

[NWPPA Event app hosted by Silver Sponsor NRTC.](#)

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CONFERENCE AGENDA*

MONDAY, APRIL 8

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. **Environmental Task Force Meeting**
Separate registration and payment required.
Post-meeting reception hosted by Bronze Sponsor HDR

10 a.m.–5 p.m. **Registration open (attendees and exhibitors)**

10 a.m.–5 p.m. **Exhibitor move-in/booth setup**

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

7–9 a.m. **Exhibitor move-in/booth setup**

7:30 a.m.–6 p.m. **Registration open (attendees and exhibitors)**

9–10:50 a.m. **GENERAL SESSION**

Welcome

Rob Ferrera, 2024 E&O Conference Chair, SMUD; and Kurt Miller, Executive Director, NWPPA



Keynote speaker: Clara L. Pratte, Principal and Founder of Strongbow Strategies; Partner, Founder, and Board President at Navajo Power, PBC

Clara Pratte has advocated for tribal communities nationwide on economic development and sustainable growth. She grew up on the Navajo reservation and committed her work to poverty alleviation, economic empowerment, and advancing tribal sovereignty. Today, she assists and advises tribes nationwide on economic development matters. She founded Strongbow Strategies, a government services firm, in 2013 and joined the Navajo Power leadership team in 2018 to implement new energy development models on the Navajo Nation.

Her past experience includes serving as the tribal engagements director for the Biden-Harris campaign and transition; Navajo Nation chief of staff; Navajo Nation executive director of the Washington, D.C., office; national director of the Office of Native American Affairs of the U.S. Small Business Administration; and trade specialist/business analyst with the U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration Foreign and Commercial Service. She has worked for two U.S. presidential administrations, four Navajo presidential administrations, and for a member of the United States Congress. She was named the Tim Wapato Public Advocate of the Year in 2009 (NCAIED), a 40 under 40 in Indian Country in 2010 (NCAIED), a top 50 business leader in Indian Country in 2019 (Native Business Magazine), 2020 Pritzker Emerging Environmental Genius Award (UCLA), and 2020 Native Disruptor Award (Native Business Magazine).

11 a.m.–12:45 p.m. **Trade show grand opening and lunch**

1–3 p.m. **Industry roundtables (Engineering, Operations, Supply Chain)**

These roundtables are an additional opportunity for you to learn about current issues in the industry and network with colleagues. You are more than welcome to attend any roundtable that interests you or move between them each hour. Come prepared to discuss your challenges, successes, and day-to-day work. (The roundtables are for utility employees only and are not open to exhibitors. Conference registration is required.)

3:30–6:30 p.m. **Trade show reception**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

7:30–8:30 a.m.

New Technology Showcase

Includes continental breakfast buffet. Open to all attendees.

7:30 a.m.–6 p.m.

Registration open (attendees and exhibitors)

8:40–9:50 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION

CEO and GM panel discussion

10–10:50 a.m.

Concurrent sessions 1

ENGINEERING

Large Load Interconnections: A Program Management Approach

Speakers: Kevin Burke, Program Manager, HDR Engineering; and Lance Beyer, Project Manager, Chelan County PUD

Utilities are seeing an increased number of large load interconnection requests. This session highlights a recent example of this, a Microsoft data center's interconnection with Chelan PUD. Tasked with designing and building a large greenfield substation and transmission line upgrades on a strict schedule, Chelan PUD brought HDR on board as the program manager. Their collaboration and the lessons they learned provide insights into best practices your utility can implement when dealing with critical interconnection projects that require robust coordination.

SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

The Resilient Lineworker

Speakers: Cole Foster, CEO, Ascent Health Solutions; and Kenny Anderson, COO, Ascent Health Solutions

Lineworkers are athletes! They show up to work every day with discomfort and fatigue and yet can still perform their job duties. However, joints and soft tissue degrade, which can result in unnecessary injury and employee suffering. Worker resiliency centers on an individual's ability to move efficiently, mitigate pain, and recover quickly to meet the demands of every day. In this presentation, you will learn how to develop a system that enhances your resiliency and go over example exercises that will help you thrive over the course of your career.

FLEET AND SUPPLY CHAIN

Building a Comprehensive PPE Program With AR/FR Technology

Speaker: Adam Meza, Field Technical Director, National Safety Apparel

Discover the gravity of arc flash and the crucial role NFPA 70E and next-generation AR/FR personal protective equipment play in safeguarding yourself from this phenomenon. We will ask and answer questions such as: "What is a cal?" "What does arc flash do to street clothes?" "What does arc flash do to human skin?" and "How do I build a comprehensive PPE program?"

11 a.m.–1:50 p.m.

Exhibits open (lunch in exhibit area)

2–2:50 p.m.

Concurrent sessions 2

OPERATIONS, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

Electric Vehicle Collision Safety: Educating Lineworkers

Speaker: Mike Klimkosky, President, EVsafe and ETI Digital

Explore essential aspects of EV collision safety in this presentation designed for lineworkers. Learn about vehicle identification techniques, power disablement procedures, and how to recognize signs of thermal runaway. Enhance your knowledge to ensure effective response and safety measures in the event of EV collisions with electrical poles.

SUBSTATION AND GRID MODERNIZATION

Generative AI in the Utility Industry

Speaker: Shawn Weekly, Software Development Area Lead, POWER Engineers

With the introduction of AI-powered chatbots over the last year, the utility industry has started asking about the usefulness of these chatbots for our own work. In this session, we will go over some real-world use cases and how you can take advantage of this powerful technology safely at your organization.

TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Securing the Grid: Emerging Technologies in Physical Security

Speakers: Judd Johnson, Physical Security Manager, Tacoma Power; and Mike Fiola, Physical Security Program Manager, Seattle City Light

This panel discussion will introduce you to evolving tools and the expanding role of technology in the effort to protect critical power infrastructure.

3–3:50 p.m.

Concurrent sessions 3

OPERATIONS, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

Rigging and Fall Arrest

Speaker: Mack Turner, Executive Director, Institute for Safety in Powerline Construction

In this hands-on session, learn the basic knots and rigging that lineworkers need to know, including rigging for fall arrest. You will discover or review how to tie different knots for different applications.

POWER GENERATION

Nuclear Fusion: Sci-Fi or Near Future?

Speaker: Ryan Umstatted, Vice President of Product and Partnerships, Zap Energy

Zap Energy is a privately funded technology company developing a compact, modular form of fusion energy for commercial energy production. In this presentation, you will learn about Zap's technology, development strategy, and commercialization path—which is grounded in a physics approach that avoids the need for external confinement or heating technologies like magnets and lasers. This simplicity provides a strong basis for a cost-effective fusion power plant with far less complexity than others.

METERING AND CUSTOMER SOLUTIONS

Outage Data Initiative Nationwide: Empowering a Network of Electric Utility Resilience Leaders

Speaker: Adam Narkiewicz, Project Manager—ODIN, Ready Kilo Consulting

For utilities and stakeholders, more data means faster restoration, greater reliability, mitigation of risk, better emergency response, and much more. In this session, you will learn about the Outage Data Initiative Nationwide—a network of leading electric service providers committed to collecting comprehensive interoperable power outage data that enables utilities and others to exchange data freely with designated stakeholders at all levels. ODIN began as a successful pilot project in the state of Washington and is now a national program led by Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity.

4–4:50 p.m.

Concurrent sessions 4

OPERATIONS, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

Operation and Maintenance of Next-Generation Reclosers

Speakers: Matthew McKaig, Sales Engineer, McKaig Evergreen, Inc.; and Ryan Beeston, National Business Development Manager Overhead, Siemens Industry

By eliminating regular maintenance and utilizing line voltage as power supply, the new modular auto-recloser addresses common problems of obsolete hydraulic reclosers and serves as a cost-effective solution for most advanced recloser operations. This session will introduce you to the benefits of these next-generation reclosers and describe the simple process of installing, commissioning, maintaining, and updating these devices.

SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

Innovations in Wildfire Safety and Risk Mitigation

Speakers: Eric Brown, Vegetation Management Manager—Grid Assets, SMUD; and Lexi Fojtik, Associate Account Manager, NV5 Geospatial

Wildfire and risk mitigation need to be top priorities for utilities. Forward-looking utility vegetation management techniques—coupled with innovative remote sensing lidar, imagery, machine learning, and targeted analytics—allow you to quantify and reduce your vegetation-related infrastructure fire risk. This session explores how remote sensing supports your environmental management efforts by enabling you to monitor and minimize your utility's environmental footprint, analyze the impact of infrastructure on natural habitats, and assess vegetation health. With this data, you will be able to make more informed decisions, thus attaining operational excellence and increased environmental stewardship.

TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Securing the Unsecured: Enhancing the Purdue Model

Speaker: Kristopher Klunder, Cybersecurity Specialist, Homer Electric Association

Historically, utility SCADA and corporate networks have a very defined line of separation, usually without the means for interconnection. With today's advanced SCADA/ADMS systems, the need to have a secured connection to the outside world is more present than ever. This presentation will demonstrate how Alaska Railbelt utilities navigated the obscure language and direction for network security to create a robust, secure, and usable network system that benefits both members and employees.

5–6:30 p.m.

Exhibits open and trade show reception

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

7:30–8:30 a.m.

Utility personnel breakfast

Hosted by Diamond Sponsor POWER Engineers

8 a.m.–6 p.m.

Registration open (attendees and exhibitors)

8:30–10 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION

Hot topic panel: Building Resilience

10:10–11 a.m.

Concurrent sessions 5

POWER GENERATION

Hydrogen Solutions for Clean, Dispatchable Power Generation

Speaker: Scott Neumeister, Regional Director—Hydrogen Infrastructure Development, Mitsubishi Power

The Department of Energy's National Clean Hydrogen Strategy and supporting incentive programs have unleashed unprecedented hydrogen project development activity across multiple sectors, with the energy sector and power industry at the center. Unlike current battery technologies, hydrogen can provide long-duration energy storage by pairing hydrogen production with hydrogen capable gas turbines at a utility scale. In this presentation, you will explore a variety of hydrogen-based solutions under development that can provide power generators with a pathway to decarbonization while supplying firm, dispatchable capacity to serve growing demand and maintain grid stability.

SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

Bounce Back, Bounce Forward. Bend, Don't Break.

Speaker: Jerry Lemm, Safety and Loss Control Instructor, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association

Regardless of your strengths, life will be overwhelming at times. Occasionally taking the opportunity to see how others have faced adversity, and to see it could be worse, is a good investment. This session will provide you with positive ways of coping and thought-provoking insights on how to use resiliency as a tool in your daily arsenal.

TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A Northwest Utility's Path to Grid Resilience: Using Satellite Intelligence to Optimize Operations and Wildfire Liability Management

Speakers: Kait Payne, Marketing Lead, Overstory; and Matt Price, Manager—Information Technology, Northern Lights, Inc.

Like utilities throughout the Pacific Northwest, NLI faces unprecedented fuel loads and ignition risk driven by record-breaking temperatures, droughts, and infestations. As trees died off and wildfire risk compounded across NLI's rugged, rural territory, the cooperative turned to satellite vegetation intelligence to optimize operations, improve grid resilience, and protect the community. In this session, you will discover how satellite intelligence is revolutionizing vegetation management and how it can enable a utility to prioritize work quickly and affordably in the places that matter most.

11:10 a.m.–12:50 p.m.

Exhibits open (lunch in exhibit area)

1–1:50 p.m.

Concurrent sessions 6

**SUBSTATION AND GRID
MODERNIZATION**

**Can Your Substation and System
Survive?**

Speakers: Scott Davis, Vice President of Engineering and Technical Services, Kootenai Electric Cooperative; and Chris Ott, Senior Substation Project Engineer, POWER Engineers

Utilities are confronting more threats of malicious attacks and contingency loss events at substations than ever before. With these increased risks, does your system have the resiliency to survive? This panel of industry experts will share what measures might help you answer “yes” to that question and provide you with valuable perspectives on vulnerabilities to malicious attacks, electromagnetic pulses, and other extreme events. If you want to assess these risks, harden your substation, or develop a better response plan, bring your questions and join this discussion.

**METERING AND CUSTOMER
SOLUTIONS**

**EVSE and the Impact on Your
Utility**

Speaker: Kyle Storjohann, Western Regional Manager, TESCO Metering

With the increasing popularity of vehicle electrification, it is important for utilities to understand electric vehicle supply equipment and how EVSE impacts the utility and customer. During this presentation, you will hear about the current state of the EV market, types of EVSE equipment, charging networks, the regulatory environment, and potential revenue opportunities.

FLEET AND SUPPLY CHAIN

Surviving the Fleet Crisis

Speakers: Don Ashmore, Senior Manager for Fleet and Facility Services, Tacoma Public Utilities; and Pat Madden, Account Manager, Altec Industries

This panel discussion will address fleet supply hurdles and possible ways that you, as an end user, can work through the variables you cannot change.

2–2:50 p.m.

Concurrent sessions 7

ENGINEERING

**Battery Storage for Capacity and
Peak Shaving**

Speaker: Scott Gibson, Manager—Energy Storage and Emerging Technology, Snohomish County PUD

If you are seeking to increase your system’s capacity and peak shaving capabilities, battery energy storage may be the solution. This session will examine this technology and demonstrate how Snohomish PUD has successfully used it to create a microgrid and plan for a 25-MW/100-MWh project.

**SUBSTATION AND GRID
MODERNIZATION**

Smart Substation Inspections

Speaker: Rusty Endicott, Safety and Loss Prevention Consultant, Federated Insurance

Electronic applications can help you enhance consistency during substation and other required inspection processes. In this session, you will learn how to use these applications to gather and mine data to ensure quality maintenance programs.

**METERING AND CUSTOMER
SOLUTIONS**

**Delivering a Customer Experience
That Counts**

Speaker: Juliet Swinger, Senior Learning and Development Specialist, SMUD

In this session, you will learn about the expectations for interacting with customers and practice new skills you can use to meet and exceed their expectations. You’ll get lots of practice so that delivering a positive customer experience will be easy once you’re back on the job. Topics covered will include tone of voice, word choice, apologizing, asking questions, and managing difficult interactions.

3–4 p.m.

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

Closing remarks

Rob Ferrera, 2024 E&O Conference Chair, SMUD



Closing keynote: Aron Ralston, Adventurer

Aron Ralston's extraordinary story of survival after an 800-pound boulder trapped him in a remote Utah canyon captured global headlines in 2003. In his New York Times best seller, "Between a Rock and a Hard Place," the Oscar-nominated film, "127 Hours," and on stage, Ralston takes audiences vicariously through those six days without water, means of communication, or hope of escape, to the ecstatic moments when he freed himself by severing his own arm.

Following a miraculous rescue spearheaded by his mom and with the aid of prosthetics he helped design, Ralston returned to his outdoor passions, completing elite mountaineering projects which remain unrepeated even to this day. He has interviewed with Tom Brokaw, David Letterman, and Jay Leno, and received standing ovations and industry-leading testimonials from over five hundred groups around the world. Attendees credit Ralston's story with encouraging them through disease, disability, and loss, even saving their lives from suicide and depression.

Ralston's incredible triumph in the face of insurmountable odds will inspire you to harness the power of your deepest motivations, relationships, and mindset to transform personal and professional "boulders" into blessings. Today, Ralston continues to pursue high-altitude adventures, advocates for wilderness protection, and tries to keep up with his two spirited children, Leo and Elisabetta.

5:30–6:30 p.m.

Chairman's reception

Hosted by Diamond Sponsor Gore Electric

6:30–9 p.m.

AWARDS BANQUET

Welcome and call to order

Rob Ferrera, 2024 E&O Conference Chair, SMUD

Presentation of NWPPA Safety Contest Awards

Presented by the 2024 E&O Conference Safety Committee

Presentation of Safey Heroism, Career Commitment to Safety, and Excellence in Engineering or Operations Awards

Presentation of Exhibitor Awards

Introduction of 2025 Chair and Second Vice Chair

ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

8-10:30 a.m.

Committee breakfast

EXHIBITORS

COMPANY	BOOTH NO.
Advanced Pedestals (API)	929
Advanced Test Equipment Rentals	903
Alden	704
Altec Industries, Inc.	6
American Innotek, Inc.	927
Ariat International	814
Arnett Industries, LLC	711, 810
Ascent Health Solutions	823
BAE Batteries USA	112
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General Pacific, Inc.	506, 511
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H2 Pre-Cast, Inc.	518
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Owen Equipment	523
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Stella-Jones	111
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Titan Truck Equipment	1
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Tucker Sno-Cat Corporation	4
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2024 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

E&O CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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SMUD

First Vice Chair

Jimmy Scarborough, Electrical Engineering Manager
Jefferson County PUD

Second Vice Chair

Arnie Sorrell, Safety Manager
Mission Valley Power

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Scott Lindsay, CEO
BKI

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Autumn Potter, Operations Manager
National Metering & Technical Services

Third Vice Chair

Chris Bradley, Senior Regional Business Manager
NRTC

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Okanogan PUD

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Easily register for the Engineering & Operations Conference and Trade Show and/or the optional pre-conference Environmental Task Force Meeting online at www.nwppa.org/eo. If you need assistance registering for either the conference or Environmental Task Force Meeting, please contact (360) 254-0109 or registration@nwppa.org.

2024 E&O Conference and Trade Show

April 9–11

	On or before March 9	After March 9
Utility member registration	\$775	\$825
Associate member registration	\$775	\$825
Non-member registration	\$1,100	\$1,200
Guest fee ¹		\$300
Guest for banquet only		\$85

¹Must not be a utility employee

Environmental Task Force Meeting

April 8 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

This solutions-focused meeting is for anyone tasked with or interested in environmental issues, regulatory compliance, or mitigation in the environmental arena of electric utilities. It is an optional pre-conference event and includes lunch, breaks, and a reception hosted by HDR.

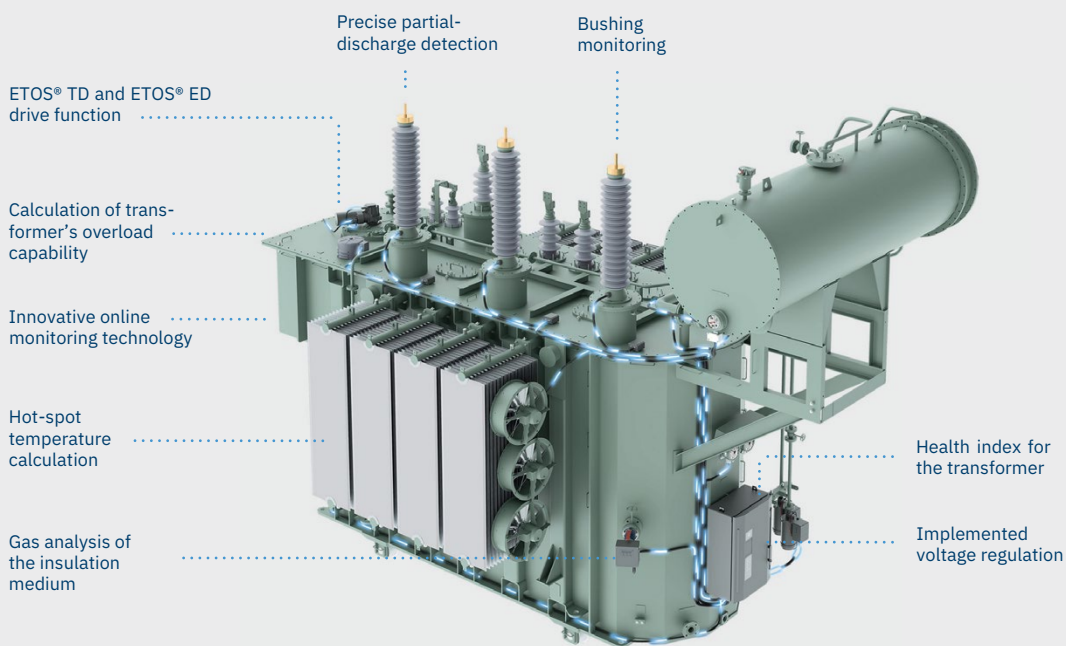
	On or before March 8	After March 8
Utility member registration	\$120	\$195
Associate or IOU member registration	\$180	\$255
Non-member registration	\$240	\$315

Cancellations at least 30 days prior to the event will receive a full refund; there will be a \$100 fee for cancellations made within 15-29 days of the event; and no refunds within 1-14 days and for no shows.

When possible, please send a substitute instead of canceling; NWPPA does not charge a fee for substitutions. To request a refund, please email registration@nwppa.org or call (360) 254-0109.



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HOTEL INFORMATION

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(866) 986-8083

Room rate: \$179 per night

Please book your room as soon as possible, but no later than **March 18, 2024**, to secure the above rate.

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(253) 591-9100

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AIRLINE INFORMATION



NWPPA has partnered with Alaska Airlines to provide a 7% discount on your flight. Before you book through www.alaskaair.com, contact connie@nwppa.org to receive the exclusive code.

CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW LOCATION

GREATER TACOMA CONVENTION CENTER

1500 Commerce St.
Tacoma, WA 98402
(253) 830-6601



HOTEL RESERVATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY

All room reservations require full payment for the first night at the time you reserve your room.

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E&O CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW AWARDS

Do you know that NWPPA honors members with approximately 140 awards per year at conferences? And that about 25 of those are presented at the E&O Conference? However, we can't present the awards without nominations, so please submit a nomination for a co-worker or colleague by Jan. 31. Or do you want to earn bragging rights for your own utility? Then submit your OSHA numbers for the Safety Contest Awards by Feb. 29. Visit www.nwppa.org/members/awards-nominations/ to submit nominations for all of the following awards.

- The **Safety Heroism Award** recognizes an NWPPA member utility employee, or team, that displayed an act of unselfish and voluntary assistance in a situation where life, significant injury, or significant property loss would have been incurred but for the efforts of the individual or team.
- The **Career Commitment to Safety Award** focuses upon the importance of safety in our industry. This award recognizes one individual each year that has outstanding proficiency in safety, demonstrated leadership in safety in their utility and the industry, and has made a significant contribution to safety within the industry over their career. This award is open to all employees of NWPPA member utilities that exemplify outstanding commitment and leadership in safety.
- The **Excellence in Engineering or Operations Award** honors an NWPPA member utility employee that has made a contribution to the industry as a whole. Examples of award-winning industry contributions include engineering or operational innovations that impact the industry; participation and/or leadership on industry standards or issues; or any of the myriad of opportunities presented by the issues and challenges the industry has faced. Though noteworthy, a person's length of service, commitment to excellence, or contributions within a utility will not qualify a person for this award. When the criteria of having "made a contribution to the industry as a whole" is not met by any of the award nominees, no award will be given.
- The **Safety Contest Awards** are given to utilities based on the lowest total injury and illness (incidence) rate for the preceding year. Awards are offered to all first-, second-, and third-place results within the category of total employee hours reported.

VENDOR AWARDS ARE WORTH A FREE BOOTH IN 2025

Exhibitors, don't forget that you have three chances to win an award that is worth a free 10"×10" booth at the 2025 show in Spokane, Washington! We encourage everyone to customize their booth in order to compete for one of the following awards:

Theme of Conference is presented to the exhibiting company that best presents its products or services according to the 2024 conference theme: Our Resilient Communities. Exhibitors may use booth decorations, staff uniforms, costumes, or whatever comes to mind.

Best Presentation of Product goes to the exhibiting company that best presents its full line of products in an orderly and creative fashion. Elements of the conference theme are not required for this award.

Best Enthusiasm is conveyed by a positive attitude and congeniality. Elements of the conference theme are not required for this award.



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