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Legislative Announcements

EPA Administrator Pruitt Resigns; Senate and House Prepare ESA Reform Proposals; and FERC Issues Two Major Orders on Markets as Powelson Announces Exit.

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Public Power Industry Announcements

Washington, Oregon Governors Proclaim July 10 as Line Worker Appreciation Day; MEA Members to See Third Quarter Rate Decrease; Governor Bullock, BPA Release Report on Montana's Positive Outlook for Renewable Energy; and Fight heats up over Washington state carbon 'fee' likely to make fall ballot.

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[2019 E&O Booth Sales Are Open](#)

Exhibit space for the 2019 E&O Conference & Trade Show in Spokane, Wash., April 9-11, is still available. Less than 50 10X10 booth spaces remain after the presales during the 2018 trade show in April.

If you still need to purchase booth space for the 2019 trade show, please contact Taryn Johnson as soon as possible at taryn@nwppa.org or (360) 816-1446. Current booth sales will close on October 12, or sooner if all booths have been sold before then.

Linecrew Survey Report Now Available

The 2018 NWPPA Linecrew Wage and Benefit Survey Report is now available for all utility general managers and senior human resources employees. The report was sent out to all participating utilities on July 6; if you are a general manager or senior human resources employee and did not receive a copy of the report, please contact Nicole Farabee at nicolef@nwppa.org or (360) 816-1454 for a copy.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Check out NWPPA's class offerings in the *eCatalog of Events*. Click on the button below.

Don't miss these upcoming training events:

- [Best Practices in Reliability](#)
July 19, 2018 in Spokane, WA
- [Cybersecurity Governance, Risk, and Compliance Workshop](#)
September 6, 2018 in Portland, OR
- [NRECA CCD 2640 - Financial Decision Making](#)
August 21-22, 2018 in Eugene, OR
- [Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures \(SPCC\)](#)
Sept. 10, 2018 in Anchorage, AK
- [Supply Chain Workshop](#)
Sept. 11-12, 2018 in Spokane, WA
- [Environmental Task Force Meeting](#)
Sept. 11, 2018 in Anchorage, AK

- [Electric Utility System Operations](#)
Sept. 12-113, 2018 in Spokane, WA
- [HAZWOPER 8-Hour First Responder Awareness and Refresher Training for Utility Personnel](#)
Sept. 12, 2018 in Anchorage, AK
- [Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference](#)
Sept. 16-19, 2018 in Coeur d'Alene, ID
- [Lineman Skills Series: Personal Protective Grounding](#)
Sept. 18, 2018 in Spokane, WA

VIEW THE TRAINING AND EVENT CATALOG



Industry Calendar of Events

A list of upcoming industry events and meetings.

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RFP's and RFQ's

Utilities: NWPPA offers its utility members the opportunity (at no cost) to post RFPs and RFQs on our website at no charge. Reach out to NWPPA's almost 4,000 associate member contacts that supply goods and services to the utility industry and might be interested in responding to your utility RFP/RFQ. To post your RFP/RFQ, visit our [RFP/RFQ page](#). For more information, contact Debbie at debbie@nwppa.org or Mark at mark@nwppa.org.

Associate Members: Make sure to check out NWPPA's RFP/RFQ Web page to view utility RFP listings. Listings are posted as they are received by NWPPA.

New RFPs posted June 22, 2018!

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Recent Industry Jobs

View the job opportunities posted to NWPPA's website in the past week.

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On This Day in History

U.S Takes San Francisco; Faulkner Joins the Royal Airforce; First Female Army Officer; and Bob Dylan Records "Blowin' In The Wind".

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EPA Administrator Pruitt Resigns

Update provided by Meguire Whitney

On July 5, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt tendered his resignation after a relentless torrent of headlines about improper behavior and financial mismanagement at the agency. While Pruitt had the president's support through much of the year, the change came, sources say, when President Trump realized that Pruitt's deputy, Andrew Wheeler, could carry out the same deregulatory agenda without the distraction of scandals. In fact, because of Wheeler's long resume working on environmental, energy and related issues in both the federal government and private sector, both his supporters and detractors have mused he could be more effective at implementing Trump's deregulatory agenda than his predecessor.

Wheeler previously served as staff for Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) as well as an aide for the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. His experience in the private sector includes time as a lobbyist for coal industry interests. This experience has helped Wheeler build relationships and support among Republican members and staff in the Senate, but also proved to be a flash point for Democrats during his confirmation hearings for the role of deputy administrator this spring. He would certainly face a difficult confirmation process if tapped to lead the agency permanently. Wheeler will assume the duties of acting administrator today, July 9, and can serve in an acting capacity for 18 months.

Senate and House Prepare ESA Reform Proposals

Update provided by Meguire Whitney

On July 2, Senate Environment and Public Works Chairman John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) released a draft proposal to reauthorize and reform the Endangered Species Act. The most significant reform would be the creation of "recovery teams" made up of representatives from federal, state, and local wildlife agencies and qualified scientists. Such teams would be able to update or modify recovery plans by unanimous consent if there is a material change in the best available science. The draft would reauthorize the ESA, which technically expired in 1992, with more clear and objective requirements for recovery goals, habitat objectives, and other listing criteria to make it easier to delist or downlist species when measurable criteria has been met.

The Congressional Western Caucus in the House has indicated that it will be holding an Endangered Species Act Modernization Forum on July 12 where House members will roll out a series of 8-10 ESA-related reform bills. The House approach seeks to address similar issues as the Senate's comprehensive proposal with bills. The bills target increased local input in recovery plans; more objective and measurable listing and delisting requirements; greater flexibility to update recovery plans as needed; and other reforms. Notably, one of the House proposals would help address the backlog of ESA petitions at Fish and Wildlife Service by establishing minimum scientific standards

petitions must meet in order for the FWS to complete associated reviews in a timely manner. If petitions fail to meet minimum standards, they will be automatically dismissed. The House bills will be introduced this week.

NWPPA has a [resolution](#) outlining several common-sense updates to the Endangered Species Act that could help increase the law's effectiveness while taking into account the economic impact such policies can have on public power. NWPPA members shared these reform priorities with the Northwest Congressional delegation as well as staff from the Congressional Western Caucus during April's NWPPA Rally in Washington, D.C.

FERC Issues Two Major Orders on Markets as Powelson Announces Exit

Update provided by Meguire Whitney

On the heels of Robert Powelson's June 28 announcement that he will leave the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in August, the Commission issued two major decisions on state policy impacts to capacity markets and cost-of-service waivers.

The day after Powelson's announcement, FERC released a 3-2 order rejecting PJM Interconnection's bid to address state public policy impacts on its capacity market. Saying the market's current tariff is unjust and unreasonable, FERC's order directed PJM to develop a new tariff, noting that expanding the minimum offer price rule to all units or forcing state-supported units to exit the capacity market with their commensurate load, would be found just and reasonable. Commissioners Cheryl LaFleur and Richard Glick dissented, saying the timetable for action would not allow for full development of the alternatives.

On July 2, the Commission rejected ISO-New England's request for waivers to provide cost-of-service payments to keep two generators running after their planned retirement in June 2022. ISO-NE claimed the units are critical for reliability given fuel security concerns. However, FERC's rejection says the requested waiver is an inappropriate approach to address fuel security and opens a new docket to address that issue. FERC directed ISO-NE to submit, within 60 days, either interim tariff revisions providing for short-term cost-of-service agreements to address fuel security concerns (to be followed by permanent market design changes); or to show cause as to why its tariff remains just and reasonable such that these filings are not necessary. Commissioners Powelson and Glick dissented in part.

Public power has been concerned about the functionality of capacity markets, which are administrative constructs common to eastern organized markets, because of the loss of local control and runaway costs to consumers with little commensurate benefit. These decisions underscore the contentious and divided nature in which Powelson's departure will leave the regulatory body, particularly on market-related issues. In the absence of a fifth commissioner, FERC will be a split panel, with two Democrats and two Republicans until President Trump nominates and the Senate approves another Republican commissioner. With other high-profile Senate confirmation battles gearing up, including the Supreme Court justice and EPA administrator, it is unclear when the administration and Senate will move forward with a replacement.

Washington, Oregon Governors Proclaim July 10 as Line Worker Appreciation Day

Governor Jay Inslee has signed a proclamation designating July 10, 2018, as Line Worker Appreciation Day. The proclamation highlights the “critical role” line workers play in our communities by maintaining and building electrical infrastructure.

The State of Oregon is also recognizing line worker contributions. Governor Brown has proclaimed July 10 as Lineman Appreciation Day.

MEA Members to See Third Quarter Rate Decrease

Matanuska Electric Association’s (Palmer, Alaska) typical member (using approximately 696 kWh of electricity) can expect to see a total decrease of about 0.54 percent (or \$0.79/month) to their overall bill as a result of third quarter adjustments to the base and cost of power adjustment (COPA) rates, effective July 1, 2018.

The MEA Board of Directors voted on May 14, 2018, to authorize an increase in base rates of 2.4 percent, which was recently approved by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. In addition to the base rate adjustment, MEA has requested a reduction of 4.9 percent to the quarterly COPA rate, pending RCA approval.

Under the terms of rules set by the RCA, MEA is allowed on a quarterly basis to file for limited increases or decreases in base rates, provided the adjustments stay within certain financial parameters established by the RCA. The COPA rate fluctuates quarterly based on current fuel and purchased power costs.

Governor Bullock, BPA Release Report on Montana’s Positive Outlook for Renewable Energy

On July 2, Montana Governor Steve Bullock and the Bonneville Power Administration released the Montana Renewables Development Action Plan, which identifies specific actions intended to promote the further development of renewable energy projects in Montana and improve the ability of West Coast markets to access that energy.

“We brought together stakeholders from diverse interests to seek common understanding on very complex issues – and to find solutions that work,” said Governor Bullock. “With this effort, we’re boosting the opportunities for more energy development in Montana and making Montana wind more attractive for West Coast buyers, all to create good-paying jobs and economic opportunity for Montanans.”

The report supports the conclusion that Montana has an opportunity to play a significant role in energy markets by growing its renewable resource base. The state currently has more than 700 megawatts of installed wind capacity, with the potential to develop significantly more wind resources. Even more encouraging is the report's finding that there is existing capacity to transmit that power to the Northwest.

The Action Plan identifies 18 actions that, if taken, would remove barriers to the development and export of Montana renewable resources. Highlighted actions include:

- Broad recognition and agreement that the Colstrip transmission network is not only important to local Northwestern Energy needs, but vital to future renewable energy development in Eastern Montana. The Colstrip owners and BPA have committed to reviewing the agreements that govern the delivery of Colstrip power and to look at modernizing them to address today's energy challenges and opportunities.
- There is a considerable amount of transmission capacity available now to move renewable energy out of Montana, and over time and with a few relatively cost-effective actions, that available capacity is expected to grow significantly as Colstrip units 1 and 2 retire.
- Many believed that technical limitations of the transmission system would significantly limit the opportunity for Montana renewables to move to West Coast markets. The report and underlying analyses shows that these concerns are not significant barriers.

BPA has committed to track progress on the action items and file progress reports with committee members and interested parties.

The Action Plan marks another step in Governor Bullock's Energy Blueprint to determine the state's energy future through a balanced and responsible plan with all sectors of the energy industry. Through the blueprint, Governor Bullock has committed to working with the Colstrip community to ensure they remain a viable part of the energy future, in addition to developing potential for wind and solar power and harnessing new technology for carbon capture. Since the release of the blueprint in 2016, Montana has quadrupled its solar production.

The Montana Renewables Development Action Plan can be found here: www.bpa.gov/goto/MontanaRenewablesDevelopmentActionPlan.

BPA's Herrin Honored by Hydro Vision

Bonneville Power Administration Chief Operating Officer Janet Herrin was one of three women recognized by their peers on June 27 during the Women with Hydro *Vision* luncheon, which took place as part of HydroVision International 2018 in Charlotte.

Herrin was named COO of BPA in 2016, following an 11-year tenure as the senior vice president of River Operations and Dam Safety with the Tennessee Valley Authority. In her role at BPA, Herrin—a registered professional engineer—is responsible for power and transmission services; environment, fish, and wildlife; customer support; and information technology. She also oversees BPA's new Business Transformation Office and serves as a senior advisor to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Now in its fifth year, the Women with Hydro *Vision* awards program was designed to honor the most influential women in hydropower for their accomplishments and contributions to the industry.

Fight heats up over Washington state carbon 'fee' likely to make fall ballot

Update provided by Hal Bernton, Seattle Times (07/02/2018)

Proponents of a Washington carbon-fee initiative showed up at the Secretary of State's office in Olympia with more than 370,000 signatures to put their measure on the November ballot.

The signatures tally for Initiative 1631 — backed by a broad coalition that includes environmental, labor, tribal and social-justice groups — is more than a third higher than the minimum number required for a measure to be put to a vote.

"We are confident we are turning in enough signatures to qualify, said Ahmed Gaya, field director of Yes on 1631, which recruited more than 2,300 volunteers to assist in the collection effort.

Though still early in the campaign season, the measure already has galvanized high-powered energy-industry opposition.

A No on 1631 political-action committee formed by the Western States Petroleum Association has obtained pledges from BP, Shell Oil Products, Chevron Corporation, Phillips 66 and other contributors, according to state Public Disclosure Commission records.

The debts reported so far by the No on 1631 committee include more than \$130,000 in consulting fees to Winner & Mandabach Campaigns, a Santa Monica-based firm, that according to the company website, has a 90 percent win rate in the nearly 200 state and local initiatives that it has been involved in.

The petitions submitted Monday by the initiative coalition still need to be reviewed by the Secretary of State's office to ensure that there are enough valid signatures to get the measure on the ballot.

The initiative by the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy would create an escalating Washington carbon "fee" on most fossil-fuels emission, and invest the revenue in clean energy, clean water, forests and other projects that seek to slow or help cope with climate change.

The fee would start at \$15 a metric ton of carbon, which would add an estimated 14 cents to the cost of a gallon of gasoline. The fee would rise annually by \$2 per ton of carbon emission, plus the rate of inflation.

Initiative proponents said they opted for a carbon fee — rather than a tax — so the spending of this revenue could be tied to spending on projects that could help reduce carbon emissions from fossil-fuel combustion and other greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

Calendar of Events

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2018 Upcoming Industry Meetings

Send your 2018 meeting dates and locations to Debbie at Debbie@nwppa.org.

July 2018

10-11 – MECA summer board and committee meetings, DoubleTree Hotel, Billings, MT

August 2018

2 – PPC Meeting, Sheraton Portland Airport, Portland, OR, 8 a.m. to noon

September 2018

6 – PPC Meeting, Sheraton Portland Airport, Portland, OR, 8 a.m. to noon

12-14 – NWPPA Board of Trustees Meetings, Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conf. Center, Walla Walla, WA

25-27 – NRECA Region 7 & 9 Meeting, Anchorage, AK

October 2018

1-4 – MECA Annual Meeting, Great Falls, MT

4 – PPC Meeting, Sheraton Portland Airport, Portland, OR, 8 a.m. to noon

10-11 – GridFWD 2018, Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel, Vancouver, BC. Visit: www.GridFWD.com.

11-12 – OMEU Meeting, Salishan Lodge, Gleneden Beach, OR

November 2018

2 – PNUCC, Sheraton Portland Airport, Portland, OR.

December 2018

13 – PPC Annual Meeting & Lunch, Sheraton Portland Airport, Portland, OR – 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

13 – OMEU Meeting (following PPC annual meeting), Sheraton Portland Airport, Portland, OR

Jobs

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Recent job openings within the industry in the last week:

Biologist – Western Area Power Administration-Desert Southwest Region

Electric Compliance Analyst – City of Roseville – Roseville Electric

Electric Engineering Manager – City of Banning

Electrical Engineer – Tacoma Public Utilities

Engineering & Operations Manager – Northern Lights, Inc.

Financial Analyst 1 – Budget Analyst – Eugene Water & Electric Board

Instrument and Control Technician – City of Centralia

Journeyman Lineman – McMinnville Water and Light

Journeyman Lineman – Pool – Snohomish County PUD

Manager of Customer Engagement – Benton PUD

Manager, Marketing & Public Relations – Lane Electric Cooperative, Inc.

NERC Certified Dispatcher – Cowlitz PUD

Plant Operator/Mechanic Supervisor – Springville City Power

[View all available jobs](#)

U.S Takes San Francisco

July 9, 1846

An American naval captain occupies the small settlement of Yerba Buena, a site that will later be renamed San Francisco.

Surprisingly, Europeans did not discover the spectacular San Francisco Bay until 1769, although several explorers had sailed by it in earlier centuries. When Spanish explorers finally found the bay in that year, they immediately recognized its strategic value. In 1776, the Spanish built a military post on the tip of the San Francisco peninsula and founded the mission of San Francisco de Asis (the Spanish name for Saint Francis of Assisi) nearby.

The most northern outpost of the Spanish, and later Mexican, empire in America, the tiny settlement remained relatively insignificant for several decades. However, the potential of the magnificent harbor did not escape the attention of other nations. In 1835, the British Captain William Richardson established a private settlement on the shore of Yerba Buena Cove, several miles to the east of the Mexican mission. That same year the U.S. government offered to purchase the bay, but the Mexicans declined to sell.

In retrospect, the Mexicans should have sold while they still had the chance. A little more than a decade later, a dispute between the U.S. and Mexico over western Texas led to war. Shortly after the Mexican War began, U.S. Captain John Montgomery sailed his warship into San Francisco Bay, anchoring just off the settlement of Yerba Buena. On this day in 1846, Montgomery led a party of marines and sailors ashore. They met no resistance and claimed the settlement for the United States, raising the American flag in the central plaza.

The following year, the Americans renamed the village San Francisco. When the Mexicans formally ceded California to the United States in the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe, San Francisco was still a small town with perhaps 900 occupants. That same year, however, gold was discovered at the nearby Sutter's Fort. San Francisco became the gateway for a massive gold rush, and by 1852, the town was home to more than 36,000.

Faulkner Joins the Royal Airforce

July 9, 1918

William Faulkner joins the Royal Air Force on this day, but will never see combat because World War I will end before he completes his training.

Faulkner joined the RAF after his high school sweetheart, Estelle, married another man. He quit his hometown, Oxford, Mississippi, visited friends in the North, and headed to Canada, where he joined the Royal Air Force. After the war, he returned to Mississippi, where he wrote poetry. A neighbor



funded the publication of his first book of poems, *The Marble Faun* (1924). His first novel, *Soldiers' Pay*, was published two years later.

Faulkner got a second chance at his high school sweetheart when Estelle, now the mother of two, divorced her first husband. She married Faulkner in 1929, and the couple bought and restored a ruined mansion near Oxford while Faulkner finished *The Sound and the Fury*, published in October 1929. The following year, he published *As I Lay Dying*, with *Light in August* (1932) and *Absalom, Absalom* (1936) following.

Faulkner's novels challenged conventional forms and were slow to catch on with the reading public. His work did not earn him enough money to support his family, so he supplemented his income selling short stories to magazines and working as a Hollywood screenwriter. He wrote two critically acclaimed films, both starring Humphrey Bogart. *To Have and Have Not* was based on an Ernest Hemingway novel, and *The Big Sleep* was based on a mystery by Raymond Chandler. He published a classic collection of short stories, *Go Down, Moses*, in 1942. The collection included "The Bear," one of his most famous stories, which had previously appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post*.

Faulkner's reputation received a significant boost with the publication of *The Portable Faulkner* (1946), which included his many stories set in Yoknapatawpha county. Three years later, in 1949, he won the Nobel Prize for literature. His *Collected Stories* (1950) won the National Book Award. During the rest of his life, he lectured frequently on university campuses. He died of a heart attack at age 65.

First Female Army Officer

July 9, 1947

In a ceremony held at the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, General Dwight D. Eisenhower appoints Florence Blanchfield to be a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, making her the first woman in U.S. history to hold permanent military rank.

A member of the Army Nurse Corps since 1917, Blanchfield secured her commission following the passage of the Army-Navy Nurse Act of 1947 by Congress. Blanchfield had served as superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps during World War II and was instrumental in securing passage of the Army-Navy Nurse Act, which was advocated by Representative Frances Payne Bolton. In 1951, Blanchfield received the Florence Nightingale Award from the International Red Cross. In 1978, a U.S. Army hospital in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, was named in her honor.

Bob Dylan Records "Blowin' In The Wind"

July 9, 1962

"This here ain't no protest song or anything like that, 'cause I don't write no protest songs." That was how Bob Dylan introduced one of the most eloquent protest songs ever written when he first performed it publicly. It was the spring of his first full year in New York City, and he was onstage at Gerde's Folk City in Greenwich Village, talking about a song he claims to have written in just 10 minutes: "Blowin' In The Wind." A few weeks later, on this day in 1962, Dylan walked into a studio and



recorded the song that would make him a star.

Dylan's recording of "Blowin' In The Wind" would first be released nearly a full year later, on his breakthrough album, *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan*. This was not the version of the song that most people would first hear, however. That honor went to the cover version by Peter, Paul and Mary—a version that not only became a smash hit on the pop charts, but also transformed what Dylan would later call "just another song" into the unofficial anthem of the civil rights movement.

"Blowin' In The Wind" bore little or no resemblance to the highly topical, highly literal protest songs of the day, but that may have been precisely what made it so effective as a protest song. A lyric like "*How many roads must a man walk down, before you call him a man?*" lends itself perfectly to those seeking racial justice, just as "*How many seas must a white dove sail, before she sleeps in the sand?*" does to those seeking peace. The moving, vaguely spiritual, clearly dissatisfied, yet ultimately ambiguous nature of "Blowin' In the Wind" made it the quintessential protest song of the 1960s—"A song that the times seemed to call forth," in the words of critic Greil Marcus.

It also represented a significant breakthrough for Bob Dylan as a songwriter. From "Blowin' In The Wind" onward, Dylan's songs would reflect a far more personal and poetic approach to self-expression—an approach that would lead him away from songs like "The Times They Are a-Changin'" and toward songs like "Like A Rolling Stone." And Dylan's development as a songwriter would, in turn, have a similar effect on The Beatles, whose own move from "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" to "A Day In The Life" can be traced directly to their exposure to *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan* in the spring of 1964.